

Comments

To develop needed guidance timely, the Treasury Department and the IRS invite interested persons to submit comments (in the manner described under the **ADDRESSES** caption) on issues arising under the FASIT provisions. Treasury and the IRS encourage respondents to give particular attention to the following: rules that would allow more than one member of an affiliated group to hold ownership interests in the same FASIT; transitional rules for pre-effective date FASITs; and any other rules that should be in place before September 1, 1997.

If a respondent is submitting written comments, a signed original and eight (8) copies are requested. All comments will be available for public inspection and copying in their entirety.

Judith C. Dunn,

Associate Chief Counsel (Domestic).

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

30 CFR Part 943

[SPATS No. TX-030-FOR]

Texas Regulatory Program

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM), Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; public comment period and opportunity for public hearing.

SUMMARY: OSM is announcing receipt of a proposed amendment to the Texas regulatory program (hereinafter the "Texas program") under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA). The proposed amendment consists of revisions to and an addition of regulations pertaining to the replacement of water supply where it has been adversely impacted by contamination, diminution, or interruption resulting from surface mining activities. The amendment is intended to revise the Texas program to be consistent with the corresponding Federal regulations.

DATES: Written comments must be received by 4:00 p.m., c.s.t., December 4, 1996. If requested, a public hearing on the proposed amendment will be held on November 29, 1996. Requests to speak at the hearing must be received by 4:00 p.m., c.s.t. on November 19, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and requests to speak at the hearing should be mailed or hand delivered to Jack R. Carson, Acting Director, Tulsa Field Office, at the address listed below.

Copies of the Texas program, the proposed amendment, a listing of any scheduled public hearings, and all written comments received in response to this document will be available for public review at the addresses 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 Tulsa Field Office.

Jack R. Carson, Acting Director, Tulsa Field Office, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 5100 East Skelly Drive, Suite 470, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135-6547, Telephone: (918) 581-6430.

Railroad Commission of Texas, Surface Mining and Reclamation Division, 1701 North Congress Avenue, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967, Telephone: (512) 463-6900.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jack R. Carson, Acting Director, Tulsa Field Office, Telephone: (918) 581-6430.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background on the Texas Program

On February 16, 1980, the Secretary of the Interior conditionally approved the Texas program. General background information on the Texas program, including the Secretary's findings, the disposition of comments, and the conditions of approval can be found in the February 27, 1980, Federal Register (45 FR 12998). Subsequent actions concerning the Texas program can be found at 30 CFR 943.10, 943.15, and 943.16.

II. Description of the Proposed Amendment

By letter dated October 21, 1996 (Administrative Record No. TX-629), Texas submitted a proposed amendment to its program pursuant to SMCRA. Texas submitted the proposed amendment in response to a July 8, 1996, letter (Administrative Record No. TX-618) that OSM sent to Texas in accordance with 30 CFR 732.17(c). The provisions of the Texas Coal Mining Regulations (TCMR) that Texas proposes to revise are: TCMR 701.008, Definitions: TCMR 779.130, Alternative water supply information; and TCMR 816.352, Hydrologic balance—water rights and replacement. Specifically, Texas proposes the following revisions to these regulations.

1. Texas proposes to add the following new definition at TCMR 701.005(77) for replacement of water supply.

Replacement of water supply means, with respect to protected water supplies contaminated, diminished, or interrupted by coal mining operations, provision of water supply on both a temporary and permanent basis equivalent to premining quantity and quality. Replacement includes provision of an equivalent water delivery system and payment of operation and maintenance costs in excess of customary and reasonable delivery costs for premining water supplies.

(a) Upon agreement by the permittee and the water-supply owner, at any time prior to commencement of mining operations, the obligation to pay such operation and maintenance costs may be satisfied by a one-time payment in an amount which covers the present worth of the increased annual operation and maintenance costs for a period agreed to by the permittee and the water supply owner.

(b) If the affected water supply was not needed for the land use in existence at the time of loss, contamination, or diminution, and if the supply is not needed to achieve the postmining land use, replacement requirements may be satisfied by demonstrating that a suitable alternative water source is available and could feasibly be developed. If the latter approach is selected, written concurrence must be obtained from the water supply owner.

