

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 603 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY HUTCHINSON, CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, CLYMER, ELLIS,
EVERETT, GEORGE, HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HORNAMAN, MURT,
OBERLANDER, PICKETT, PYLE, RAPP, REICHLEY, STERN AND
VULAKOVICH, FEBRUARY 10, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,
FEBRUARY 10, 2011

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 31, 1945 (P.L.1198, No.418), entitled,
2 as amended, "An act providing for the conservation and
3 improvement of land affected in connection with surface
4 mining; regulating such mining; providing for the
5 establishment of an Emergency Bond Fund for anthracite deep
6 mine operators; and providing penalties," further providing
7 for Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Fund,
8 Remining Environmental Enhancement Fund, Remining Financial
9 Assurance Fund and department authority for awarding of
10 grants.

11 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
12 hereby enacts as follows:

13 Section 1. Section 18 of the act of May 31, 1945 (P.L.1198,
14 No.418), known as the Surface Mining Conservation and
15 Reclamation Act, is amended by adding a subsection to read:

16 Section 18. Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation
17 Fund; Remining Environmental Enhancement Fund; Remining
18 Financial Assurance Fund; Department Authority for Awarding of
19 Grants.--* * *

20 (a.5) (1) The department may use premium fees collected

1 after the effective date of this subsection for the purpose of
2 paying the costs associated with treating post-mining
3 pollutional discharges at ABS legacy sites.

4 (2) For purposes of this subsection:

5 "ABS legacy site" means a mine site permitted under the
6 department's alternate bonding program that has a post-mining
7 pollutional discharge where the operator has defaulted on its
8 obligation to adequately treat the discharge and the bond or
9 other financial guarantee established for the mine site is
10 insufficient to cover the costs associated with treating the
11 discharge.

12 "Premium fee" means the fee collected for a sum-certain
13 financial guarantee needed to facilitate the implementation of
14 full-cost bonding.

15 * * *

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.