

Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Interior

§ 903.774

provide the applicant advance notice of the time of the visit.

(5) In determining the completeness of an application, WSC will consider whether the information provided in the application is adequate for OSM to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4322. If necessary, WSC may require specific additional information from the applicant as any environmental review progresses.

(e) In addition to the information required by subchapter G of this chapter,

WSC may require an applicant to submit supplemental information to ensure compliance with applicable Federal laws and regulations other than the Act and 30 CFR chapter VII.

(f) In making a decision on an application, the regulatory authority shall review any written comments or objections it has received and the records of any informal conference or hearing it has held on the application. The regulatory authority shall issue a written decision in accordance with the timeframes in the following table:

If * * *	And * * *	Then a written decision shall be issued * * *
OSM has not prepared an EIS	An informal conference has not been held.	Within 60 days of the close of the comment period.
OSM has not prepared an EIS	An informal conference has been held.	Within 60 days of the conclusion of the informal conference (unless additional time is needed because of the number or complexity of the issues).
OSM has prepared an EIS	No earlier than 30 days after the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability of the final EIS in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(g) OSM will consider withholding information from public disclosure under §773.13(d) of this chapter if the applicant labels the information confidential and submits it separately from the rest of the application.

(1) If the applicant submits information identified as confidential, the notice required by §773.13(a)(1) of this chapter shall state this and identify the type of information that the applicant has submitted.

(2) OSM shall determine the qualification of any application information labeled confidential within 10 days of the last publication of the notice required under §773.13(a)(1) of this chapter, unless additional time is necessary to obtain public comment or in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

§ 903.774 Revision; renewal; and transfer, assignment, or sale of permit rights.

(a) Part 774 of this chapter, *Revision; Renewal; and Transfer, Assignment, or Sale of Permit Rights*, applies to any such actions involving surface coal mining and reclamation operations permits, except as specified in this section.

(b) No revision to an approved mining or reclamation plan shall be effective until reviewed and approved by WSC.

(c) Any significant revision to the approved mining or reclamation plan shall be subject to the public notice and hearing provisions of §§ 903.773(d)(3) and 773.13 (b) and (c) of this chapter before it is approved and implemented. Any revision to an approved reclamation plan that may have the potential to adversely affect the achievement of reclamation and the post-mining land use is a significant permit revision. In addition, WSC will consider the following factors, as well as other relevant factors, in determining the significance of a proposed revision:

- (1) Changes in production or recoverability of the coal resource;
- (2) Environmental effects;
- (3) Public interest in the operation, or likely interest in the proposed revision; and

(4) Possible adverse impacts from the proposed revision on fish or wildlife, endangered species, bald or golden eagles, or cultural resources.

(d) The regulatory authority will approve or disapprove non-significant permit revisions within a reasonable time after receiving a complete and accurate revision application. Significant revisions and renewals shall be approved or disapproved under the provisions of §903.773(f).

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(e) Any person having an interest that is or may be adversely affected by a decision on the transfer, assignment, or sale of permit rights, may submit written comments on the application to WSC. Comments may be submitted within 30 days of either the publication of the newspaper notice required by § 774.17(b)(2) of this chapter, or receipt of an administratively complete application, whichever is later. For purposes of this paragraph, a person includes, but is not limited to an official of any Federal, State, or local government agency.

(f) Within 30 days from the last publication of the newspaper notice, written comments or objections to an application for significant revision or renewal of a permit may be submitted to the regulatory authority by:

(1) Any person having an interest that is or may be adversely affected by the decision on the application; or

(2) Public entities notified under § 773.13(a)(3) of this chapter of the proposed mining operations on the environment within their areas of responsibility.

§ 903.775 Administrative and judicial review of decisions.

Part 775 of this chapter, *Administrative and Judicial Review of Decisions*, applies to all decisions on permits.

§ 903.777 General content requirements for permit applications.

(a) Part 777 of this chapter, *General Content Requirements for Permit Applications*, applies to any person who makes application for a permit to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations.

(b) Any person who wishes to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations must file a complete application as early as possible before the date the permit is desired and pay to OSM a permit fee in accordance with § 903.736.

(c) Any person who wishes to revise a permit shall submit a complete application as early as possible before the desired approval date of the permit revision and shall pay a permit fee in accordance with 30 CFR 777.17.

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§ 903.778 Permit applications—Minimum requirements for legal, financial, compliance, and related information.

Part 778 of this chapter, *Permit Applications—Minimum Requirements for Legal, Financial, Compliance, and Related Information*, applies to any person who submits an application for a permit to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations.

§ 903.779 Surface mining permit applications—Minimum requirements for information on environmental resources.

(a) Part 779 of this chapter, *Surface Mining Permit Applications—Minimum Requirements for Information on Environmental Resources*, applies to any person who submits an application to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations.

(b) Each permit application must include a map that delineates existing vegetative types and a description of the plant communities within the proposed permit area and within any proposed reference area.

§ 903.780 Surface mining permit applications—Minimum requirements for reclamation and operation plan.

Part 780 of this chapter, *Surface Mining Permit Applications—Minimum Requirements for Reclamation and Operation Plan*, applies to any person who submits an application to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations.

§ 903.783 Underground mining permit applications—Minimum requirements for information on environmental resources.

(a) Part 783 of this chapter, *Underground Mining Permit Applications—Minimum Requirements for Information on Environmental Resources*, applies to any person who submits an application to conduct underground coal mining operations.

(b) Each permit application must include a map that delineates existing vegetative types and a description of the plant communities within the proposed permit area and within any proposed reference area.