

Alabama Department of Labor Abandoned Mine Land Program now accepting proposals through January 15, 2018 for Pilot Program Projects to bring jobs to Coal Impacted Counties in Alabama

Birmingham, AL. (October 12, 2017) – Up to \$10 million in federal grant money from the U.S. government’s General Fund is available to the Alabama Department of Labor Inspections Division Abandoned Mine Land Program (AML) for pilot projects in any of the counties situated in the coal fields in the approximate northern half of Alabama that have the potential to create long-term economic benefits- while simultaneously meeting the requirements of The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 for the reclamation of abandoned coal mine sites.

This Pilot Program represents a tremendous opportunity for leaders in our Coal Impacted counties. Requirements concerning eligibility for the funding include identifying projects on abandoned mine sites historically mined for coal, with real potential for long-term success. The funds will be vital to attracting more jobs and creating more opportunities for the people of Coal Impacted counties, while also addressing the problem of abandoned mine lands.

Eligible counties

Counties eligible for projects include Bibb, Blount, Cherokee, Cullman, DeKalb, Etowah, Fayette, Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Lamar, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Shelby, St. Clair, Tuscaloosa, Walker, and Winston.

The Alabama Department of Labor ‘s Abandoned Mine Land Program is encouraging community leaders in the eligible counties to look at options that will have the best chances of bringing dramatic growth and jobs to their communities. Communities may choose to band together to upgrade industrial sites, including providing the necessary infrastructure and possibly spec buildings, so that companies looking to expand in these counties can be up and running quickly.

Application forms and programmatic guidance/requirement documentation for project submittals are available for download at <https://www.labor.alabama.gov/Inspections/Mining/reclamation.aspx> located beneath the **AMPLILOT** banner or by calling or emailing Brian Wittwer, Program Administrator, 11 West Oxmoor Road, Suite 100 Birmingham, AL 35209. Phone: 205-945-8671 FAX: 205-945-8685 Email: brian.wittwer@labor.alabama.gov