

SENATE FILE NO. SF0106

Projects funded by abandoned mine land funds.

Sponsored by: Joint Appropriations Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to projects funded with abandoned mine land
2 funds; authorizing application for funds and modifications
3 of applications; authorizing redirection of funds and
4 appropriating funds for specified uses; combining abandoned
5 mine land funds with previous appropriations for specified
6 projects; specifying reversion date for funds; and
7 providing for an effective date.

8

9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

10

11 **Section 1.** [University Arena Auditorium]

12

13 (a) 2012 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 27, section
14 1(c)(ii)(intro) and (B) is amended to read:

15

16 **Section 1.** [Future AML funding]

17

1 (c) The legislature authorizes the
2 department of environmental quality to submit
3 grant applications to the federal office of
4 surface mining for distribution of a portion of
5 funds specified in subsection (a) of this section
6 to the University of Wyoming, the Wyoming
7 wildlife and natural resources trust, the Wyoming
8 water development commission and the Wyoming
9 department of transportation for the period
10 ending June 30, 2013 for distribution to the
11 specified account or entity for the following
12 projects:

13
14 (ii) Ten million dollars
15 (\$10,000,000.00) to the University of Wyoming for
16 athletics facilities matching funds for the
17 renovation of the arena auditorium. After each
18 qualifying ~~contributions and revenue bonds~~
19 contribution meeting the requirements of this
20 paragraph ~~have~~ has been received, ~~and issued,~~ the
21 state treasurer shall distribute ~~these~~ an equal
22 amount of matching funds to the university and
23 the project may commence. Funds subject to this
24 paragraph shall not lapse until June 30, ~~2017~~

1 2018. No funds from this source shall be
2 distributed to the university until:

3
4 (B) ~~Ten million dollars~~
5 ~~(\$10,000,000.00) has been matched by~~ A matching
6 qualifying ~~contributions~~ contribution of funds
7 other than state of Wyoming funds, ~~which~~
8 ~~contributions shall meet~~ meeting the provisions
9 of W.S. 21-16-1001 through 21-16-1003, including
10 valuation of matching funds, has been received by
11 the university.

12
13 **Section 2.** [Engineering Building]

14
15 (a) The legislature authorizes the department of
16 environmental quality to submit new grant applications or
17 modify existing grant applications to the federal office of
18 surface mining to redirect eight million nine hundred fifty
19 thousand dollars (\$8,950,000.00) previously authorized by
20 2008 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 48, Section 320(a)(vi)
21 for a high plains gasification facility and technology
22 center, and thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000.00)
23 previously authorized by 2009 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter
24 159, Section 339(c)(i), for the joint UW/GE clean coal

1 partnership project and one million fifty thousand dollars
2 (\$1,050,000.00) previously authorized by 2011 Wyoming
3 Session Laws, Chapter 88, Section 346(d)(i) for the high
4 plains gasification - advanced technology center. These
5 funds shall be redirected to an account for the purposes of
6 construction of an engineering building at the University of
7 Wyoming as provided in this section.

8
9 (b) From funds within the abandoned mine land funds
10 balancing account under W.S. 35-11-1210(e), there is
11 appropriated, as available, fifteen million eight hundred
12 thousand dollars (\$15,800,000.00) to an account for the
13 purposes of construction of an engineering building at the
14 University of Wyoming as provided in this section. Eight
15 hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000.00) of these funds shall
16 be available to be matched by qualifying contributions
17 meeting the provisions of W.S. 21-16-1401 through
18 21-16-1403, including valuation of matching funds.

19
20 (c) All funds redirected or appropriated under this
21 section, and any funds substituted for those funds pursuant
22 to subsection (d) or (e) of this section, shall be held by
23 the state treasurer in an account for distribution to the
24 University of Wyoming upon further act of the legislature.

1

2 (d) The department of environmental quality, in
3 consultation with the University of Wyoming and with the
4 approval of the governor, may substitute other University
5 of Wyoming purposes in its grant applications under this
6 section as necessary or convenient to replace university
7 block grant funds expended to satisfy requirements
8 prohibiting the use of abandoned mine land funds to match
9 federal funds, where matching fund requirements would
10 unduly delay a project, or where the use of federal
11 abandoned mine land funds would be impractical or untimely.

12

13 (e) The governor may substitute funds from any general
14 fund appropriation to the department of transportation, the
15 highway fund or the transportation commission, for abandoned
16 mine land funds authorized in this section for the
17 engineering building in order to expedite expenditure of
18 abandoned mine land funds as the governor determines
19 necessary or convenient. Abandoned mine land funds received
20 for a project for which general funds were substituted
21 pursuant to this subsection shall be distributed to the
22 department of transportation, the highway fund or
23 transportation commission, as applicable, upon receipt. Any
24 substitution of funds pursuant to this subsection shall be
25 in accordance with the b-11 process authorized by W.S.

1 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and shall be reported by the governor to the
2 joint appropriations committee in the monthly report
3 provided by W.S. 9-2-1005(o).

4
5 (f) 2012 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 27, Section
6 1(c)(ii)(A) and Section 5(a)(ii) is repealed.

7
8 (g) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and
9 9-4-207(a), any unexpended, unobligated funds subject to
10 this section, including funds appropriated by 2012 Wyoming
11 Session Laws, Chapter 26, Section 3, Section 067, footnote
12 1, shall not revert until June 30, 2018.

13
14 **Section 3.** [Powder River Basin Coal Characterization
15 Research]

16
17 (a) The legislature authorizes the department of
18 environmental quality to submit new grant applications or
19 modify existing grant applications to the federal office of
20 surface mining to redirect up to three million dollars
21 (\$3,000,000.00) previously authorized by 2008 Wyoming
22 Session Laws, Chapter 48, Section 320(a)(vi) for a high
23 plains gasification facility and technology center. These
24 funds shall be redirected to the University of Wyoming for

1 a research project on characterization of coal mined from
2 the Powder River Basin. The project shall be conducted by
3 the university jointly with private entities as the
4 university board of trustees determines in the best
5 interests of the university and the state. No funds shall
6 be disbursed under this section until the governor certifies
7 to the state treasurer that the governor has determined the
8 project provides potential economic benefit to the state in
9 an amount commensurate with the expenditure.

10

11 **Section 4.** [AML Funding Reversion Date Changes]

12

13 2008 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 48, Section 320(e)(ii),
14 as amended by 2009 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 159,
15 Section 346 and by 2010 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 39,
16 Section 322 is amended to read:

17

18 **Section 320.**

19

20 (e) Except for funds subject to paragraphs
21 (a)(v), (vi) and (vii) and subsection (c) of this
22 section, funds appropriated under this section
23 shall be for the period beginning with the
24 effective date of this section and ending June
25 30, 2009. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008,

1 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207(a), any unexpended
2 unobligated funds subject to:

3

(ii) Paragraph (a)(vi) for the high plains gasification facility and technology center shall not revert until June 30, ~~2013~~2014;

7

8 **Section 5.** This act is effective immediately upon
9 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
10 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
11 Constitution.

12

13 (END)