

State Mine Inspector: The Honorable Joe Hart

JLBC Analyst: Jay Chilton

	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Estimate	FY 2008 Approved
OPERATING BUDGET			
<i>Full Time Equivalent Positions</i>	17.0	17.0	17.0
Personal Services	487,500	546,100	913,900
Employee Related Expenditures	217,300	233,900	323,000
Professional and Outside Services	23,700	10,000	10,000
Travel - In State	112,300	128,000	128,000
Travel - Out of State	21,200	0	0
Other Operating Expenditures	274,500	300,700	369,900
Equipment	25,500	8,000	140,000
AGENCY TOTAL	1,162,000	1,226,700	1,884,800^{1/2/}
FUND SOURCES			
General Fund	1,162,000	1,226,700	1,884,800
SUBTOTAL - Appropriated Funds	1,162,000	1,226,700	1,884,800
Federal Funds	226,800	278,700	278,700
TOTAL - ALL SOURCES	1,388,800	1,505,400	2,163,500

AGENCY DESCRIPTION — The State Mine Inspector is an elected constitutional officer. The office inspects the health conditions and safety of mining operations, investigates mining accidents, identifies abandoned mines, and conducts safety certification classes for mine employees.

	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2008 Approved
PERFORMANCE MEASURES				
• % of mandated inspections completed	67.0	70.0	65.0	70.0
• Number of inspections	567.0	528.0	607.0	600.0
• Customer satisfaction rating for mines (Scale 1-8)	7.1	7.7	NA	7.5
Comments: The agency did not submit information for this measure in FY 2006 as required by the General Appropriation Act. The agency reports that the customer satisfaction survey was not conducted in FY 2006.				

Operating Budget

The budget provides \$1,884,800 and 17 FTE Positions from the General Fund for the operating budget in FY 2008. These amounts fund the following adjustments:

Statewide Adjustments

The budget provides an increase of \$51,100 from the General Fund in FY 2008 for statewide adjustments. (Please see the Statewide Adjustments section at the end of this Appropriations Report for details.)

Fill Vacant Positions

The budget provides \$540,000 from the General Fund in FY 2008 to fill vacant positions. These positions include 2 mine inspectors, 2 aggregate mine reclamation personnel, and 1 abandoned mines program administrator. Of the total amount, \$115,000 is for one-time training and equipment purposes.

Telephone System Upgrade

The budget provides \$17,000 from the General Fund in FY 2008 for a one-time upgrade to the agency's telephone system.

^{1/} General Appropriation Act funds are appropriated as a Lump Sum by Agency.

^{2/} Laws 2005, Chapter 322 appropriated all monies collected between January 1, 2006 and July 1, 2006 from the Aggregate Mining Reclamation Fund to the State Mine Inspector. The Environment Budget Reconciliation Bill (Laws 2007, Chapter 262) extends the deadline to July 1, 2008. The department estimate of the revenue to be received is between \$760,000 and \$1,140,000.

Abandoned Mine Safety Fund Deposit

The budget provides \$50,000 from the General Fund in FY 2008 for a one-time deposit to the Abandoned Mine Safety Fund.

Other Issues

Aggregate Mined Land Reclamation

Laws 2005, Chapter 322 appropriated all monies collected between January 1, 2006 and July 1, 2006 from the Aggregate Mining Reclamation Fund to the State Mine Inspector to review aggregate mined land reclamation plans. Since no monies were collected during this time period, Laws 2006, Chapter 319 extended the collection deadline for another year to July 1, 2007. The Environment Budget Reconciliation Bill (Laws 2007, Chapter 262) again extended the collection deadline an additional year to July 1, 2008. The department estimates collections to be between \$760,000 and \$1,140,000. It expects to receive between 200 and 300 plans at a fee of \$3,800 per plan. The actual amount will depend upon collections generated by the State Mine Inspector.

Beginning in FY 2007, Laws 2005, Chapter 322 required that the State Mine Inspector approve a reclamation plan and financial assurance mechanism for exploration and aggregate mining operations that create a surface disturbance greater than 5 acres. Aggregate mining is the mining of sand, gravel, and crushed rock.

The State Mine Inspector is allowed to collect fees from exploration and aggregate mining operations in order to finance the costs of approving reclamation plans and financial assurance mechanisms. Laws 2005, Chapter 322 established the legislatively appropriated Aggregate Mining Reclamation Fund, which will consist of reclamation plan fees and monies from the federal government or other governmental agencies.