

the Department of Natural Resources' ability to administratively cite a violator; making certain technical corrections; altering certain hearing procedures; and generally relating to surface mining permits.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Natural Resources

Section 7-6A-07(k), 7-6A-12(f), 7-6A-16(d), and 7-6A-18

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1989 Replacement Volume and 1990 Supplement)

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

Article - Natural Resources

7-6A-07.

(k) (1) Any person who violates the provisions of this section or who knowingly or intentionally has filed false information in the application for a permit, or who has not fully complied with all provisions and requirements of the permit, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction, is subject to a fine [that is sufficient to cover the cost of reclaiming the land affected or not more than \$25,000] OF:

(I) NOT MORE THAN \$25,000; AND

(II) AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO COVER THE COST OF RECLAIMING THE AFFECTED LAND OR AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO COVER THE COST OF RECLAIMING THE LAND AFFECTED BUT NOT MORE THAN \$50,000, OR BOTH.

(2) The fine AND ANY PAYMENT FOR RECLAMATION shall be paid into the Surface Mined Land Reclamation Fund.

7-6A-12.

(f) The Department may deny the permit modification on finding:

(1) An uncorrected violation of the type listed in § 7-6A-09(b)[(6)](7) of this subtitle;

(2) Failure to submit an adequate mining and reclamation plan in light of conditions existing at the time of the modification; or

(3) Failure or refusal to pay the modification fee.

7-6A-16.

(d) The Department may deny the permit transfer on finding:

(1) That either permittee has an uncorrected violation of the type listed in § 7-6A-09(b)[(6)](7) of this subtitle;