

Section 17.24.522

PERMANENT CESSATION OF OPERATIONS

(1) Intention to Permanently Reclaim all Affected Areas

In the event that permanent cessation of mining operations in all or part of the permit area should occur, SCCC will close or backfill and otherwise permanently reclaim all affected areas of mining. SCCC will reclaim all affected areas regardless of whether the permit has expired, or has been revoked or suspended.

(2) Removal of Openings, Equipment, Structures and Facilities

SCCC will further remove all surface or underground openings, equipment, structures, or other facilities not required for monitoring unless approved by the MDEQ as suitable for post-mining land use or environmental monitoring. On April 4, 1989, the MDEQ granted approval to abandon specific underground storage tanks in place with the following conditions:

The line tests must prove that no leakage has occurred. Results of the tests will be provided to the MDEQ. SCCC will comply with all other regulations;

The vent pipes which will be cut off at ground surface will be removed with final facilities breakdown;

SCCC is committed to placing a minimum of 4 feet of suitable material over the tank storage area.

(3) Completion of all Backfilling and Grading

All backfilling and grading will commence within 90 days following a permanent mine closure. Final pit reclamation will proceed as close behind the coal loading operation as possible.