

concerning the frequency of inspections at abandoned coal mining operations.

This document sets forth the times and locations that the Ohio program and the proposed amendment to that program will be available for public inspection, the comment period during which interest persons may submit written comments on the proposed amendment, and the procedures that will be followed regarding the public hearing, if one is requested.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before 4 p.m., E.D.T. on July 3, 1995. If requested, a hearing on the proposed amendment will be held at 1 p.m., E.D.T. on June 26, 1995. Requests to speak at the hearing must be received on or before 4 p.m., E.D.T. on June 23, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and requests to testify at the hearing should be mailed or hand-delivered to Ms. Beverly C. Brock, Acting Director, Columbus Field Office, at the address listed below.

Copies of the Ohio program, the proposed amendment, and all written comments received in response to this document will be available for public review at the address listed below during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Each requester may receive one free copy of the proposed amendment by contacting OSM's Columbus Field Office.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Columbus Field Office, 4480 Refugee Road, Suite 201, Columbus, Ohio 43232, telephone: (614) 866-0578.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Reclamation, 1855 Fountain Square Court, Building H-3, Columbus, Ohio 43224, telephone: (614) 265-6675.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Beverly C. Brock, Acting Director, Columbus Field Office, (614) 866-0578.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background on the Ohio Program

On August 16, 1982, the Secretary of the Interior conditionally approved the Ohio program. Information on the general background of the Ohio program submission, including the Secretary's findings, the disposition of comments, and a detailed explanation of the conditions of approval of the Ohio program, can be found in the August 10, 1983, **Federal Register** (47 FR 34688). Subsequent actions concerning the conditions of approval and program amendments are identified at 30 CFR 935.11, 935.12, 935.15, and 935.16.

II. Discussion of the Proposed Amendment

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Reclamation (Ohio) submitted proposed Program Amendment Number 70 by letter dated March 28, 1995 (Administrative Record No. OH-2104). In this amendment, Ohio proposed to revise one rule at Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) section 1501:13-14-01 to make the Ohio program as effective as the corresponding Federal regulations concerning the frequency of inspections at abandoned coal mining operations.

OSM announced receipt of PA 70 in the April 11, 1995, **Federal Register** (60 FR 18380), and, in the same document, opened the public comment period and provided an opportunity for a public hearing on the adequacy of the proposed amendment. The public period closed on May 11, 1995.

On May 11, 1995, OSM notified Ohio of its one comment about PA 70 (Administrative Record No. OH-2128). In response to the OSM comment, Ohio submitted Revised Program Amendment Number 70 (PA 70R) by letter dated May 31, 1995 (Administrative Record No. OH-2127). In PA 70R, Ohio is proposing one further revision to OAC section 1501:13-14-01 paragraph (A)(3)(c)(ii) to cross-reference Ohio's rule on individual civil penalties and Ohio's statute on criminal penalties.

III. Public Comment Procedures

In accordance with the provisions of 30 CFR 732.17(h), OSM is now seeking comment on whether the amendment proposed by Ohio satisfies the applicable program approval criteria of 30 CFR 732.15. If the amendment is deemed adequate, it will become part of the Ohio program.

Written Comments

Written comments should be specific, pertain only to the issues proposed in this rulemaking, and include explanations in support of the commenter's recommendations. Comments received after the time limit indicated under **DATES** or at locations other than the Columbus Field Office will not necessarily be considered in the final rulemaking or included in the Administrative Record.

Public Hearing

Persons wishing to comment at the public hearing should contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** by 4 p.m., E.D.T. on June 23, 1995. If no one requests an opportunity to comment at a public hearing, the hearing will not be held.

Filing of a written statement at the time of the hearing is requested as it will greatly assist the transcriber. Submission of written statements in advance of the hearing will allow OSM officials to prepare adequate responses and appropriate questions. The public hearing will continue on the specified date until all persons scheduled to comment have been heard. Persons in the audience who have not been scheduled to comment and who wish to do so will be heard following those scheduled. The hearing will end after all persons scheduled to comment and persons present in the audience who wish to comment have been heard.

Any disabled individual who has need for a special accommodation to attend a public hearing should contact the individual listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Public Meeting

If only one person requests an opportunity to comment at a hearing, a public meeting, rather than a public hearing, may be held. Persons wishing to meet with OSM representatives to discuss the proposed amendments may request a meeting at the Columbus Field Office by contacting the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. All such meetings shall be open to the public and, if possible, notices of the meetings will be posted at the locations listed under **ADDRESSES**. A written summary of each public meeting will be made a part of the Administrative Record.

IV. Procedural Determinations

Executive Order 12866

This rule is exempted from review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under Executive Order 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review).

Executive Order 12778

The Department of the Interior has conducted the reviews required by section 2 of Executive Order 12778 (Civil Justice Reform) and has determined that, to the extent allowed by law, this rule meets the applicable standards of subsections (a) and (b) of that section. However, these standards are not applicable to the actual language of State regulatory programs and program amendments since each such program is drafted and promulgated by a specific State, not by OSM. Under sections 503 and 505 of SMCRA (30 U.S.C. 1253 and 1255) and 30 CFR 730.11, 732.15 and 752.17(h)(10), decisions on proposed State regulatory programs and program amendments submitted by the States must be based