

Notwithstanding RCW 84.36.010 or other statutes to the contrary, the director shall pay by April 30th of each year on game lands in each county, if requested by an election under RCW 77.12.201, an amount in lieu of real property taxes equal to that amount paid on similar parcels of ~~((real property subject to real property taxes))~~ open space land taxable under chapter 84.34 RCW or the greater of seventy cents per acre per year or the amount paid in 1984 plus an additional amount for control of noxious weeds equal to that which would be paid if such lands were privately owned. This amount shall not be assessed or paid on department buildings, structures, facilities, game farms, fish hatcheries, tidelands, or public fishing areas of less than one hundred acres.

"Game lands," as used in this section and RCW 77.12.201, means those tracts one hundred acres or larger owned in fee by the department and used for wildlife habitat and public recreational purposes. All lands purchased for wildlife habitat, public access or recreation purposes with federal funds in the Snake River drainage basin shall be considered game lands regardless of acreage.

~~((The director has the same rights of appeal and adjustment of taxes or assessments as do other owners of real property.~~

~~Upon election by the county legislative authority to receive an amount in lieu of real property taxes, the county assessor shall enter the property on the tax rolls and the department shall pay the amount due as others pay taxes on their real property in the county.))~~

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. This act takes effect on January 1, 1985.

Passed the House March 5, 1984.

Passed the Senate March 3, 1984.

Approved by the Governor March 27, 1984.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 27, 1984.

CHAPTER 215

[Reengrossed Substitute House Bill No. 480]

SURFACE MINING

AN ACT Relating to surface mining; amending section 4, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78.44.030; amending section 5, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78.44.040; amending section 11, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78.44.100; amending section 12, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78.44.110; amending section 13, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. as amended by section 1, chapter 66, Laws of 1977 and RCW 78.44.120; amending section 15, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78.44.140; amending section 17, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78.44.160; adding a new section to chapter 78.44 RCW; repealing section 19, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78.44.900; and prescribing penalties.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 4, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78.44.030 are each amended to read as follows:

As used in this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise:

(1) "Surface mining" shall mean all or any part of the process involved in mining of minerals by removing the overburden and mining directly from the mineral deposits thereby exposed, including open-pit mining of minerals naturally exposed at the surface of the earth, mining by the auger method, and including the production of surface mining refuse. For the purpose of this chapter surface mining shall mean those operations described in this paragraph from which more than ten thousand tons of minerals are produced or more than two acres of land is newly disturbed within a period of twelve consecutive calendar months. Surface mining shall not include excavation or removal of sand, gravel, clay, rock or other materials in remote areas by an owner or holder of a possessory interest in land for the primary purpose of construction or maintenance of access roads to or on such land-owner's property. Surface mining shall not include excavation or grading conducted for farming, on-site road construction or other on-site construction, but shall include adjacent or off-site borrow pits except those on land-owner's property for use on access roads on such property. Prospecting and exploration activities shall be included within the definition of surface mining when they are of such nature and extent as to exceed the qualifying sizes listed above or when collectively they disturb more than one acre per eight acres of land area.

(2) "Unit of surface mined area" shall mean the area of land and water covered by each operating permit that is actually newly disturbed by surface mining during each twelve-month period of time, beginning at the date of issuance of the permit, and shall comprise the area from which overburden and/or minerals have been removed, the area covered by spoil banks, and all additional areas used in surface mining operations which by virtue of such use are thereafter susceptible to excessive erosion.

(3) "Abandonment of surface mining" shall mean a cessation of surface mining, not set forth in an operator's plan of operation or by any other sufficient written notice, extending for more than six consecutive months or when, by reason of examination of the premises or by any other means, it becomes the opinion of the department of natural resources that the operation has in fact been abandoned by the operator: PROVIDED, That the operator does not, within thirty days of receipt of written notification from the department of his intent to declare the operation abandoned, submit evidence to the department's satisfaction that the operation is in fact not abandoned.

(4) "Minerals" shall mean coal, clay, stone, sand, gravel, metallic ore, and any other similar solid material or substance to be excavated from natural deposits on or in the earth for commercial, industrial, or construction uses.

(5) "Overburden" shall mean the earth, rock, and other materials that lie above a natural deposit of mineral.

(6) "Surface mining refuse" shall mean all waste soil, rock, mineral, liquid, vegetation, and other material directly resulting from or displaced by the mining, cleaning, or preparation of minerals during the surface mining operations on the operating permit area, and shall include all waste materials deposited on or in the permit area from other sources.

(7) "Spoil bank" shall mean a deposit of excavated overburden or mining refuse.

(8) "Operator" shall mean any person or persons, any partnership, limited partnership, or corporation, or any association of persons, either natural or artificial, including every public or governmental agency engaged in surface mining operations, whether individually, jointly, or through subsidiaries, agents, employees, or contractors.

(9) "Department" (~~shall~~) means the (~~board~~) department of natural resources.

(10) "Reclamation" shall mean the reasonable protection of all surface resources subject to disruption from surface mining and rehabilitation of the surface resources affected by surface mining. Although both the need for and the practicability of reclamation will control the type and degree of reclamation in any specific instance, the basic objective will be to reestablish on a continuing basis the vegetative cover, soil stability, water conditions, and safety conditions appropriate to the intended subsequent use of the area.

(11) "Reclamation plan" shall mean the operator's written proposal, as required and approved by the department, for reclamation of the affected resources which shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) A statement of the proposed subsequent use of the land after reclamation and satisfactory evidence that all owners of a possessory interest in the land concur with this proposed use;

(b) Evidence that this subsequent use would not be illegal under local zoning regulations;

(c) Proposed practices to protect adjacent surface resources;

(d) Specifications for surface gradient restoration to a surface suitable for the proposed subsequent use of the land after reclamation is completed, and proposed method of accomplishment;

(e) Manner and type of revegetation or other surface treatment of disturbed areas;

(f) Method of prevention or elimination of conditions that will create a public nuisance, endanger public safety, damage property, or be hazardous to vegetative, animal, fish, or human life in or adjacent to the area;

(g) Method of control of contaminants and disposal of surface mining refuse;

(h) Method of diverting surface waters around the disturbed areas;

(i) Method of restoration of stream channels and stream banks to a condition minimizing erosion and siltation and other pollution;

(j) Such maps and other supporting documents as reasonably required by the department; and

(k) A time schedule for reclamation that meets the requirements of RCW 78.44.090.

Sec. 2. Section 5, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78.44-.040 are each amended to read as follows:

The ~~((board))~~ department of natural resources is charged with the administration of this chapter ~~((by utilizing the services of the department of natural resources))~~. In order to implement the chapter's terms and provisions, the department, under the provisions of the administrative procedure act (chapter 34.04 RCW), as now or hereafter amended, may from time to time promulgate those rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

Sec. 3. Section 11, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78-.44.100 are each amended to read as follows:

Upon receipt of an application for a permit, the surface mining site must be inspected by a representative of the department. Within twenty-five days of receipt of the application and reclamation plan by the department and receipt of the permit fee, the department shall either issue an operating permit to the applicant or return any incomplete or inadequate application to the applicant along with a description of the deficiencies.

Failure to act within the twenty-five day period on the reclamation plan shall not be cause for a denial of a permit. The department shall set the amount of the bond or other security required for a ~~((provisional))~~ permit governing the surface mining operation set forth in the application. ~~((A provisional permit shall be granted pursuant to conditions prescribed by the department until a plan is approved as long as the operator complies with the bond or security requirements established by the department. PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That a provisional permit shall not be granted if the department considers the site unsuitable for surface mining:))~~

If the department refuses to approve a reclamation plan in the form submitted by the operator, it shall notify the operator, in writing, stating the reasons for its refusal and listing such additional requirements to the operator's reclamation plan as are necessary for the approval of the plan by the department. Within thirty days, the operator shall either accept such additional requirements as part of the reclamation plan or file notice of appeal. ~~((If notice of appeal is filed by the operator, a provisional permit shall be granted as herein specified:))~~

The operating permit shall be granted for the period required to mine the land covered by the plan and shall be valid until the surface mining authorized by the permit is completed or abandoned, unless the permit is suspended by the department as provided in this chapter. The operating permit shall provide that the reclamation plan may be modified, after timely

notice and opportunity for hearing, at any time during the term of the permit for any of the following reasons:

- (1) To modify the requirements so that they will not conflict with existing laws;
- (2) The department determines that the previously adopted reclamation plan is clearly impossible or impracticable to implement and maintain;
- (3) The department determines that the previously adopted reclamation plan is obviously not accomplishing the intent of this chapter; or
- (4) The operator and the department mutually agree to change the reclamation plan.

When one operator succeeds to the interest of another in any uncompleted surface mining operation by sale, assignment, lease, or otherwise, the department may release the first operator from the duties imposed upon him by this chapter as to such operation: PROVIDED, That both operators have complied with the requirements of this chapter and the successor operator assumes the duty of the former operator to complete the reclamation of the land, in which case the department shall transfer the permit to the successor operator upon approval of the successor operator's bond as required under this chapter.

