

ORIGINAL HOUSE
BILL NO. HB0073

ENROLLED ACT NO. 1, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING
2024 BUDGET SESSION

AN ACT relating to environmental quality; creating the long-term abandoned mine reclamation account; specifying permissible uses of the account; authorizing investment of funds in the account; specifying the limits of liability for funds in the account; repealing the abandoned mine lands fund balancing account; specifying transfers of funds from repealed accounts; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-11-1211 is created to read:

35-11-1211. Long-term abandoned mine reclamation account.

(a) There is created the long-term abandoned mine reclamation account. The state treasurer shall, upon direction from the department, deposit up to thirty percent (30%) of the amount of all funds provided to the state by the United States secretary of the interior under section 40701(c) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, as amended by section 801 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, into the account. The state treasurer shall invest funds in the account in accordance with law, and earnings from these investments shall be credited to the account. The liability of the state to fulfill the requirements of this section is limited to the amount of unobligated, unexpended funds in the account. The state shall have no obligations under this section except to the extent of federal funds deposited into this account and the earnings of the account. No funds in the account shall be expended for any purpose not specified in section 40701(c) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, as amended by section 801 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act,

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2023. Funds in the account shall be expended only upon legislative appropriation for the following purposes:

(i) The abatement of the causes and the treatment of the effects of acid mine drainage resulting from coal mining practices, including for the costs of building, operating, maintaining and rehabilitating acid mine drainage treatment systems;

(ii) The prevention, abatement and control of subsidence;

(iii) The prevention, abatement and control of coal mine fires.

Section 2. W.S. 35-11-1210(e) is repealed.

Section 3. The abandoned mine land funds balancing account is repealed. On the effective date of this act, the state auditor shall transfer any unexpended, unobligated funds from the abandoned mine land funds balancing account to the abandoned mine land funds reserve account created in W.S. 35-11-1210(a).

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Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

(END)

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Governor

TIME APPROVED: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____

I hereby certify that this act originated in the House.

Chief Clerk