

Applicant/Violator System Office System Advisory Memorandum



SAM # 1 DATE: April 22, 2008

Subject: SYSTEM ADVISORY MEMORANDA

On May 21, 1993, we, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) established a formal communication system to transmit information concerning system changes, enhancements, operational procedures, and policy matters to all users of the Applicant/Violator System (AVS). We called this communication vehicle System Advisory Memoranda (SAMs).

On January 23, 1998, we issued revised SAMs, changing their focus to discussions of policy issues and related regulations affecting AVS operation but containing very limited description of how to perform specific AVS functions. Instead, users were referred to and encouraged to rely upon the AVS Users' Guide for operational and technical guidance. By narrowing the focus of the SAMs, we intended to make a clear distinction between AVS-related policies and the instructions we provide to perform system operating functions. This narrowed scope remains in effect for our SAMs.

Since 1998, we have promulgated an Ownership and Control final rule in 2000 and another Ownership and Control final rule in 2007. See 65 FR 79582, December 19, 2000 and 72 FR 68000, December 3, 2007, respectively. We are now reviewing and, to the extent necessary, revising all previously-issued SAMs to reflect the net effects of these two rulemakings.

SAMs and an accompanying numerical inventory are posted on the Internet website of the AVS Office at <http://www.avs.osmre.gov>.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the System Advisory Memoranda communication system, please contact the Chief, AVS Office, at 1.800.643.9748.

Signed: *Debbie J. Feheley*
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