Sec. 4. Section 12, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78.44.110 are each amended to read as follows:

The permit fees required under this chapter shall be as follows:

(1) The basic fee for the permit shall be ~~((twenty=five))~~ two hundred fifty dollars per permit year for each separate location, payable with submission of the application and annually thereafter with submission of the report required in RCW 78.44.130.

(2) In addition, there shall be a five dollar per acre fee for all acreage exceeding ten acres which was newly disturbed by surface mining during the previous permit year, which acreage fee shall be paid at the time of submission of the report required in RCW 78.44.130.

(3) All fees collected shall be deposited in the general fund.

Sec. 5. Section 13, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. as amended by section 1, chapter 66, Laws of 1977 and RCW 78.44.120 are each amended to read as follows:

Upon receipt of an operating permit an operator other than a public or governmental agency shall not commence surface mining until the operator has deposited with the department an acceptable performance bond on forms prescribed and furnished by the department. This performance bond shall be a corporate surety bond executed in favor of the department by a corporation authorized to do business in the state of Washington under the provisions of chapter 48.28 RCW and approved by the department. The bond shall be filed and maintained in an amount equal to the estimated cost of completing the reclamation plan for the area to be surface mined during the next twelve-month period and any previously surface mined area for

which a permit has been issued and on which the reclamation has not been satisfactorily completed and approved. If an operator increases the area to be surface mined during the twelve month period, the department may increase the amount of the bond to compensate for the increase. The department shall have the authority to determine the amount of the bond that shall be required, and for any reason may refuse any bond not deemed adequate. ~~((In no case shall the amount of the bond be less than one hundred dollars or more than two thousand five hundred dollars per acre or fraction thereof.))~~

The bond shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance of the requirements set forth in this chapter and of the rules and regulations adopted ~~((pursuant thereto))~~ under it.

In lieu of the surety bond required by this section the operator may file with the department a cash deposit, negotiable securities acceptable to the department, ~~((or))~~ an assignment of a savings account or of a savings certificate in a Washington bank on an assignment form prescribed by the department, or bank letters of credit acceptable to the department.

Liability under the bond shall be maintained as long as reclamation is not completed in compliance with the approved reclamation plan unless released prior thereto as hereinafter provided. Liability under the bond may be released only upon written notification from the department. Notification shall be given upon completion of compliance or acceptance by the department of a substitute bond. In no event shall the liability of the surety exceed the amount of the surety bond required by this section.

A public or governmental agency shall not be required to post a bond under the terms of this chapter.

A blanket performance bond covering two or more surface mining operations may be submitted by an operator in lieu of separate bonds for each separate operation.

Sec. 6. Section 15, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78-44.140 are each amended to read as follows:

Upon receipt of the operator's report, and at any other reasonable time the department may elect, the department shall cause the permit area to be inspected to determine if the operator has complied with the reclamation plan and the department's rules and regulations.

The operator shall proceed with reclamation as scheduled in ~~((his))~~ the reclamation plan. Following any written notice by the department noting deficiencies, the operator shall commence action within thirty days, or as directed by the department if it has determined that emergency actions are required, to rectify these deficiencies and shall diligently proceed until the deficiencies are corrected: PROVIDED, That deficiencies that also violate other laws that require earlier rectification shall be corrected in accordance with the applicable time provisions of such laws. The department may extend performance periods referred to in this section and in RCW 78.44.090,

for delays clearly beyond the operator's control, but only when the operator is, in the opinion of the department, making every reasonable effort to comply.

Within thirty days after notification by the operator and when in the judgment of the department reclamation of a unit of surface mined area is properly completed, the mining operator shall be notified in writing and his bond on said area shall be released or decreased proportionately.

If reclamation of surface mined land is not proceeding in accordance with the reclamation plan and the operator has not commenced action to rectify deficiencies within thirty days after notification by the department or as directed by the department, or if reclamation is not properly completed in conformance with the reclamation plan within two years after completion or abandonment of surface mining on any segment of the permit area, the department is authorized, with the staff, equipment and material under his control, or by contract with others, to take such actions as are necessary for the reclamation of the surface mined areas. If the department intends to undertake the reclamation, the department shall ascertain the probable costs of reclamation and shall notify the operator, the surety, and the owner of the probable costs. The operator or surety, or both, shall pay that amount to the department for reclaiming the surface mined land. The department shall keep a record of all necessary expenses incurred in carrying out any project or activity authorized under this section, including a reasonable charge for the services performed by the state's personnel and the state's equipment and materials utilized.

The department shall notify the operator, the owner, and ~~((his))~~ the surety by order. The order shall state the amount of necessary expenses incurred by the department in reclaiming the surface mined land and a notice that the amount is due and payable to the department by the operator and the surety to the extent that the amount has not already been paid. The department shall refund all amounts received above the amount of expenses incurred.

