

Coal Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Funds are Being Spent Efficiently and Effectively

States and Tribes are rapidly developing and implementing projects to reclaim abandoned mine lands (AML) through Sec. 40701 IIJA funds

Use of Coal AML IIJA Funds FY22-25



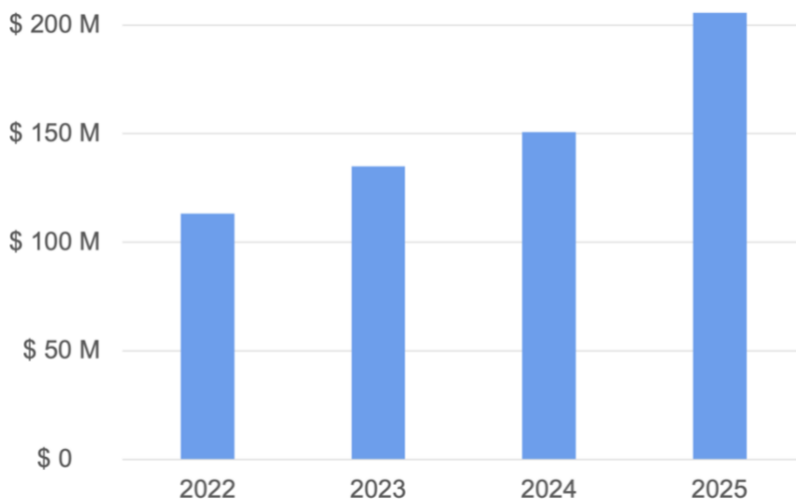
88% of awarded funds have been committed to reclamation projects

1,500 reclamation projects are in development, under construction, or already complete

Awarded funds are committed to developing reclamation projects long before they are shown as “obligated” in OSM’s grant system

Other necessary costs include set-aside funds for long term reclamation and water treatment and funding for program management

Coal AML Funds Spent on Construction Contracts FY22-25



Spending on reclamation project construction has increased 82% since 2022

IIJA funding supports larger and more impactful reclamation projects, increasing benefits to public health and safety, the environment, and local economies

Reclaiming abandoned mines is a highly technical, multi-step process

Developing a reclamation project takes 2-3 years – AML sites must be assessed and inventoried, the public must be consulted, projects must be carefully designed and engineered, and NEPA and federal agency approvals must be obtained

Completing construction of a reclamation project takes 6 months to 1 year – reclamation projects often require multiple phases and can only be conducted when the ground is warm enough and when damage to bat habitat can be avoided

Reclaiming AML Hazards is Vitaly Important for Coalfield Citizens



Treatment of polluted water in West Virginia

Coal abandoned mine lands (AML) are remnants of pre-regulatory mining conducted before 1977

Coal AML hazards are a serious problem – they injure and kill people, pollute water and damage ecosystems, and impede economic growth

AML programs are the only help available to coalfield citizens to close mine shafts, extinguish mine fires, stabilize collapsed homes, businesses, and roads, and restore water for drinking and fishing

IIJA Funds are Awarded on a Fixed Schedule

IIJA funds are provided to eligible States and Tribes in 15 equal annual installments

The first grants were awarded in 2022 – 4 grant rounds have been awarded so far (FY26 to be awarded Spring 2026)

Funds are allocated based on historic coal production – 80% goes to top 5 coal producing states: PA, WV, KY, IL, and OH



Reclamation of severe landslide in Eastern Kentucky

More Reclamation Funding is Needed

The federal coal AML inventory (“e-AMLIS”) underestimates funding needs

States estimate \$29.8B in additional funding is needed to complete reclamation, fully protect coalfield citizens, and restore all AML impacted lands and waters



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