STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS24143

A performance bond is required to assure proper reclamation of a surface mine. If the Department of Lands proposes a bond that exceeds \$2,500 per acre, an operator is entitled to a hearing before the Land Board to contest the proposed bond amount. This legislation increases that threshold amount to \$15,000 per acre.

An operator may request the release of a reclamation bond when reclamation is completed. If the Department of Lands denies the request for bond release, this legislation requires it notify the operator in writing why the request was denied.

A performance bond is required to assure proper closure of a facility that uses cyanide. An operator may request the release of a closure bond when such a facility is closed. If the Department of Lands denies the request for bond release, this legislation requires it notify the operator in writing why the request was denied.

FISCAL NOTE

No fiscal impact.

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