

AMLER Grants

Important Terms

AML Nexus – A required characteristic of AML relatedness for applications to be deemed eligible for selection.

- Defined as a connection to or proximity with AML eligible Priority 1, 2, or 3 sites listed in eAMLIS.
- <https://amlis.osmre.gov/Map.aspx>
- Previously reclaimed AML sites and polluted waters.
- Land adjacent to unreclaimed or previously reclaimed AML sites and polluted waters as justified by the State, Tribe, and/or the communities impacted by historic coal production.
- Currently permitted Title V mine sites are not eligible to receive AMLER funds.

OSMRE – Office for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

- Housed within the United States Department of the Interior
- The federal oversight agency for AML and for the AMLER Program grants.
- Lexington Field Office is the first line of review for KY AMLER grants
- Approves Vetting and Issues ATP for all grants

Vetting – A conceptual review of an AMLER Project proposal.

- Conducted by OSMRE
- The first step in the process of approval of a selected application
- May require several rounds of questioning from OSMRE staff in the Lexington Field Office, the Pittsburgh Regional Office, or Washington D.C.
- OSMRE questions are conveyed to KY AML staff and then on to the potential grantee

MOA– Memorandum of Agreement, a governing document established as a part of the grant process

- Between the Cabinet for Energy and Environment and the Grantee
- Delineates the terms of the project
- Establishes the timeframe for expenditures
- Signals the beginning of the design phase of a vetted grant.

NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act, signed into law in 1970.

- Establishes a basic framework for environmental protection in the United States
- Ensures that federal agencies consider environmental concerns equally with technical, social and economic concerns.

ATP – Authorization To Proceed

- The final hurdle to surpass prior to actual implementation or construction of an AMLER Grant
- Issued by OSMRE
- May require several rounds of questioning from OSMRE staff in the Lexington Field Office, the Pittsburgh Regional Office, or Washington D.C.
- OSMRE questions are conveyed to KY AML staff and then on to the potential grantee for clarification