

Department of the Interior Departmental Manual

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Series: Organization

Part 116: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

Chapter 5: Regional Organization

Originating Office: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

116 DM 5

5.1 Regional Directorates. The Department of the Interior (DOI) has twelve unified regions that are common to all bureaus. See 105 DM 3 for a description of the regions. The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) has a physical presence in three of these regions and operates virtually within eight of the remaining unified regions (OSMRE does not operate within Region 12, the Pacific Region). See the map in Appendix 1.

A. Regional Directors. The OSMRE Regional Directors work in their respective geographic areas to implement various programs of the bureau related to the Title V regulatory program and the utilization of funds under the Abandoned Mine Land (AML) program of Title IV. These programs include issuing regulatory and AML grants to States and Tribes with approved regulatory programs and AML plans; serving as Regulatory Authority under Title V where there is no approved State Regulatory Authority; conducting an AML program where there is no approved State or Tribal AML Plan; requiring and processing revisions to approved regulatory programs or AML plans; conducting oversight (evaluation) of approved regulatory programs and AML plans; providing technical assistance and training to States and Tribes; preparing and submitting Mine Plan Decision Documents for the approval of the Assistant Secretary - Land and Minerals Management; and facilitating technology transfer among and between States/Tribes and OSMRE, as well as with other organizations, (e.g., universities or other government agencies).

(1) As a part of carrying out these responsibilities, the Regional Directors are responsible for informal review under 30 CFR 842.15 of delegated decisions not to inspect or enforce and, under 30 CFR 842.11, of delegated decisions on Ten-Day Notice appeals. In carrying out these responsibilities, the regions employ a wide range of programmatic and technical expertise as they work to elevate the quality and consistency of both State and Federal regulatory programs and State/Tribal and Federal AML programs.

(2) The Regions also participate, as requested, with the Program Support Directorate in the formulation of bureau policy development and national rules. A particular region may also be delegated nationwide responsibility for certain functions, (e.g., administering OSMRE's Applicant/Violator System database and related activities; maintaining OSMRE's Mine Map Repository which collects, reproduces and maintains a national inventory of mine

maps and supporting documentation; and managing the Technical Innovative Professional Services activity known as TIPS).

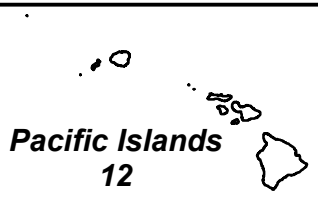
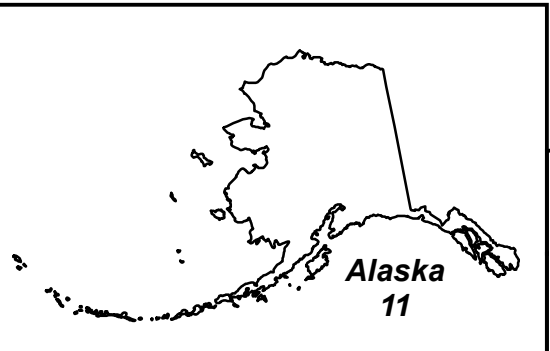
B. Field Offices and Area Offices. To effectively implement OSMRE's programs, some responsibilities of the regions are further divided and delegated to Field Offices and/or Area Offices in order to provide closer geographic proximity.

C. Regional Office Locations. The OSMRE Regional offices are physically located in the North Atlantic-Appalachian, Great Lakes, and Upper Colorado-Basin Unified Regions. Regional office headquarters are respectively, located in Pittsburgh, PA, Alton, IL and Denver, CO.



DOI Unified Regions

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*Region 12 Includes: Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and other US possessions in the Pacific

