

DEPRESSIONS ELIMINATED, UNLESS DEPRESSIONS ARE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO PREVENT EROSION AND RETAIN MOISTURE TO ASSIST REVEGETATION.

[(1) If a spoil bank is created, grade the surface of the spoil bank to reduce the depressions between the peaks of the spoil to a surface which restores the terrain as close to normal as is satisfactory to the Director. The grading shall be done in a way to minimize erosion due to rainfall and also eliminate steep grades between peaks and make the surface more suitable for tree growing, logging operations, cattle grazing, or any other suitable use. The grading shall be done in a manner to minimize, as far as feasible, the presence of any large rock or material toxic to plant life on the surface of the graded area; and

(2) If the overburden deposit is composed of material suitable for the support of tree growth, the growth of grass or other reclamation vegetation, or if this material can be expected to become suitable by any natural leaching and weathering process, the overburden material shall be graded to cover the final pit. The operator shall take steps to assure that overburden material for grading required by paragraphs (1) and (2) is not lost or made unavailable.

(c) If the outside spoil deposit is made on a steep hillside, any rock that has rolled down into a cleared valley shall be removed and placed in a suitable location.]

[(d)] (C) The operator shall seal off with a [fill] MATERIAL APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT each opening from an underground mining operation at the base of the final cut. [It] THE SEAL shall be [done] CONSTRUCTED in a way to avoid creating danger from impoundment of any large quantity of water.

[(e)] (D) If the operator proposes to impound water to provide a lake or pond for wildlife, recreational, or other water supply purposes, he shall file a formal request with the Department and receive approval before the pond or lake is created.

[(f)] (E) An operator, with the written approval of the landowner, [except where a lease in existence on June 1, 1967, did not provide or permit,] may propose an alternative plan for reclamation if the land can be used for suitable purposes. The alternate plan shall be submitted to the [Director of the Bureau] DEPARTMENT as part of the mining and reclamation plan.

[(g)] (F) Unless the operator obtains the prior written approval of the [Bureau] DEPARTMENT, all backfilling described in the approved reclamation plan shall be completed before backfilling equipment is moved from the operation.