

[(h)] (G) An owner of either surface rights or mineral rights may not interfere with an operator in the discharge of any duties imposed by this subtitle.

7-509.

(a) Within 30 days after [the operation is finished or abandoned,] COMPLETION OF ALL COAL REMOVAL, BACKFILLING, REGRADING, AND PLANTING ON THE PERMIT, the operator shall file with the [Bureau,] DEPARTMENT a completion report on a form the [Bureau] DEPARTMENT furnishes, which identifies the operation and states the area of land affected by open-pit mining, and stating whether the operator intends to carry on deep mining on the premises. The operator shall attach to the completion report a map of the operation certified by a REGISTERED ENGINEER OR REGISTERED LAND surveyor showing the boundary lines of the tract, the access to the operation from the nearest public highway, the area of land affected by open-pit mining, THE LOCATION OF MEASURES INSTALLED ON THE AREA FOR SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL, and any location reserved for deep mining. [A mining and reclamation final report shall be included on the map or submitted as a separate form which contains information identical to that required for the initial reclamation plan and the annual mining and reclamation progress report.] The Committee shall review the report. If the report is not approved, [the Director of] the [Bureau] DEPARTMENT shall notify the operator in writing of the basis for disapproval. The operator may request a hearing within ten days after notification of the disapproval, after which the Committee shall hold a hearing within [20] 30 days. If, after the hearing, the Committee still disapproves the report, the [Director] DEPARTMENT shall suspend the open-pit mining permit of the operator concerned until THE OPERATOR CORRECTS THE REASONS FOR THE DISAPPROVAL AND the Committee approves the report. [If the Committee fails to act on a report within 60 days after its submission, the failure constitutes approval of the report.]

(b) If the operator or any other person desires to conduct deep mining on the premises or use [the openings] A PORTION OF THE PERMIT AREA for haulageways or any other lawful purpose, the operator may designate a location, subject to the [Director's] DEPARTMENT'S approval, to be used for one or more of these purposes. At a designated and approved location it is not necessary to backfill as required by this subtitle until the deep mining or other use is completed. During this time the bond on file for that portion of the operation may not be released UNLESS A BOND AS REQUIRED BY SUBTITLE 5A OF THIS TITLE IS FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT. The area of each reserved opening and its location shall be described in the completion report and designated on the attached map. [When the backfilling and all necessary grading prior to planting has been completed on that portion of the entire area of land affected by the operation for the previous years, and the report filed by