

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Natural Resources
Section 7-6A-01(q), 7-6A-04(b), 7-6A-09(b), and
7-6A-24(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1981 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Natural Resources
Section 7-6A-01(w)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1981 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland read(s) as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

7-6A-01.

(q) "Pre-law surface mine" means a noncoal surface mine which was mined AND UNRECLAIMED prior to [issuance of a permit under this subtitle] JANUARY 1, 1977.

(w) "UNRECLAIMED" MEANS LAND WHICH HAS NOT BEEN REHABILITATED FOR USEFUL PURPOSES OR THE PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

7-6A-04.

(b) For the reclamation of PRE-LAW surface MINES [mined lands other than coal abandoned and unreclaimed before July 1975], the Department may use funds received from the following sources:

(1) A forfeiture in excess of the amount required for reclaiming the area of land affected by the operation on which the liability was charged;

(2) A forfeiture relating to land which the Department determines to be physically impossible to reclaim; and

(3) Licensing fees, permitting fees, fines, funds received from the special reclamation fees established by § 7-6A-07[(e)] (F), or any other source.

7-6A-09.

(b) The Department may deny the permit on finding that: