

Article - Natural Resources
Section 7-505(e)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1982 Supplement)

BY renumbering

Article - Natural Resources
Section 7-501(z) and (aa), respectively
to be Section 7-501(y) and (z), respectively
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1974 Volume and 1982 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

7-501.

[(y) "Revolving account" or "account" means an account established within the Bituminous Coal Open-Pit Mining Reclamation Fund from the State contribution to the Fund for purposes of making loans to owners of orphaned land.]

7-505.

(e) In addition to any fee required in this subtitle, each applicant for a permit to mine coal by open-pit or strip method shall pay to the Department, before the permit is issued, a special reclamation fee of [~~\$40~~] \$75 for each acre of land affected. THE FEE SHALL BE PAID ONLY WHEN AN ACRE IS INITIALLY PERMITTED. [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.] NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF § 7-514 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE SECRETARY SHALL USE THE FUNDS PRODUCED BY THE FEE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION TO BACKFILL, GRADE, AND PLANT AREAS AFFECTED BY OPEN-PIT MINING WHERE THE FUNDS RECEIVED FROM FORFEITURE ON BONDS, CASH, SECURITIES, AND OTHER COLLATERAL ARE NOT SUFFICIENT TO DO THE NECESSARY BACKFILLING, GRADING, AND PLANTING. HOWEVER, IF AT ANY TIME THE MONEY PRODUCED BY THIS FEE AND AT THAT TIME IN THE BITUMINOUS COAL OPEN-PIT MINING RECLAMATION FUND EXCEED THE SUM OF ~~\$500,000~~ \$750,000, THEN THE SECRETARY MAY USE THIS EXCESS MONEY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF § 7-514 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

[7-514.1.