If the amount specified in the notice or order is not paid within thirty days after receipt of the notice, the attorney general, upon request of the department, shall bring an action on behalf of the state in the superior court for Thurston county or any county in which the persons to whom the notice or order is directed do business to recover the amount specified ~~((in the final order of the department))~~. The surety shall be liable to the state to the extent of the bond.

The amount owed the department by the operator for the reclamation performed by the state may be recovered by a lien against the reclaimed property, which may be enforced in the same manner and with the same effect as a mechanic's lien.

In addition to the other liabilities imposed by this chapter, failure to commence action to rectify deficiencies in reclamation within thirty days

after notification by the department or failure satisfactorily to complete reclamation work on any segment of the permit area within two years after completion or abandonment of surface mining on any segment of the permit area shall constitute sufficient grounds for cancellation of a permit and refusal to issue another permit to the delinquent operator until such deficiencies are corrected by the operator.

Sec. 7. Section 17, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78-.44.160 are each amended to read as follows:

When the department finds that an operator is conducting surface mining on an area for which a valid operating permit is not in effect, or is conducting surface mining in any manner not authorized by his operating permit or by the rules and regulations adopted by the department, the department may forthwith order such operator to suspend all such operations until compliance is effected or assured to the satisfaction of the department. In the event the operator fails or declines to obey such order, ~~((the facts may be reported by the department to the attorney general))~~ the operator shall be subject to a civil penalty in an amount of not more than five hundred dollars for each violation. Every day on which a failure or declining to obey the order continues is a separate violation.

The penalty provided for in this section shall be imposed by notice in writing, either by certified mail with return receipt requested or by personal service, to the person incurring the penalty. Within fifteen days after the notice is received, the person incurring the penalty may apply in writing to the department for the remission or mitigation of the penalty. Upon receipt of the application, the department may remit or mitigate the penalty upon whatever terms the department in its discretion considers proper, provided the department considers the remission or mitigation to be in the best interests of carrying out the purposes of this chapter.

A person incurring a penalty under this section may appeal the penalty as provided in RCW 78.44.170. The appeal shall be filed within thirty days of receipt of notice imposing the penalty unless an application for remission or mitigation is made to the department. When an application for remission or mitigation is made, the appeal shall be filed within thirty days of receipt of notice from the department setting forth the disposition of the application.

A penalty imposed under this section becomes due and payable thirty days after receipt of a notice imposing the penalty unless application for remission or mitigation is made or an appeal is filed. When an application for remission or mitigation is made, the penalty becomes due and payable thirty days after receipt of notice setting forth the disposition of the application unless an appeal is filed from the disposition. If an appeal of the penalty is filed, the penalty becomes due and payable only upon completion of all review proceedings provided for in RCW 78.44.170 and the issuance of a final decision by the department confirming the penalty in whole or in part.

If the penalty is not paid to the department within thirty days after it becomes due and payable, the attorney general, upon the request of the department, shall bring an action in the name of the state of Washington in the superior court of Thurston county or any county in which the person incurring the penalty does business, to recover the penalty. In all such actions the procedures and rules of evidence shall be the same as in an ordinary civil action except as otherwise provided in this chapter. The attorney general shall forthwith take the necessary legal action to enjoin, or otherwise cause to be stopped, such conduct of surface mining.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. There is added to chapter 78.44 RCW a new section to read as follows:

In the event state law is preempted under federal surface mining laws relating to surface mining of coal or the department of natural resources determines that a federal program and its rules and regulations relating to the surface mining of coal are as stringent and effective as the provisions of this chapter, the provisions of this chapter shall not apply to such surface mining for which federal permits are issued until such preemption ceases or the department determines such chapter should apply.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. Section 19, chapter 64, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 78.44.900 are each repealed.

Passed the House March 5, 1984.

Passed the Senate March 4, 1984.

Approved by the Governor March 27, 1984.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 27, 1984.

CHAPTER 216

[Engrossed House Bill No. 1133]

POLITICAL ADVERTISING

AN ACT Relating to political advertising; adding new sections to chapter 42.17 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 29.85 RCW; repealing section 29.85.270, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 1, chapter 162, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. and RCW 29.85.270; and repealing section 29.85.280, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 2, chapter 162, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. and RCW 29.85.280.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. (1) All written political advertising, whether relating to candidates or ballot propositions, shall include the sponsor's name and address. All radio and television political advertising, whether relating to candidates or ballot propositions, shall include the sponsor's name. The use of an assumed name shall be unlawful. The party with which a candidate files shall be clearly identified in political advertising for partisan office.