



MARY ANN PRITCHARD  
DIRECTOR

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GOVERNOR

STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
DEPARTMENT OF MINES

## NON-COAL RECLAMATION BONDS

### **\*\*MODIFICATION OF EXISTING BONDING STRUCTURE\*\***

The Oklahoma Department of Mines (ODM) has been evaluating the bonding structure for non-coal mine sites across the state during the last two years. In 2012, ODM began the efforts to adjust the reclamation bonds for all non-coal permits across the state and sent out a notification of bonding structure, which outlined proposed increases. The bond increases for 2013 have been implemented and those operations affected have been notified. In response to these changes, an increased number of acres were reclaimed in 2013. This resulted in numerous permitted mine sites across Oklahoma reducing their bond liability. This effort has led ODM to review our previously issued bonding structure and implement the revised bonding structure as follows:

- *The scheduled 2014 across-the-board bonding increases are postponed and will not go into effect this year. Existing bonded acreage amounts will remain at the 2013 rate.*
- *All new bonded acreage (acreage currently not bonded), whether within the boundaries of a current permit or a new permit, will be bonded at a rate of one thousand, five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) per acre.*

As always, site specific bonding calculations will be accepted for review if an operation does not elect to bond at a cost per acre calculation. Bonding Calculation Worksheets to assist this activity can be obtained by contacting ODM's Minerals Division. Operators are also encouraged to apply for release of undisturbed acreage to assist in reducing their bond liability.

Please direct all questions in regard to this modified non-coal bonding structure to ODM's Minerals Division at (405) 427-3859.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Ann Pritchard".

Mary Ann Pritchard, Director  
January 24, 2014

**\*\*Bonding Statutes and Regulations: Statutory law (O.S. Title 45, Chapter 8A) and Departmental Non-Coal Rules and Regulations (OAC 460:10, Subchapters 21-25)**