

September 5, 1986

POLICY STATEMENT

Public Participation

In order to assure full compliance with the intent of the public participation provisions of the Louisiana Surface Mining and Reclamation Act, LRS:30:901, et. seq. (Act) and the Louisiana Surface Mining Regulations, Statewide Order 29-O-1 (Rules), the following procedures are hereby ordered to be in effect:

For any permitted surface coal mining and reclamation operation that periodically supplements their approved application by submitting detailed update packages (i.e. yearly or 5-year detailed Operations Narratives), the following procedures shall be followed:

- 1) At the time of filing with this Office the update package, the permittee shall also file a copy of the update package with the Clerk of Court of the parish in which the subject mining activity is located;
- 2) The permittee shall place an advertisement in the official parish journal at least once a week for four consecutive weeks. The advertisement shall contain, at a minimum, the following information:
 - a) The name and address of the permittee;
 - b) A map or description of the subject area to be affected by the surface coal mining and reclamation operations which shall:
 - i) Clearly show or describe towns, rivers, streams, or other bodies of water, local landmarks, and any other information; including routes, streets, or roads and accurate distance measurements, necessary to allow local residents to readily identify the subject area;
 - ii) Clearly show or describe the exact location and boundaries of the subject area;
 - iii) State the name of the United States Geological Survey quadrangle map(s) which contain the area shown or described; and
 - iv) If a map is used, indicate the north point.
- 3) The locations where a copy of the application is available for public inspection (i.e. the parish Court House and the Office);

- 4) The name and address of the Office in order that written comments, objections, or requests for informal conferences on the update package may be submitted, and the deadline for receipt of such comments. Such deadline shall be at least 30 days after the last publication of the newspaper notice required in 2 above;
- 5) Prior to reaching a decision on the update package, the Office will consider all relevant public comments received during the comment period, or at any informal conference held pursuant to 4 above; and
- 6) The decision of the Office regarding the update package will be reflected by the issuance of a Supplemental Order either approving, denying, or modifying the subject area, or operations in the subject area.

This Policy Statement is and shall be in effect on September 5, 1986.