



# OSMRE FACT SHEET

U.S. Department of the Interior Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

*Referred to  
AP, UPI  
Friday 7/8/88  
4:50 PM  
no one else  
had called at  
that time*

*AP - Dave Wilkerson  
UPI - Pam Ramsey*

JUL 8 1988

OSMRE AWARDS WEST VIRGINIA \$132,407 FOR  
RECLAMATION ON ABANDONED COAL REFUSE PILES

The Interior Department's Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation (OSMRE) has awarded West Virginia an additional \$132,407 for the state's abandoned mine lands (AML) reclamation program.

The grant, coupled with \$1.5 million in unspent funds awarded the West Virginia Department of Energy by OSMRE earlier, will be used for reclamation work on two abandoned coal refuse piles.

The Mud Lick coal refuse pile in Upshur County has eroded, causing flooding along a county road. The other project involves the massive Itmann coal refuse pile in Wyoming, which had been burning. The state has extinguished the fire. The additional funds will be used to complete the grading and reclamation.

Both refuse areas date from before enactment of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. Since enactment, reclaiming surface coal mines and waste areas has been a responsibility of the mine operator.

Earlier this year, OSMRE awarded West Virginia \$24.1 million for 34 abandoned mine reclamation projects.