2. Texas proposes to clarify its alternative water supply requirements at TCMR 779.130 by replacing the words "mine plan" with the word "permit" in the first sentence; adding the words "which is used" after the words "adjacent areas" in the first sentence; replacing the word "description" with the word "application" in the second sentence; adding the word "water" after the word "existing" in the second sentence; and by adding the phrase "including the suitability of alternative water sources for existing premine uses and approved postmine land uses" at the end of the second sentence. The revised provisions read as follows:

The application shall identify the extent to which the proposed surface mining activities may proximately result in contamination, diminution, or interruption of an underground or surface source of water within the proposed permit or adjacent areas which is used for domestic, agricultural, industrial, or other legitimate use. If contamination, diminution, or interruption may result, then the application shall identify the alternative sources of water supply that could be developed to replace the existing water sources including the suitability of alternative water sources for existing premine uses and approved postmine land uses.

3. Texas proposes to clarify its regulation for water rights and replacement at TCMR 816.352 by

replacing the word "affected" with the words "adversely impacted" and by adding the following new provision:

Baseline hydrologic information required in Sections 779.126, 779.130, and 780.146, of the Regulations shall be used to determine the extent of the impact of mining upon ground water and surface water.

III. Public Comment Procedures

In accordance with the provisions of 30 CFR 732.17(h), OSM is seeking comments on whether the proposed amendment satisfies the applicable program approval criteria of 30 CFR 732.15. If the amendment is deemed adequate, it will become part of the Texas 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 indicated under **DATES** or at locations other than the Tulsa Field Office will not necessarily be considered in the final rulemaking or included in the Administrative Record.

Public Hearing

Persons wishing to speak at the public hearing should contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** by 4:00 p.m., c.s.t. on November 19, 1996. The location and time of the hearing will be arranged with those persons requesting the hearing. 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**. If no one requests an opportunity to speak at the 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 speak have been heard. Persons in the audience who have not been scheduled to speak, and who wish to do so, will be heard following those who have been scheduled. The hearing will end after all persons scheduled to speak and persons present in the audience who wish to speak have been heard.

Public Meeting

If only one person requests an opportunity to speak 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 amendment may request a meeting by contacting the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. All such meetings will be open to the public and, if possible, notices of meetings will be posted at the locations listed under **ADDRESSES**. A written summary of each meeting will be made a part of the Administrative Record.

IV. Procedural Determination

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 12988

The Department of the Interior has conducted the reviews required by section 3 of Executive Order 12988 (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 732.17(h)(10), decisions on proposed State regulatory programs and program amendments submitted by the States must be based solely on a determination of whether the submittal is consistent with SMCRA and its implementing Federal regulations and whether the other requirements of 30 CFR Parts 730, 731, and 732 have been met.

National Environmental Policy Act

No environmental impact statement is required for this rule since section 702(d) of SMCRA (30 U.S.C. 1292(d)) provides that agency decisions on proposed State regulatory program provisions do not constitute major Federal actions within the meaning of section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)).

Paperwork Reduction Act

This rule does not contain information collection requirements that require approval by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3507 *et seq.*).

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Department of the Interior has determined that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*). The State submittal which is the subject of this rule is based upon counterpart Federal regulations for which an economic analysis was prepared and certification made that such regulations would not have a significant economic effect upon a substantial number of small entities. Accordingly, this rule will ensure that existing requirements previously promulgated by OSM will be implemented by the State. In making the determination as to whether this rule would have a significant economic impact, the Department relied upon the data and assumptions for the counterpart Federal regulations.

Unfunded Mandates

This rule will not impose a cost of \$100 million or more in any given year on any governmental entity or the private sector.

List of Subjects in 30 CFR Part 943

Intergovernmental relations, Surface mining, Underground mining.

Dated: October 25, 1996.

Brent Wahlquist,

Regional Director, Mid-Continent Regional Coordinating Center.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[CA 57-8-6368b; FRL-5640-9]

Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision, South Coast Air Quality Management District

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed Rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve revisions to the California State Implementation Plan (SIP) which concern the control of volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from solvent degreasing. The intended effect of proposing approval of this rule is to regulate emissions of VOCs in accordance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended in 1990 (CAA or the Act). In the Final Rules Section of this Federal Register, the