

have registered and otherwise complied with the requirements of this subtitle, and the successor operator assumes as part of this obligation all liability for backfilling, grading, planting, and reclamation on the land affected by the former operator.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1989.

Approved May 19, 1989.

CHAPTER 310

(Senate Bill 120)

AN ACT concerning

Strip Mining of Coal - Powers and Duties of the Land
Reclamation Committee

FOR the purpose of repealing certain duties of the Land Reclamation Committee concerning study, approval, and review of certain plans and procedures for the reclamation, conservation, and revegetation of areas affected by open-pit mining; providing that the Committee may study, review, and make recommendations on certain reclamation policies, practices, standards, laws, and regulations; requiring the Committee to determine that certain revegetation of reclaimed surface land meets certain standards and to review certain reclamation plans; repealing the requirement that the Committee prepare a report on the number of acres for which the Committee has approved mining and reclamation plans and mining and reclamation final reports; ~~repealing the requirement for the Department and the Committee to hold joint public hearings when a hearing is requested on a permit application; repealing the requirement for the committee to approve, reject, or modify the proposed plan before the Department decides on a permit application; repealing the requirement for the Department to review all other aspects of an application;~~ repealing the authority of the Committee to order the Department to suspend a permit; requiring the Committee to notify the Department if the Committee has reason to believe a violation exists; requiring the Department to provide the Committee with a certain report of an inspection; authorizing the Department to receive and expend certain funds, without approval of the Committee; and generally relating to administrative procedures for permitting strip mining of coal and the powers and duties of the Land Reclamation Committee.