

[(vi)](6) Recommend research, demonstration, and cost-sharing projects to promote optimum revegetation of surface coal mined lands.

[(2) The Committee shall:

(i) Determine that revegetation of reclaimed surface coal mined land meets the revegetation standards of the regulatory program before the Department may release bond held to assure revegetation of the land; and

(ii) Approve, reject, or modify reclamation plans for surface coal mine permit applications.]

[(c) (1) If the Committee has reason to believe that a violation of the subtitle, regulations, or permit conditions exists, the Committee shall notify the Department.

(2) The Department shall provide the Committee with a report that indicates the results of an inspection, or the reason why no action was taken.]

7-206.

(A) BEFORE ANY PERSON CONDUCTS SURFACE COAL MINING AND RECLAMATION OPERATIONS, THE PERSON SHALL OBTAIN THE COMMITTEE'S APPROVAL OF THE RECLAMATION PLAN FOR THE SITE.

(1) THE COMMITTEE SHALL PUBLISH A PUBLIC NOTICE THAT IT HAS RECEIVED A PROPOSED RECLAMATION PLAN FROM THE APPLICANT.

(I) THE PUBLIC NOTICE SHALL BE PUBLISHED IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE COUNTY OF THE PROPOSED MINING AND RECLAMATION OPERATION.

(II) THE PUBLIC NOTICE SHALL INCLUDE THE NAME OF THE APPLICANT, THE OWNERSHIP OF THE LAND TO BE AFFECTED, A DESCRIPTION OF THE LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED OPERATION, THE LOCATION WHERE THE APPLICATION IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION, AND NOTICE THAT WRITTEN COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR A PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE COMMITTEE FOR AT LEAST 30 DAYS AFTER THE NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION.

(2) IF A HEARING IS REQUESTED, THE COMMITTEE SHALL HOLD A PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING ON THE PROPOSED RECLAMATION PLAN. THE COMMITTEE SHALL NOTIFY THE APPLICANT AND ANY PERSON WHO REQUESTS A HEARING OF THE DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION OF THE HEARING AND SHALL PUBLISH THE DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION OF THE HEARING IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE AREA OF THE PROPOSED OPERATION.