



Kentucky  
Department for Surface Mining  
Reclamation and Enforcement

# Reclamation Advisory Memorandum

From: R. F. Knarr, Commissioner

*R.F. Knarr*

Date: May 22, 1985

Subject: Surface Water Monitoring Reductions on  
Interim Permits

**RAM# 81**

It has come to the attention of the department that many interim permittees are conducting surface water monitoring on expired interim permits more frequently than would be required if these same reclamation areas were under permanent program permits. In order to remove this inconsistency and to eliminate unnecessary monitoring, the department is reducing the monitoring requirements for interim permits in accordance with 405 KAR 1:170, Section 2 and 405 KAR 3:140, Section 2.

When a backfilling and grading release has been obtained for an interim permit area, surface water monitoring may be reduced from twice per month to once per month and must include flow, pH, acidity, alkalinity, and settleable solids. After six (6) months of monitoring once per month, with no water quality problems observed, monitoring may be further reduced to once per three (3) months. However, operations which have already had a backfilling and grading release for six (6) months or more and have been monitoring twice per month with no water quality problems observed, may reduce directly to once per three (3) months. The once per three (3) months monitoring must continue until pond removal is approved by the department or until final bond release, whichever comes first. These reductions are automatic. It is not necessary to obtain verbal or written approval from the department to reduce monitoring on individual interim permits.

Please note that not all sediment ponds are eligible for these reductions. Any pond which receives discharges from the underground workings of an underground mine must continue to monitor twice per month for flow, pH, acidity, alkalinity, total iron, total manganese, and total suspended solids. Such monitoring must continue until pond removal is approved by the department or until final bond release, whichever comes first.

Reporting requirements for reclamation phase monitoring on interim permits will continue to be once per quarter, with monitoring results submitted to the appropriate DSMRE Regional Office. It is not necessary to submit copies of the pond monitoring results to the Division of Water or the Division of Permits in Frankfort.

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Adamson or Sara Sanders at (502) 564-2377.

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