

BY adding to

Article - Natural Resources
Section 7-507.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1975 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Sections 7-504(a), 7-505(e) and 7-514 of Article - Natural Resources, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1974 Volume and 1975 Supplement) be and they are hereby repealed and reenacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

7-504.

(a) A person may not mine coal by the open-pit mining method as an operator within the State without first obtaining a license from the [bureau] DEPARTMENT. Each application for a license as an open-pit mining operator shall be made in writing to the [bureau] DEPARTMENT, on a form the [bureau] DEPARTMENT furnishes and accompanied by a [\$100] \$200 fee. The application shall contain information concerning the applicant as required by the [bureau] DEPARTMENT. In the case of an application submitted by a corporation, partnership, or association, the application shall contain information concerning officers, directors, and principal owners, as the [bureau] DEPARTMENT requires. Every person licensed as an open-pit mining operator shall renew his license annually[,] and pay a \$10 renewal fee. The application for renewal of a license as an open-pit mining operator shall be made on or before January 1 of the next succeeding year.

7-505.

(e) In addition to any fee required in this subtitle, [every] EACH applicant for a permit to [surface] mine coal BY OPEN-PIT OR STRIP METHOD shall pay TO the [director] DEPARTMENT, before the permit is issued, a special reclamation fee of [\$30] \$40 for each acre of land affected. The State shall contribute an equal amount. This fee shall be deposited in the bituminous coal open-pit mining reclamation fund. The payment shall be based on the same number of acres as that for which a bond is required. Each year, the Governor shall place an item in the State budget to provide for the matching money required by this subsection. The matching funds may be provided by the State in the current budget at the time the permit is issued or in the next succeeding State budget.