

(S) "SPOIL PILE" MEANS THE OVERBURDEN AND REJECT COAL AS IT IS PILED OR DEPOSITED IN OPEN-PIT MINING.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This subsection presently appears as Article 66C, section 658(j) of the Code. The only changes made are in style.

(T) "TRACT" MEANS A SINGLE PARCEL OF LAND OR TWO OR MORE CONTIGUOUS PARCELS OF LAND WITH COMMON OWNERSHIP.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This subsection presently appears as Article 66C, section 658(e) of the Code. The only changes made are in style.

7-502. DECLARATION OF POLICY.

THIS SUBTITLE IS AN EXERCISE OF THE POLICE POWERS OF THE STATE FOR THE GENERAL WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE, BY PROVIDING FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE STATE AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF AREAS OF LAND AFFECTED IN THE MINING OF BITUMINOUS COAL BY THE OPEN PIT, STRIP MINING, OR AUGER MINING METHOD. ITS PURPOSE IS TO AID IN THE PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE AND RESTORE THESE LANDS TO PRODUCTIVE PURPOSES WHILE DECREASING SOIL EROSION; TO AID IN PREVENTING POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS; PREVENT COMBUSTION OF UNMINED COAL; PROVIDE FOR RECLAMATION OF THE STRIPPED AREAS; AND GENERALLY IMPROVE THE USE AND ENJOYMENT OF THESE LANDS.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section presently appears as Article 66C, section 657 of the Code. The only changes made are in style.

7-503. RULES AND REGULATIONS GENERALLY.

(A) AUTHORITY TO PROMULGATE AND ENFORCE RULES AND REGULATIONS.— THE BUREAU MAY MAKE AND ENFORCE ANY RULE AND REGULATION NECESSARY TO PREVENT, MINIMIZE, OR REPAIR DAMAGE TO THE LAND OR THE NATURAL RESOURCES ASSOCIATED WITH THE LAND WHICH MAY RESULT FROM ANY OPEN-PIT MINING OPERATION.

(B) ENFORCEMENT OR REGULATORY POWERS OF DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE NOT AFFECTED BY THIS SUBTITLE.—NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS SUBTITLE ABROGATES OR SUPPLANTS ANY OF THE ENFORCEMENT OR REGULATORY POWERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE.