STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE BILL 512

By: McCortney

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to the Department of Environmental Quality; creating Division of Mines; consolidating the Department of Mines into the Department of Environmental Quality; defining term; requiring transfer of certain papers, records, and property by certain date; transferring certain functions, powers, duties, and obligations; transferring certain rules, regulations, acts, orders, determinations, and decisions; detailing the transfer of certain employees; requiring certain coordination; amending 27A O.S. 2021, Sections 1-1-201, 1-3-101, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 185, O.S.L. 2022, 2-1-102, 2-3-110, 2-6-111, and 4-1-102 (27A O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 1-3-101), which relate to definitions, state environmental agencies, sale of headquarters building, and permitting moratorium; deleting references to consolidated agency; modifying certain agency responsibilities; amending 29 O.S. 2021, Section 7-401a, which relates to violations causing death of fish or wildlife; modifying definition; amending 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1a, 1c, 1d, 1e, 1f, 2, 3, 5, 6, 34, 44, 45, 46.1, 48, 723, 724, 725, 727, 728, 729, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 738, 742.1, 742.2, 745.1, 753, 767, 768, 769, 775, 780, 786, 787, 852, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 911, 918, 931, 938.1, and 950, which relate to the violations of board order, hearings, inspections, rules and regulations, powers and duties, Chief Mine Inspector, Oklahoma Miner Training Institute, certificates of competency, issuance of certificates, temporary permits, annual reports, examinations of mines, disputes, special counsel, study of mining laws, market studies, acid mine drainage, borrow pit drainage, permits, procedure for reclaiming land, inspections, bonds, violations,
maps, legal assistance, sand and gravel, judicial review, Coal Reclamation Act of 1979, term of permits, termination of permits, renewal of permits, reclamation plan, performance bond, criteria for approval of permit, schedule of notices violations, revision of permits, exploration regulations, notice, objections to application for permit, findings, temporary relief, appeals, small operator assistance program, applications, augering, surface mining, reclamation efforts, disturbances to hydrologic balance, waste piles, explosives, reestablishment of native flora, spoil material, performance standards, steep slope mining, soil restoration, mine operators, suspension of underground mining, application to surface operations, data collection, right of entry, conflicts of interest, reports of violations, civil penalties, release of performance bond, civil actions, conditions or practices in violation, abatement of violation, suspension or revocation, notices and orders, actions for damages, land unsuitable for surface mining, petitions, limitations on surface mining, cooperative agreements, review of notices or orders, appeals of orders, rules and regulations, unconstitutionality of certain act, federal rules and regulations, alternative reclamation practices, assistance of state agencies, federal inspection, Governor as ex officio member, certificates of competency, certification of applicants, records, revocation of certificates, inspection and examination of strip and surface mines, explosives, operator’s fees, creation of revolving fund, and moratoriums on certain permits; deleting references to consolidated agency; modifying agency responsibilities; defining terms; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 156, which relates to purchase of passenger automobiles or buses with public funds; deleting reference to consolidated agency; amending 51 O.S. 2021, Section 24A.27, which relates to confidentiality of vulnerability assessments of critical assets; deleting reference to consolidated agency; amending 59 O.S. 2021, Section 3022, which relates to definitions; modifying agency reference; amending 63 O.S. 2021, Sections 122.2, 123.1, 123.2, 123.2A, 123.3, 123.4, 123.5, 123.7, and 123.8, which relate to definitions, agency responsibility for blasting operations or activities, permits, rules, fees, violations, deposit of monies, and exemptions;
modifying agency references; amending 68 O.S. 2021, Section 2357.11, which relates to tax credit; modifying agency references; amending 74 O.S. 2021, Section 500.18, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 325, O.S.L. 2022 (74 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 500.18), which relates to exemptions; deleting consolidated agency exemption; amending 82 O.S. 2021, Sections 1020.2 and 1020.9C, which relate to declaration of policy and moratorium on actions related to the operation of certain mines; modifying agency references; deleting references to consolidated agency; repealing 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 1, 1b, 3.1, 31, 32, 41, 46, 47, and 938, which relate to the Oklahoma Mining Commission, appointments, annual reports and examinations by Chief Mine Inspector, dispute settlement, market studies, Oklahoma Mining Commission funding, and Department of Mines Revolving Fund; updating statutory language; updating statutory references; providing for codification; providing for recodification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3001 of Title 27A, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created within the Department of Environmental Quality a Division of Mines, which shall fulfill the role of the Department of Mines created by Section 25 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution.

B. The Department of Mines is hereby consolidated into the Department of Environmental Quality as the Division of Mines described in subsection A of this section. The Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality shall assume all
executive-level responsibilities formerly belonging to the Department of Mines. The Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality shall function as and possess the powers of the agency director for the consolidated agency as enumerated by existing statute. For the purposes of this section, the term “consolidated agency” means the Department of Mines. Any funds in possession of, or appropriated or allocated to the consolidated agency shall be deemed to be funds of the Department of Environmental Quality.

C. The Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality shall cause the personnel of the consolidated agency to deliver to the Department all books, papers, records, and property of the consolidated agency within ninety (90) days after the effective date of this act.

D. All functions, powers, duties, and obligations previously assigned to the consolidated agency are hereby transferred to the Department of Environmental Quality.

E. All rules, regulations, acts, orders, determinations, and decisions of the consolidated agency pertaining to the functions and powers transferred and assigned to the Department of Environmental Quality pursuant to this act, in force at the time of such transfer, assignment, assumption, or devolution shall continue in force and effect as rules, regulations, acts, orders, determinations, and decisions of the consolidated agency until duly modified or
abrogated by the appropriate body or until otherwise provided by law.

F. All personnel of the consolidated agency whose duties are transferred under this act shall be transferred to the Department of Environmental Quality at the discretion of the Executive Director. Personnel transferred pursuant to the provisions of this section shall not be required to accept a lesser salary than presently received. Transferred personnel shall be placed within the classification level in which they meet qualifications for without an entrance examination. All transferred persons shall retain seniority, leave, sick, and annual time earned, and any retirement benefits which have accrued during their tenure with the consolidated agency. The transfer of personnel among the agencies shall be coordinated with the Office of Management and Enterprise Services.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 27A O.S. 2021, Section 1-1-201, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-1-201. As used in the Oklahoma Environmental Quality Act:

1. “Clean Water Act” means the federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C., Section 1251 et seq., as amended;

2. “Discharge” includes but is not limited to a discharge of a pollutant, and means any addition of any pollutant to waters of the state from any point source;
3. “Environment” includes the air, land, wildlife, and waters of the state;

4. “Federal Safe Drinking Water Act” means the federal law at 42 U.S.C., Section 300 et seq., as amended;

5. “Groundwater protection agencies” include the:
   a. Oklahoma Water Resources Board,
   b. Oklahoma Corporation Commission,
   c. State Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry,
   d. Department of Environmental Quality, and
   e. Conservation Commission, and
   f. Department of Mines;

6. “Nonpoint source” means the contamination of the environment with a pollutant for which the specific point of origin may not be well defined and includes but is not limited to agricultural storm water runoff and return flows from irrigated agriculture;

7. “N.P.D.E.S.” or “National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System” means the system for the issuance of permits under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C., Section 1251 et seq., as amended;

8. “Point source” means any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance or outlet including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure container, rolling stock or vessel or other floating craft from which pollutants are or
may be discharged into waters of the state. The term “point source” shall not include agricultural storm water runoff and return flows from irrigated agriculture;

9. “Pollutant” includes but is not limited to dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt and industrial, municipal, and agribusiness waste;

10. “Pollution” means the presence in the environment of any substance, contaminant or pollutant, or any other alteration of the physical, chemical or biological properties of the environment or the release of any liquid, gaseous or solid substance into the environment in quantities which are or will likely create a nuisance or which render or will likely render the environment harmful or detrimental or injurious to public health, safety or welfare, or to domestic, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, or other legitimate beneficial uses, or to livestock, wild animals, birds, fish or other aquatic life, or to property;

11. “Source” means any and all points of origin of any wastes, pollutants or contaminants whether publicly or privately owned or operated;

12. “State agencies with limited environmental responsibilities” means:

   a. the Department of Public Safety,
b. the Department of Labor, and
c. the Department of Civil Emergency Management;

13. “State environmental agency” includes the:
   a. Oklahoma Water Resources Board,
   b. Oklahoma Corporation Commission,
   c. State Department of Agriculture,
   d. Oklahoma Conservation Commission,
   e. Department of Wildlife Conservation, and
   f. Department of Mines, and
      Department of Environmental Quality;

14. “Storm water” means rain water runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage;

15. “Total maximum daily load” means the sum of individual wasteload allocations (W.L.A.) for point sources, safety, reserves, and loads from nonpoint sources and natural backgrounds;

16. “Waste” means any liquid, gaseous or solid or semi-solid substance, or thermal component, whether domestic, municipal, commercial, agricultural or industrial in origin, which may pollute or contaminate or tend to pollute or contaminate, any air, land or waters of the state;

17. “Wastewater” includes any substance, including sewage, that contains any discharge from the bodies of human beings or animals, or pollutants or contaminating chemicals or other contaminating
wastes from domestic, municipal, commercial, industrial, agricultural, manufacturing or other forms of industry;

18. “Wastewater treatment” means any method, technique or process used to remove pollutants from wastewater or sludge to the extent that the wastewater or sludge may be reused, discharged into waters of the state or otherwise disposed and includes, but is not limited to, the utilization of mechanized works, surface impoundments and lagoons, aeration, evaporation, best management practices (BMPs), buffer strips, crop removal or trapping, constructed wetlands, digesters or other devices or methods.

“Treatment” also means any method, technique or process used in the purification of drinking water;

19. “Wastewater treatment system” means treatment works and all related pipelines or conduits, pumping stations and force mains, and all other appurtenances and devices used for collecting, treating, conducting or discharging wastewater;

20. “Waters of the state” means all streams, lakes, ponds, marshes, watercourses, waterways, wells, springs, irrigation systems, drainage systems, storm sewers and all other bodies or accumulations of water, surface and underground, natural or artificial, public or private, which are contained within, flow through, or border upon this state or any portion thereof, and shall include under all circumstances the waters of the United States which are contained within the boundaries of, flow through or border
upon this state or any portion thereof. Provided, waste treatment
systems, including treatment ponds or lagoons designed to meet
federal and state requirements other than cooling ponds as defined
in the Clean Water Act or rules promulgated thereto and prior
converted cropland are not waters of the state; and

21. “Wellhead protection area” means the surface and subsurface
area surrounding a water well or wellfield supplying a public water
system that defines the extent of the area from which water is
supplied to such water well or wellfield.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 27A O.S. 2021, Section 1-3-101, as
last amended by Section 4, Chapter 185, O.S.L. 2022 (27A O.S. Supp.
2022, Section 1-3-101), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-3-101. A. The provisions of this section specify the
jurisdictional areas of responsibility for each state environmental
agency and state agencies with limited environmental responsibility.
The jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility specified
in this section shall be in addition to those otherwise provided by
law and assigned to the specific state environmental agency;
provided that any rule, interagency agreement or executive order
enacted or entered into prior to the effective date of this section
which conflicts with the assignment of jurisdictional environmental
responsibilities specified by this section is hereby superseded.
The provisions of this subsection shall not nullify any financial
obligation arising from services rendered pursuant to any
interagency agreement or executive order entered into prior to July 1, 1993, nor nullify any obligations or agreements with private persons or parties entered into with any state environmental agency before July 1, 1993.

B. Department of Environmental Quality. The Department of Environmental Quality shall have the following jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility:

1. All point source discharges of pollutants and storm water to waters of the state which originate from municipal, industrial, commercial, mining, transportation and utilities, construction, trade, real estate and finance, services, public administration, manufacturing and other sources, facilities and activities, except as provided in subsections D and E of this section;

2. All nonpoint source discharges and pollution except as provided in subsections D, E and F of this section;

3. Technical lead agency for point source, nonpoint source and storm water pollution control programs funded under Section 106 of the federal Clean Water Act, for areas within the Department’s jurisdiction as provided in this subsection;

4. Surface water and groundwater quality and protection and water quality certifications;

5. Waterworks and wastewater works operator certification;

6. Public and private water supplies;
7. Underground injection control pursuant to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act and 40 CFR Parts 144 through 148, except for:
   a. Class II injection wells,
   b. Class V injection wells utilized in the remediation of groundwater associated with underground or aboveground storage tanks regulated by the Corporation Commission,
   c. those wells used for the recovery, injection or disposal of mineral brines as defined in the Oklahoma Brine Development Act regulated by the Commission, and
   d. any aspect of any CO₂ sequestration facility including any associated CO₂ injection well, over which the Commission is given jurisdiction pursuant to the Oklahoma Carbon Capture and Geologic Sequestration Act;

8. Notwithstanding any other provision in this section or other environmental jurisdiction statute, sole and exclusive jurisdiction for air quality under the federal Clean Air Act and applicable state law, except for indoor air quality and asbestos as regulated for worker safety by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act and by Chapter 11 of Title 40 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

9. Hazardous waste and solid waste including industrial, commercial and municipal waste;

10. Superfund responsibilities of the state under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act
of 1980 and amendments thereto, except the planning requirements of
Title III of the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act of
1986;

11. Radioactive waste and all regulatory activities for the use
of atomic energy and sources of radiation except for electronic
products used for diagnosis by diagnostic X-ray facilities and
electronic products used for bomb detection by public safety bomb
squads within law enforcement agencies of this state or within law
enforcement agencies of any political subdivision of this state;

12. Water, waste, and wastewater treatment systems including,
but not limited to, septic tanks or other public or private waste
disposal systems;

13. Emergency response as specified by law;

14. Environmental laboratory services and laboratory
certification;

15. Hazardous substances other than branding, package and
labeling requirements;

16. Freshwater wellhead protection;

17. Groundwater protection for activities subject to the
jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility of the
Department;

18. Utilization and enforcement of Oklahoma Water Quality
Standards and implementation documents;
19. Environmental regulation of any entity or activity, and the prevention, control and abatement of any pollution, not subject to the specific statutory authority of another state environmental agency;

20. Development and maintenance of a computerized information system relating to water quality pursuant to Section 1-4-107 of this title;

21. Development and promulgation of Oklahoma Water Quality Standards, their accompanying use support assessment protocols, anti-degradation policies generally affecting Oklahoma Water Quality Standards application and implementation including but not limited to mixing zones, low flows and variances or any modification or change thereof pursuant to Section 1085.30 of Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and the Implementation Plan pursuant to Section 1-1-202 of this title for its jurisdictional area of environmental responsibility; and

22. Development and utilization of policies and requirements necessary for the implementation of Oklahoma Groundwater Quality Standards to the extent that the implementation of such standards are within the scope of the Department’s jurisdiction including but not limited to the establishment of points of compliance when warranted;

23. Mining regulation; and

24. Mining reclamation of active mines.
C. Oklahoma Water Resources Board. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall have the following jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility:

1. Water quantity including, but not limited to, water rights, surface water and underground water, planning, and interstate stream compacts;

2. Weather modification;

3. Dam safety;

4. Flood plain management;

5. State water/wastewater loans and grants revolving fund and other related financial aid programs;

6. Administration of the federal Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program including, but not limited to, making application for and receiving capitalization grant awards, wastewater prioritization for funding, technical project reviews, environmental review process, and financial review and administration;

7. Water well drillers/pump installers licensing;

8. Technical lead agency for clean lakes eligible for funding under Section 314 of the federal Clean Water Act or other applicable sections of the federal Clean Water Act or other subsequent state and federal clean lakes programs; administration of a state program for assessing, monitoring, studying and restoring Oklahoma lakes with administration to include, but not be limited to, receipt and expenditure of funds from federal, state and private sources for
clean lakes and implementation of a volunteer monitoring program to
assess and monitor state water resources, provided such funds from
federal Clean Water Act sources are administered and disbursed by
the Office of the Secretary of Environment;

9. Groundwater protection for activities subject to the
jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility of the Board;

10. Development and promulgation of a Water Quality Standards
Implementation Plan pursuant to Section 1-1-202 of this title for
its jurisdictional area of environmental responsibility;

11. Development of classifications and identification of
permitted uses of groundwater, in recognized water rights, and
associated groundwater recharge areas;

12. Establishment and implementation of a statewide beneficial
use monitoring program for waters of the state in coordination with
the other state environmental agencies;

13. Coordination with other state environmental agencies and
other public entities of water resource investigations conducted by
the federal United States Geological Survey for water quality and
quantity monitoring in the state; and

14. Development and submission of a report concerning the
status of water quality monitoring in this state pursuant to Section
1-1-202 of this title.

D. Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry.
1. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry shall have the following jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility except as provided in paragraph 2 of this subsection:
   a. point source discharges and nonpoint source runoff from agricultural crop production, agricultural services, livestock production, silviculture, feed yards, livestock markets and animal waste,
   b. pesticide control,
   c. forestry and nurseries,
   d. fertilizer,
   e. facilities which store grain, feed, seed, fertilizer and agricultural chemicals,
   f. dairy waste and wastewater associated with milk production facilities,
   g. groundwater protection for activities subject to the jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility of the Department,
   h. utilization and enforcement of Oklahoma Water Quality Standards and implementation documents,
   i. development and promulgation of a Water Quality Standards Implementation Plan pursuant to Section 1-1-202 of this title for its jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility, and
j. storm water discharges for activities subject to the jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility of the Department.

2. In addition to the jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility specified in subsection B of this section, the Department of Environmental Quality shall have environmental jurisdiction over:

   a. (1) commercial manufacturers of fertilizers, grain and feed products, and chemicals, and over manufacturing of food and kindred products, tobacco, paper, lumber, wood, textile mill and other agricultural products,

        (2) slaughterhouses, but not including feedlots at these facilities, and

        (3) aquaculture and fish hatcheries including, but not limited to, discharges of pollutants and storm water to waters of the state, surface impoundments and land application of wastes and sludge, and other pollution originating at these facilities, and

   b. facilities which store grain, feed, seed, fertilizer, and agricultural chemicals that are required by federal NPDES regulations to obtain a permit for storm water discharges shall only be subject to the
jurisdiction of the Department of Environmental
Quality with respect to such storm water discharges.

E. Corporation Commission.

1. The Corporation Commission is hereby vested with exclusive
jurisdiction, power and authority, and it shall be its duty to
promulgate and enforce rules, and issue and enforce orders governing
and regulating:

   a. the conservation of oil and gas,

   b. field operations for geologic and geophysical
      exploration for oil, gas and brine including seismic
      survey wells, stratigraphic test wells and core test
      wells,

   c. the exploration, drilling, development, producing or
      processing for oil and gas on the lease site,

   d. the exploration, drilling, development, production and
      operation of wells used in connection with the
      recovery, injection or disposal of mineral brines,

   e. reclaiming facilities only for the processing of salt
      water, crude oil, natural gas condensate and tank
      bottoms or basic sediment from crude oil tanks,
      pipelines, pits and equipment associated with the
      exploration, drilling, development, producing or
      transportation of oil or gas,
f. underground injection control pursuant to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act and 40 CFR Parts 144 through 148 of:

(1) Class II injection wells,

(2) Class V injection wells utilized in the remediation of groundwater associated with underground or aboveground storage tanks regulated by the Commission,

(3) those wells used for the recovery, injection or disposal of mineral brines as defined in the Oklahoma Brine Development Act, and

(4) any aspect of any CO₂ sequestration facility including any associated CO₂ injection well, over which the Commission is given jurisdiction pursuant to the Oklahoma Carbon Capture and Geologic Sequestration Act.

Any substance that the United States Environmental Protection Agency allows to be injected into a Class II well may continue to be so injected,

g. tank farms for storage of crude oil and petroleum products which are located outside the boundaries of refineries, petrochemical manufacturing plants, natural gas liquid extraction plants, or other facilities which are subject to the jurisdiction of
the Department of Environmental Quality with regard to point source discharges,

h. the construction and operation of pipelines and associated rights-of-way, equipment, facilities or buildings used in the transportation of oil, gas, petroleum, petroleum products, anhydrous ammonia or mineral brine, or in the treatment of oil, gas or mineral brine during the course of transportation but not including line pipes in any:

(1) natural gas liquids extraction plant,

(2) refinery,

(3) reclaiming facility other than for those specified within subparagraph e of this subsection,

(4) mineral brine processing plant, and

(5) petrochemical manufacturing plant,

i. the handling, transportation, storage and disposition of saltwater, mineral brines, waste oil and other deleterious substances produced from or obtained or used in connection with the drilling, development, producing and operating of oil and gas wells, at:

(1) any facility or activity specifically listed in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection as being
subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, and

(2) other oil and gas extraction facilities and activities,
j. spills of deleterious substances associated with facilities and activities specified in paragraph 1 of this subsection or associated with other oil and gas extraction facilities and activities,
k. subsurface storage of oil, natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas in geologic strata,
l. groundwater protection for activities subject to the jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility of the Commission,
m. utilization and enforcement of Oklahoma Water Quality Standards and implementation documents, and
n. development and promulgation of a Water Quality Standards Implementation Plan pursuant to Section 1-1-202 of this title for its jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility.

2. The exclusive jurisdiction, power and authority of the Commission shall also extend to the construction, operation, maintenance, site remediation, closure and abandonment of the facilities and activities described in paragraph 1 of this subsection.
3. When a deleterious substance from a Commission-regulated facility or activity enters a point source discharge of pollutants or storm water from a facility or activity regulated by the Department of Environmental Quality, the Department shall have sole jurisdiction over the point source discharge of the commingled pollutants and storm water from the two facilities or activities insofar as Department-regulated facilities and activities are concerned.

4. The Commission and the Department of Environmental Quality are hereby authorized to obtain authorization from the Environmental Protection Agency to administer, within their respective jurisdictions, any and all programs regulating oil and gas discharges into the waters of this state. For purposes of the federal Clean Water Act, any facility or activity which is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission pursuant to paragraph 1 of this subsection and any other oil and gas extraction facility or activity which requires a permit for the discharge of a pollutant or storm water to waters of the United States shall be subject to the direct jurisdiction and permitting authority of the Oklahoma agency having received delegation of this program from the Environmental Protection Agency.

5. The Commission shall have jurisdiction over:
   a. underground storage tanks that contain antifreeze, motor oil, motor fuel, gasoline, kerosene, diesel, or
aviation fuel and that are not located at refineries or at the upstream or intermediate shipment points of pipeline operations including, but not limited to, tanks from which these materials are dispensed into vehicles, or tanks used in wholesale or bulk distribution activities, as well as leaks from pumps, hoses, dispensers, and other ancillary equipment associated with the tanks, whether above the ground or below; provided, that any point source discharge of a pollutant to waters of the United States during site remediation or the off-site disposal of contaminated soil, media, or debris shall be regulated by the Department of Environmental Quality,

b. aboveground storage tanks that contain antifreeze, motor oil, motor fuel, gasoline, kerosene, diesel, or aviation fuel and that are not located at refineries or at the upstream or intermediate shipment points of pipeline operations including, but not limited to, tanks from which these materials are dispensed into vehicles, or tanks used in wholesale or bulk distribution activities, as well as leaks from pumps, hoses, dispensers, and other ancillary equipment associated with the tanks, whether above the ground or below; provided, that any point source discharge of a
pollutant to waters of the United States during site remediation or the off-site disposal of contaminated soil, media, or debris shall be regulated by the Department of Environmental Quality, and

6. The Department of Environmental Quality shall have sole jurisdiction to regulate the transportation, discharge or release of deleterious substances or solid or hazardous waste or other pollutants from rolling stock and rail facilities. The Department of Environmental Quality shall not have any jurisdiction with respect to pipeline transportation of carbon dioxide.

7. The Department of Environmental Quality shall have sole environmental jurisdiction for point and nonpoint source discharges of pollutants and storm water to waters of the state from:
   a. refineries, petrochemical manufacturing plants and natural gas liquid extraction plants,
   b. manufacturing of equipment and products related to oil and gas,
   c. bulk terminals, aboveground and underground storage tanks not subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission pursuant to this subsection, and
d. other facilities, activities and sources not subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission or the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry as specified by this section.

8. The Department of Environmental Quality shall have sole environmental jurisdiction to regulate air emissions from all facilities and sources subject to operating permit requirements under Title V of the federal Clean Air Act as amended.

F. Oklahoma Conservation Commission. The Oklahoma Conservation Commission shall have the following jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility:

1. Soil conservation, erosion control and nonpoint source management except as otherwise provided by law;

2. Monitoring, evaluation and assessment of waters to determine the condition of streams and rivers being impacted by nonpoint source pollution. In carrying out this area of responsibility, the Oklahoma Conservation Commission shall serve as the technical lead agency for nonpoint source categories as defined in Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act or other subsequent federal or state nonpoint source programs, except for activities related to industrial and municipal storm water or as otherwise provided by state law;

3. Wetlands strategy;

4. Abandoned mine reclamation;
5. Cost-share program for land use activities;

6. Assessment and conservation plan development and implementation in watersheds of clean lakes, as specified by law;

7. Complaint data management;

8. Coordination of environmental and natural resources education;

9. Federal upstream flood control program;

10. Groundwater protection for activities subject to the jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility of the Commission;

11. Development and promulgation of a Water Quality Standards Implementation Plan pursuant to Section 1-1-202 of this title for its jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility;

12. Utilization of Oklahoma Water Quality Standards and Implementation documents; and

13. Verification and certification of carbon sequestration pursuant to the Oklahoma Carbon Sequestration Enhancement Act. This responsibility shall not be superseded by the Oklahoma Carbon Capture and Geologic Sequestration Act.

G. Department of Mines. The Department of Mines shall have the following jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility:

1. Mining regulation;

2. Mining reclamation of active mines;
3. Groundwater protection for activities subject to the jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility of the Commission; and

4. Development and promulgation of a Water Quality Standards Implementation Plan pursuant to Section 1-1-202 of this title for its jurisdictional areas of responsibility.

H. Department of Wildlife Conservation. The Department of Wildlife Conservation shall have the following jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibilities:

1. Investigating wildlife kills;

2. Wildlife protection and seeking wildlife damage claims; and

3. Development and promulgation of a Water Quality Standards Implementation Plan pursuant to Section 1-1-202 of this title for its jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility.

I. H. Department of Public Safety. The Department of Public Safety shall have the following jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibilities:

1. Hazardous waste, substances and material transportation inspections as authorized by the Oklahoma Motor Carrier Safety and Hazardous Materials Transportation Act; and

2. Inspection and audit activities of hazardous waste and materials carriers and handlers as authorized by the Oklahoma Motor Carrier Safety and Hazardous Materials Transportation Act.
J. I. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor shall have the following jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibility:

1. Regulation of asbestos in the workplace pursuant to Chapter 11 of Title 40 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

2. Asbestos monitoring in public and private buildings; and

3. Indoor air quality as regulated under the authority of the Oklahoma Occupational Health and Safety Standards Act, except for those indoor air quality issues specifically authorized to be regulated by another agency.

Such programs shall be a function of the Department’s occupational safety and health jurisdiction.

K. J. Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management. The Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management shall have the following jurisdictional areas of environmental responsibilities:

1. Coordination of all emergency resources and activities relating to threats to citizens’ lives and property pursuant to the Oklahoma Emergency Resources Management Act of 1967;

2. Administer and enforce the planning requirements of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 and develop such other emergency operations plans that will enable the state to prepare for, respond to, recover from and mitigate potential environmental emergencies and disasters pursuant to the Oklahoma Hazardous Materials Planning and Notification Act;
3. Administer and conduct periodic exercises of emergency operations plans provided for in this subsection pursuant to the Oklahoma Emergency Resources Management Act of 1967;

4. Administer and facilitate hazardous materials training for state and local emergency planners and first responders pursuant to the Oklahoma Emergency Resources Management Act of 1967; and

5. Maintain a computerized emergency information system allowing state and local access to information regarding hazardous materials’ location, quantity and potential threat.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 27A O.S. 2021, Section 2-1-102, is amended to read as follows:

Section 2-1-102. As used in the Oklahoma Environmental Quality Code:

1. “Administrative hearing” means an individual proceeding, held by the Department when authorized by the provisions of this Code and conducted pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act, this Code and rules promulgated thereunder, for a purpose specified by this Code. “Administrative hearing” includes “administrative permit hearing”, “enforcement hearing” and “administrative enforcement hearing” within the context of this Code. An “administrative hearing” shall be a quasi-judicial proceeding;

2. “Administrative Procedures Act” means the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act;

3. “Board” means the Environmental Quality Board;
4. “Code” means Chapter 2 of this title;

5. “Department” means the Department of Environmental Quality;

6. “Enforcement hearing” means an individual proceeding conducted pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act, this Code and rules promulgated thereunder, for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Code, rules promulgated thereunder and orders, permits or licenses issued pursuant thereto. The term “administrative hearing” shall mean the same as “enforcement hearing” when held for enforcement purposes. An “enforcement hearing” shall be a quasi-judicial proceeding;

7. “Environment” includes the air, land, wildlife, and waters of the state;

8. “Executive Director” means the Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality;

9. “Industrial wastewater treatment permit” shall mean permits issued by the Department after July 1, 1993, under Section 2-6-501 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes this title, and waste disposal permits issued on or before June 30, 1993, by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board for land application of industrial waste or surface impoundments or disposal systems for industrial waste or wastewater;

10. “Nonpoint source” means the contamination of the environment with a pollutant for which the specific point of origin may not be well defined;
11. “Person” means an individual, association, partnership, firm, company, public trust, corporation, joint-stock company, trust, estate, municipality, state or federal agency, other governmental entity, any other legal entity or an agent, employee, representative, assignee or successor thereof;

12. “Pollution” means the presence in the environment of any substance, contaminant or pollutant, or any other alteration of the physical, chemical or biological properties of the environment or the release of any liquid, gaseous or solid substance into the environment in quantities which are or will likely create a nuisance or which render or will likely render the environment harmful or detrimental or injurious to public health, safety or welfare, or to domestic, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, or other legitimate beneficial uses, or to livestock, wild animals, birds, fish or other aquatic life, or to property;

13. “Public meeting” means a formal public forum, held by the Department when authorized by the provisions of this Code, and conducted by a presiding officer pursuant to the requirements of this Code and rules promulgated thereunder, at which an opportunity is provided for the presentation of oral and written views within reasonable time limits as determined by the presiding officer. Views expressed at a “public meeting” shall be limited to the topic or topics specified by this Code for such meeting. “Public meeting” shall mean a “public hearing” when held pursuant to requirements of
the Code of Federal Regulations or the Oklahoma Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Act, and shall be synonymous with “formal public meeting” and “informal public meeting” as used within the context of this Code and rules promulgated thereunder. A “public meeting” shall not be a quasi-judicial proceeding;

14. “State environmental agency” includes the:
   a. Oklahoma Water Resources Board,
   b. Oklahoma Corporation Commission,
   c. State Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry,
   d. Oklahoma Conservation Commission,
   e. Department of Wildlife Conservation,
   f. Department of Mines,
   g. Department of Public Safety,
   h. Department of Labor,
   i. Department of Environmental Quality, and
   j. Oklahoma Department of Civil Emergency Management;
   and

15. “Waters of the state” means all streams, lakes, ponds, marshes, watercourses, waterways, wells, springs, irrigation systems, drainage systems, storm sewers and all other bodies or accumulations of water, surface and underground, natural or artificial, public or private, which are contained within, flow through, or border upon this state or any portion thereof, and shall
include under all circumstances the waters of the United States which are contained within the boundaries of, flow through or border upon this state or any portion thereof.

SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 27A O.S. 2021, Section 2-3-110, is amended to read as follows:

Section 2-3-110. A. The Department of Environmental Quality Executive Director shall submit an application to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate for the sale of the headquarters building and connected appurtenances of the Department located at 707 N. Robinson in downtown Oklahoma City. The Commissioners of the Land Office shall be responsible for the sale of the building. The funds from the sale of the building shall be deposited in the Commissioners of the Land Office Revolving Fund created pursuant to Section 1011 of Title 64 of the Oklahoma Statutes. However, the sale of the building shall not proceed if the Commissioners of the Land Office determine the proceeds offered for the building are not financially sufficient.

B. The Department of Environmental Quality, Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, State Department of Health, Oklahoma Tax Commission, Oklahoma Water Resources Board, and Oklahoma Department of Labor and Department of Mines, in addition to the other powers and duties vested by Oklahoma law, shall be authorized to relocate agency offices to a site in Oklahoma County including but not
limited to buildings or units, as defined by the Unit Ownership Estate Act provided in Section 503 of Title 60 of the Oklahoma Statutes, owned by the Commissioners of the Land Office.

C. The new office location or locations shall be occupied by the Department of Environmental Quality, Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, State Department of Health, Oklahoma Tax Commission, Oklahoma Water Resources Board, and Oklahoma Department of Labor and Department of Mines and shall consist of sufficient square footage to accommodate staff offices, program areas, staff conference areas, records and computer areas, general storage areas, security equipment storage areas, main room, reception areas and other necessary areas for operation of the state agencies.

D. The Department of Environmental Quality, Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, State Department of Health, Oklahoma Tax Commission, Oklahoma Water Resources Board, and Oklahoma Department of Labor and Department of Mines are authorized to purchase real estate including but not limited to buildings or units, for no more than appraised value or, in the alternative, the Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, Oklahoma Tax Commission, Oklahoma Water Resources Board, and Commissioner of Labor and Oklahoma Mining Commission are authorized to enter into a lease-purchase agreement for the acquisition of such buildings or units from the person or entity that will develop or build the
buildings or units. In order to maintain the value of the purchased
or lease-purchase property, each state agency identified in this
section may establish a Capital Account Fund for the purpose of
paying any proportionate share of common area maintenance, repair
and maintenance of agency unit(s), fixtures and appliances contained
therein, improvements and betterments for agency unit(s) and all
required maintenance and repair work. The fund shall be a
continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall
consist of monies transferred from the agency’s standard
appropriations. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund are
hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the agency
for the purpose described in this section. For the purposes of the
purchase or build-out of the new office location, the state agencies
identified in this section are hereby exempted from the requirements
of the Public Competitive Bidding Act of 1974 as provided in
Sections 101 through 139 of Title 61 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The
state agencies identified in this section shall, either individually
or through the Commissioners of the Land Office, be required to
collect multiple bids from qualified contractors for the build-out
of new office locations.

SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 27A O.S. 2021, Section 2-6-111, is
amended to read as follows:

Section 2-6-111. A. For purposes of this section, a “subject
mine” shall mean a mine, as defined in paragraph 2 of Section 723 of
Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes, proposed for a location overlying a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin, exclusive of any mine that meets at least one of the following conditions:

1. As of November 1, 2019, is engaged in the permitted extraction of minerals from natural deposits; or
2. Satisfies the criteria of paragraph 1 or 2 of subsection C of Section 1020.2 of Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes; or
3. Is not to be permitted to operate for a period of more than five (5) years, with no extensions or renewals; or
4. The operation of which will not result in more than five (5) acre-feet per year of groundwater emanating from a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin to infiltrate its pit, as that term is defined in paragraph 12 of Section 723 of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

B. Due to the inadequacy of existing technical resources, analytic tools and regulatory systems for purposes of the effective implementation of statutes relating to the operation of mines that overlies a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin, the Legislature hereby declares and establishes a moratorium on the Department of Environmental Quality permitting of any discharge from a subject mine to streams fed or supported by water emanating from sensitive sole source groundwater basins or subbasins.

C. The moratorium shall remain in effect until such time as:
1. The conditions of subsection C of Section 2 1020.9C of this act Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes have been satisfied; and

2. The Department of Environmental Quality promulgates final rules to provide for effective interagency consultation and coordination of activities among the Department, and the Oklahoma Water Resources Board and the Department of Mines on all administrative matters relating to the operation of mines at locations that overlie a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin.

D. Notwithstanding the moratorium, the Department of Environmental Quality may issue any new permits, permit modifications, permit amendments, permit revisions or permit renewals necessary to maintain compliance or remedy identified compliance issues pursuant to Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes this title to operators of any mines lawfully engaged in mining, as defined in paragraph 3 of Section 723 of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

E. The Department of Environmental Quality is hereby authorized and instructed to promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section.

F. The Department of Environmental Quality is hereby authorized to cooperate with federal, tribal and any other agency in this state in performing its responsibilities under this section.
SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 27A O.S. 2021, Section 4-1-102, is amended to read as follows:

Section 4-1-102. For purposes of the Oklahoma Emergency Response Act:

1. “State environmental agency” includes:
   a. the Oklahoma Water Resources Board,
   b. the Corporation Commission,
   c. the State Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry,
   d. the Oklahoma Conservation Commission,
   e. the Department of Wildlife Conservation,
   f. the Department of Mines and Mining,
   g. the Department of Public Safety,
   h. the Department of Labor,
   i. the Department of Environmental Quality, and
   j. the Department of Civil Emergency Management;

2. “Lead official” means the person designated by the contact agency to be the official in charge of the on-site management of the emergency;

3. “Emergency” means a sudden and unforeseeable occurrence or condition either as to its onset or as to its extent, of such severity or magnitude that immediate emergency response or action is necessary to preserve the health and safety of the public or environment or to preserve property;
4. “Dangerous substance” means explosives, gases, flammable liquids and solids, poisons, radioactive materials, hazardous materials, deleterious substances, oil, or other substance or material in a quantity or form capable of posing an unreasonable risk to public health and safety, property or to the environment;

5. “Release” means a leakage, seepage, discharge, emission or escaping of a dangerous substance into the environment of the state;

6. “Extreme emergency” means any emergency which requires immediate protective actions;

7. “Protective actions” are those steps deemed necessary by first responders to an extreme emergency to preserve the health and safety of the emergency responders, the public and the protection of the environment and property during an incident involving the release of a dangerous substance. Protective actions include but are not limited to area isolation, evacuation, dilution, cooling, encapsulation, chemical treatment and diking;

8. “First responder” means the first person to arrive at the scene of an incident involving the release of a dangerous substance who has the authority by virtue of that person’s position as a local law enforcement officer, peace officer, fire protection officer or Oklahoma Highway Patrol Officer or other law enforcement officer;

9. “Contact agency” means a municipality, fire department or the Oklahoma Highway Patrol as determined by the location of an incident as follows:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Inside corporate municipal limits</td>
<td>Municipal Fire Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Outside corporate limits on private property</td>
<td>Closest Municipal Fire Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Outside corporate limits on federal/state highway, public property, county road, or a railroad;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. “Responsible party” means any person who owned, operated, or otherwise controlled activities at the facility at the time the incident or event involving releases of dangerous substances requiring protective actions occurred; and

11. “Facility” means:

a. any building, structure, installation, equipment, pipe or pipeline, including any pipe into a sewer or publicly owned treatment works, well, pit, pond, lagoon, impoundment, ditch, landfill, storage container, motor vehicle, rolling stock, or aircraft, or

b. any site or area where a hazardous substance has been deposited, stored, disposed of, or placed, or otherwise came to be located, or
c. any vessel, including every description of watercraft or other artificial conveyance used, or capable of being used, as a means of transportation on water.

SECTION 8. AMENDATORY 29 O.S. 2021, Section 7-401a, is amended to read as follows:

Section 7-401a. A. Any person, firm or corporation who violates any provision of or fails to perform any duty imposed by a state environmental regulatory agency pursuant to the Oklahoma Statutes or rules promulgated thereto, which violation causes the death of fish or other wildlife, shall in addition to the penalties provided by law be liable to pay the state an amount equal to the sum of money reasonably necessary to restock such waters. Such liability shall include replacement cost of fish killed, based on the most recent fish values as officially published by the American Fishery Society, Southern Division, all other costs required for such restocking, including but not limited to shipment and handling, or replenish such wildlife and all cost incurred in investigating, locating or establishing the responsible person, firm or corporation as determined by the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission.

B. Such amount may be recovered by a state environmental regulatory agency on behalf of the state in a civil action brought in the district court with all such monies being provided to the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission. The Oklahoma Wildlife
Conservation Commission shall reimburse the state environmental regulatory agency issuing the violation for all expenses incurred.

C. For purposes of this section, a “state environmental regulatory agency” is defined as the State Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry, the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, the Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Mines and the Department of Public Safety.

SECTION 9. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1.2, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1.2. A. Whenever the Board Department of Environmental Quality determines there are reasonable grounds to believe there has been a violation of any order of the Board Department adopted pursuant to Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title, it shall give written notice to the alleged violator specifying the cause of the complaint. Such notice shall require that the matters complained of be corrected within a specified time or that the alleged violator appear before the Board Department at a time and place specified in the notice to answer the charges. The notice shall be delivered to the alleged violator in accordance with the provisions of subsection C of this section not less than twenty (20) days before the time set for the hearing.

B. The Board Department shall afford the alleged violator an opportunity for a hearing in conformity with the Administrative Procedures Act. On the basis of the evidence produced at the
hearing, the Board Department shall make findings of fact and conclusions of law and enter an order thereon. The Board Department shall give written notice of such order to the alleged violator. The order of the Board Department shall become final and binding on all parties unless appealed to the district court within thirty (30) days after notice of such order has been sent to the parties.

C. Any notice, order or other instrument issued by the Board Department pursuant to this section may be served either personally, by publication, or by mailing a copy by registered mail directed to the alleged violator at his last-known address as shown by the files or records of the Board Department. Proof of such service shall be filed in the office of the Board Department.

D. Unless otherwise specified by law, any person who violates any of the provisions of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title or who violates any order or determination of the Board Department promulgated pursuant to this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and in addition thereto may be enjoined from continuing such violation. Each day upon which such violation occurs shall constitute a separate violation.

The Attorney General, on the request of the Board Department, shall bring an action against any person violating any order or determination of the Board adopted pursuant to Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title.
SECTION 10. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1.3, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1.3. A. All hearings required by the Board Department of Environmental Quality may be conducted by the Board Department itself at a regular or special meeting of the Board Department or the Board Department may designate hearing officers who shall have the power and authority to conduct such hearings in the name of the Board Department at any time and place.

B. Any person aggrieved by a final order or other final determination of the Board Department may, or the Attorney General on behalf of the state may, petition for a judicial review for rehearing, reopening or reconsideration of the matter, as provided for in Section 317 of Title 75 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

SECTION 11. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1.4, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1.4. The Chief Mine Inspector Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality or his or her duly authorized representative shall have the power to enter at reasonable times upon any private or public property for the purpose of inspecting and investigating conditions relating to the health and safety of anyone employed in a mine in this state or to carry out its duties as required by this title.
The Board Department may require the maintenance of records relating to mining. Copies of such records shall be submitted to the Board Department on request.

SECTION 12. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1.5, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1.5. The Board Department of Environmental Quality shall adopt within one hundred and eighty (180) days of the effective date of this act, rules and regulations governing ventilation, underground haulage, hoisting operations, explosives, and such other regulations it may deem necessary to protect the health and safety of persons employed in the mines of this state.

SECTION 13. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1a, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1a. A. The Oklahoma Mining Commission Department of Environmental Quality shall be the policy-determining agency for the Department Division of Mines and shall determine the broad plans and programs for the accomplishment of duties and responsibilities vested by law in said Commission, the Chief Mine Inspector Department and the Department Division of Mines, and may in the absence of an appointed Chief Mine Inspector, fix the duties and responsibilities of personnel employed by the Department Division including, in the absence of an appointed Chief Mine Inspector, the Division Director of the Department Division of Mines. It The Department shall have the authority to delegate to its chairman, to
one or more agents or employees, such powers and duties as it may deem proper. Each member of the Commission shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel expenses necessarily incurred in the discharge of official duties as provided in the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

B. In addition to other powers and duties specified by law, the Oklahoma Mining Commission Department shall have the power and duty to:

1. acquire by gift, devise, purchase or otherwise, absolutely or in trust, and to hold and, unless otherwise restricted by the terms of the gift or devise, any real property or real estate or other interest therein as may be necessary in carrying into effect the purpose of this act; and

2. enter into contracts and to execute all instruments necessary to fulfill its duties, respecting the protection, preservation, maintenance and operation of such buildings and sites as it may select.

SECTION 14. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1c, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1c. Subject to the policies, rules and regulations of the Oklahoma Mining Commission Department of Environmental Quality, the Executive Director of the Department shall:
1. Be responsible for organizing the Department Division of Mines in a manner efficiently to achieve the objectives of the Commission Department with regard to the Division;

2. Prepare and submit plans for administering the programs of the Commission Department to be administered by the Division;

3. Prepare a personnel schedule, employ personnel, define duties, appoint technicians and consultants, and fix salaries or compensation, upon approval by the Commission; and

4. Administer all policies formulated and adopted by the Commission Department for implementation by the Division.

SECTION 15. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1d, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1d. A. The Division Director of the Department Division of Mines with the approval of the Commission Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality shall have and is authorized to exercise the following duties:

1. To appoint a miner certification advisory council or other such advisory council as may be required to accomplish government functions; and

2. To provide assistance, advice and counsel to the Commission Department when requested.

B. Any advisory councils shall meet at such times and places as the members may deem most convenient for the transaction of business. A majority of such councils shall constitute a quorum.
Each member of such councils shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of official duties with approval of the Division Director and the Commission Department as provided in the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

SECTION 16. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1e, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1e. A. There is hereby established the Oklahoma Miner Training Institute. The Oklahoma Miner Training Institute shall administer miner safety training programs and economic development programs to assist the mining industry in this state.

B. The Oklahoma Mining Commission Department of Environmental Quality shall contract with the Board of Regents of Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton for facilities, faculty and services necessary for the operation of the Institute including, but not limited to, the services of a Director of the Institute and for the development of appropriate curriculum and other services to be offered by the Institute. The Regents of Eastern Oklahoma State College shall appoint a Director for the Oklahoma Miner Training Institute.

C. The Director of the Oklahoma Miner Training Institute shall have knowledge, training, experience and ability consistent with the functions of the Oklahoma Miner Training Institute. Further, the Director shall have been a resident and a qualified elector of this...
state for a period of at least three (3) years prior to his selection as Director.

D. The **Oklahoma Mining Commission Department** shall act in an advisory capacity concerning the operations of the Oklahoma Miner Training Institute.

**SECTION 17.** AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1f, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1f. The Oklahoma Miner Training Institute shall:

1. Conduct miner safety training programs consistent with the needs of the mining industry within this state and the training requirements of the **Oklahoma Mining Commission Department of Environmental Quality**; and

2. Assist and cooperate with the **Oklahoma Mining Commission Department** by conducting examinations of students of the Oklahoma Miner Training Institute applying for certificates of competency issued by the **Oklahoma Mining Commission**; and

3. Assist the Oklahoma Mining Commission in developing ways to expand existing markets and create new markets for coal and noncoal mining operations and to further the economic development of the mining industry **Department**.

**SECTION 18.** AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 2, is amended to read as follows:

Section 2. A. No person shall act as a mine superintendent, mine foreman, fire boss, shot-firer, certified surface blaster, 

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hoisting engineer or miner without first having obtained a certificate of competency from the Oklahoma Mining Commission Department of Environmental Quality. No person shall employ such mine superintendent, mine foreman, fire boss, shot-firer, certified surface blaster, hoisting engineer or miner who does not hold such certificate. Any person who violates the provisions of this subsection, upon conviction, shall be fined not more than One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($1,500.00) or be imprisoned in the county jail for a term not more than six (6) months, or both.

B. The examination for a certificate of competency as mine superintendent, mine foreman, fire boss, shot-firer, certified surface blaster or hoisting engineer shall be administered by only employees or advisors of the Department of Mines who also hold equal or higher certificates of competency. The examination shall be sufficient to determine that such applicant fully understands the requirements of the coal mining laws of this state.

Each applicant for mine superintendent, mine foreman, fire boss, certified surface blaster, hoisting engineer or shot-firer shall hold a first-aid certificate issued within one (1) year prior to the date of the examination of the Department by an organization recognized by the Oklahoma Mining Commission Department.

C. The Department shall hold monthly examinations for certificates of competency as underground miners. Applicants for such certificate may be granted a temporary permit by the Commission...
Department until an examination is held by the Department in the region in which the applicant resides. Applicants must successfully answer a written or oral examination pertaining to such requirements and qualifications of underground miners as are determined necessary by the Commission Department.

D. Certificates of competency shall be granted by the Oklahoma Mining Commission Department to persons who have given the Department satisfactory evidence of their ability to perform the duties and skills as are required for the Council. Previous experience and record of service of the applicant shall have equal weight with the examination.

E. The minimum experience necessary for certificates of competency are as follows:

1. Shot-firer - 1 year's practical underground experience.

2. Certified surface blaster - 1 year's practical experience.

3. Hoisting engineer - 1 year's practical hoisting experience.

4. Fire boss - 2 years' practical underground experience.

5. Mine foreman - 3 years' practical underground experience.

6. Superintendent - 5 years' practical underground experience.
experience.

7. Practical miner - 1 year’s practical experience as a miner or the equivalent experience as defined by the Commission Department.

Provided that the underground experience requirement for mine foreman and the superintendent shall not apply to those positions in surface mining.

F. A student who has completed an accredited two-year or four-year mining program shall be credited one (1) year of experience toward a fire boss, mine foreman or superintendent certification.

SECTION 19. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 3, is amended to read as follows:

Section 3. The Chief Mine Inspector Division Director of the Division of Mines within the Department of Environmental Quality shall be a citizen of the United States and shall have been a resident of the State of Oklahoma for the three (3) years prior to his or her appointment to office. In addition, the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall have had eight (8) years’ include consideration of actual experience as a practical miner. For the purposes of this section, employment as an inspector for the Department Division of Mines shall be considered practical mining experience. The Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall be appointed by the Governor by and with the consent of the Senate for...
a term of four (4) years to run concurrently with the term of the
Governor. At any time that such office becomes vacant, the Governor
shall appoint with the consent of the Senate a successor to complete
the unfinished term of office Executive Director of the Department,
shall serve at the pleasure of the Executive Director, and may be
removed or replaced without cause. Compensation for the Division
Director shall be determined by the Executive Director.

The Executive Director of the Department may appoint a Deputy
Division Director. The Deputy Chief Mine Inspector Division
Director shall possess the same residency requirements necessary for
the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director. The Deputy Chief Mine
Inspector shall be appointed by and shall serve at the pleasure of
the Governor and Division Director may be removed or replaced
without cause. Compensation for the Deputy shall be determined by
the Executive Director. The Deputy shall be under the direction of
the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director. The Except as otherwise
directed by the Executive Director, the Deputy Chief Mine Inspector
Division Director shall assume all of the duties and
responsibilities of the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director in
the his or her absence of the Chief Mine Inspector.

The assistant mine Mine inspectors shall be appointed by and at
all times be under the direction of the Chief Mine Inspector
Division Director. The assistant mine inspectors appointed to
inspect underground mining operations shall have a minimum of three
(3) years’ practical mining experience, and shall have obtained as a minimum a certificate of competency as a mine foreman.

SECTION 20. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 5, is amended to read as follows:

Section 5. Certifications required by this title shall be issued under the signature and seal of the Oklahoma Mining Commission by the Department of Environmental Quality. Such certificates shall bear the date of issuance, full name and age of the recipient and shall designate the position for which the recipient is certified by the Commission Division of Mines. Applications for certificates of competency shall be accompanied with the following fees:

1. Superintendent $20.00
2. Mine foreman 15.00
3. Fire boss 10.00
4. Shot-firer 10.00
5. Certified surface blaster 10.00
6. Hoisting engineer 10.00
7. Practical miner 5.00

SECTION 21. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 6, is amended to read as follows:

Section 6. The Secretary of the Oklahoma Mining Commission Department of Environmental Quality shall make a record of the names and addresses of all persons to whom certificates are issued.
Certificates of competency when issued as provided for herein, shall entitle the holders thereof to accept and discharge the duties for which said certificates declare them qualified.

The Division Director of the Division of Mines within the Department shall advise the Oklahoma Mining Commission as far in advance as possible the date and place of an examination to be held by the Department, and shall, as soon as examination is completed, furnish the Commission schedule examinations and compile a list of the names of all persons who took the examination and persons successfully completing said examination shall be duly notified.

SECTION 22. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 34, is amended to read as follows:

Section 34. The Chief Mine Inspector Division Director of the Division of Mines within the Department of Environmental Quality shall have an office at the seat of government in which he or she shall keep the maps and plans of all mines in the state and all records, correspondence, papers, apparatus and other property belonging to the state pertaining to his or her office. All such property shall be kept in accessible and convenient form, in a fire proof vault convenient to his or her office and furnished by the state, for reference by persons entitled to examine them the property. The Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall not permit such maps, plans, records and papers to be removed from his or her office.
SECTION 23. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 44, is amended to read as follows:

Section 44. If the Attorney General shall seek redress on behalf of the state as provided for in the Administrative Procedures Act, the Oklahoma Mining Commission Department of Environmental Quality is empowered to appoint a special counsel for such proceedings.

SECTION 24. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 45, is amended to read as follows:

Section 45. In addition to its other powers, the Oklahoma Mining Commission Department of Environmental Quality is authorized and directed, within the limits of funds available to it, to engage in a continuing study of the mining laws of this state, and of changes therein required in order to carry out to the greatest practicable extent the policies, goals, objectives and recommendations of the Commission Department, and to make recommendations and prepare proposed legislation for such purposes. Such recommendations and proposed legislation shall, as they are completed, be filed with the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SECTION 25. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 46.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 46.1. The Department of Environmental Quality, in cooperation with the Department of Mines is authorized and directed,
within the limits of federal funds available to the Department of Environmental Quality or any funds available to the Department of Mines, to study ways to remediate acid mine drainage produced from abandoned coal mines within this state, which the Legislature hereby finds to be a significant water pollution and water quality problem. The Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Mines shall evaluate existing projects among local, state and federal government agencies, and educational institutions, which address acid mine drainage.

Any local, state, and educational institution within this state implementing water quality projects which pertain to acid mine drainage shall coordinate and cooperate with the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Mines to implement the provisions of this section. The Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Mines shall make every effort to obtain full cooperation and coordination from any federal agency which implements any project pertaining to acid mine drainage.

SECTION 26. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 48, is amended to read as follows:

Section 48. The Oklahoma Department of Mines Environmental Quality shall have jurisdiction over only those borrow pits which are located on property permitted as commercial mining operations pursuant to Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title.
SECTION 27. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 723, is amended to read as follows:

Section 723. Whenever used or referred to in Sections 722 through 738 of this title, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

1. “Overburden” means all of the earth and other materials which lie above natural deposits of minerals, and also means such earth and other materials disturbed from their natural state in the process of surface mining;

2. “Mine” means an underground or surface excavation and development with or without shafts, slopes, drifts or tunnels for the extraction of minerals, with hoisting or haulage equipment and appliances for the extraction thereof, and shall embrace any and all of the land or property of the plant, and the surface and underground, that contribute directly or indirectly to the mining properties, concentration or handling of minerals;

3. “Mining” means the extraction of minerals from natural deposits by any method or process;

4. “Minerals” means asphalt, clay, copper, granite, gravel, gypsum, lead, marble, salt, sand, shale, stone, tripoli, volcanic ash and zinc, or any other substance commonly recognized as a mineral, and includes ores or rock containing any such substances, but excludes oil, gas and any other mineral found naturally in a liquid or gaseous state;
5. “Underground mining” means those mining operations carried out beneath the surface by means of shafts, slopes, tunnels or other openings leading to the mineral being mined and the extraction of the mineral through such shafts, slopes, tunnels or their openings;

6. “Surface mining” means those mining operations carried out on the surface, including strip mining, auger mining, quarrying, dredging, pumping, or the use of hydraulic methods.

Surface mining shall not include excavation or removal of shale, sand, gravel, clay, rock or other materials in remote areas by an owner or holder of a possessory interest in land for the primary purpose of construction or maintenance of access roads to or on such landowner’s property. Surface mining shall not include excavations or grading conducted for forming, on-site road construction or other on-site construction, or the extraction of minerals other than anthracite and bituminous coal by a landowner for noncommercial use from land owned or leased by the landowner; nor mining for commercial purposes conducted under a Limited Use Permit issued by the Department of Environmental Quality; nor the extraction of sand, gravel, rock, stone, earth or fill from borrow pits for highway construction purposes, so long as such work is performed under a bond, contract and specifications which substantially provide for and require reclamation of the area affected; nor to the handling, processing or storage of slag on the premises of a manufacturer as a part of the manufacturing process. Surface mining shall not include
the surface mining of coal or the surface effects of underground coal mining;

7. “Strip mining” means those mining operations carried out by removing the overburden lying above natural deposits of minerals, and mining directly from such natural deposits thereby exposed, but excludes auger mining, quarrying, dredging, pumping or the use of hydraulic methods;

8. “Reclamation” means conditioning affected land to make it suitable for any uses or purposes consistent with those enumerated in Section 722 of this title, and to avoid, minimize or correct adverse environmental effects of mining operations;

9. “Box cut” means the first open cut in strip mining which results in the placing of overburden on unmined land adjacent to the initial pit and outside the area to be mined;

10. “Consolidated material” means material of sufficient hardness or ability to resist weathering and to inhibit erosion or sloughing;

11. “Operator” means any person, partnership, firm or corporation engaged in and controlling a mining operation;

12. “Pit” means a tract of land from which overburden or minerals have been or are being removed in the process of surface mining;
13. “Affected land” means the area of land from which overburden shall have been removed, or upon which overburden or refuse has been deposited, or both;

14. “Refuse” means all waste material directly connected with the production, cleaning or preparation of minerals which have been mined by either underground or surface mining method;

15. “Ridge” means a lengthened elevation of overburden created in the surface mining process;

16. “Peak” means a projecting point of overburden created in the surface mining process;

17. “Department” means the office of the Chief Mine Inspector, herein called the Department of Mines and Mining Environmental Quality, or such department, bureau or commission as may lawfully succeed to the powers and duties of such department;

18. “Division Director” means the Chief Mine Inspector of the State of Oklahoma Division Director of the Division of Mines within the Department of Environmental Quality or such officer, bureau or commission as may lawfully succeed to the powers and duties of such Chief Mine Inspector Division Director;

19. “Borrow pit” means the one-time or intermittent extraction of sand, gravel, rock, stone, earth or fill in its natural state, not being mechanically altered to affect its size for government-financed construction purposes. Such work shall be performed under
a bond, contract and specifications which substantially provide for
and require reclamation of the affected area; and

20. “Dimension stone quarry” means a site where natural stone
used as building material is excavated and the stones are selected,
trimmed, or cut to specified shapes or sizes.

SECTION 28. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 724, is
amended to read as follows:

Section 724. A. It shall be unlawful for any operator to
engage in any mining operations in this state without first
obtaining a permit or a Limited Use Permit from the Department of
Mines Environmental Quality for each separate mining operation. The
Department shall determine what constitutes a separate mining
operation by rules promulgated under the Mining Lands Reclamation
Act.

B. Any operator desiring to engage in limited mining activity
may apply for a Limited Use Permit for those mining operations not
eligible for a surface mining permit. Application for such permit
shall be made upon forms furnished by the Department. The form
shall contain a description of the tract or tracts of land and shall
include the section, township, range and county in which the land is
located. A map shall be attached to the application which
accurately outlines and locates the tract of land. A statement that
the applicant has the right and power by legal estate owned to mine
the land so described shall be included with the application. In
addition, the following conditions and requirements shall apply to Limited Use Permits:

1. The maximum acreage shall be restricted to two (2) acres;
2. The term of a Limited Use Permit shall not exceed twelve (12) months from the date of issuance;
3. A Limited Use Permit shall not carry a right of successive renewal;
4. A Limited Use Permit site must be reclaimed as required by Section 725 of this title within six (6) months following the expiration of the permit term;
5. A three-thousand-five-hundred-dollar reclamation bond must be filed with the Department prior to issuance of the permit;
6. Failure to reclaim the site disturbance within the permitted time frame or revocation of the Limited Use Permit will be cause for bond forfeiture or other action as may be ordered by the Department;
7. The use of processing equipment shall not be approved for a Limited Use Permit;
8. The use of explosives shall not be approved under a Limited Use Permit;
9. A processing fee of One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) shall accompany the application for a Limited Use Permit; and
10. Mining production shall be reported and paid as required by Section 931 of this title.
If the above listed conditions and requirements are met, the Department may issue a Limited Use Permit which shall not be subject to the notice and publication requirements as otherwise required by this section.

C. 1. Any operator desiring to engage in surface mining shall make written application to the Department for a permit. Application for such permit shall be made upon a form furnished by the Department. The form shall contain a description of the tract or tracts of land and the estimated number of acres to be affected by surface mining by the operator. The description shall include the section, township, range and county in which the land is located and shall otherwise describe the land with sufficient certainty so that it may be located and distinguished from other lands.

2. Transmission lines shall be plotted on a location map submitted with the application. A statement that the operator has the right and power by legal estate owned to mine by surface mining the land so described shall be included with the application.

D. 1. Any operator desiring to engage in underground mining shall make written application to the Department for a permit. Application for such permit shall be made upon a form furnished by the Department. The form shall contain a description of the tract or tracts of land to be used as refuse disposal areas. The description shall include the section, township, range and county in which the land is located and shall otherwise describe the land with
sufficient certainty so that it may be located and distinguished from other lands.

2. A statement that the applicant has the right and power by legal estate owned to use the land so described as a refuse disposal area shall be included with the application.

E. Each application for a permit under subsections C and D of this section shall be accompanied by a plan of reclamation of the affected land that meets the requirements of the Mining Lands Reclamation Act. The application shall set forth the proposed use to be made of the affected land, the grading to be accomplished, the type of revegetation, and shall include the approximate time of grading and initial revegetation effort.

F. Each application for a permit under subsections C and D of this section shall be accompanied by the bond or security meeting the requirements of Section 728 of this title, or proof that such bond or security is still in effect, and a fee of One Hundred Seventy-five Dollars ($175.00) for each permit year, payable at the rate of One Hundred Seventy-five Dollars ($175.00) per year on the anniversary date of the year in which the permit or permit renewal was issued. All application fees shall be submitted to the State Treasurer, who shall deposit them in the Department of Mine Environmental Quality Revolving Fund.

G. 1. Upon the receipt of such application, bond or security and fee due from the operator, the Department may issue a permit to
the applicant which shall entitle the applicant to engage in mining on the land therein described in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Department, for the life expectancy of the operation unless the operator is in violation of any state statute or rule of the Department in which case the Department shall take appropriate action against the operator.

2. All applications for renewal of existing permits shall be filed prior to the expiration of the existing permit in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Department.

3. No permit shall be issued except upon proper application and public hearing, if requested.

H. 1. a. Upon filing the application with the Department, the applicant shall place an advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity of the mining operation, containing such information as is required by the Department, at least once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks.

   b. The advertisement shall contain, at a minimum, the following:

      (1) the name and business address of the applicant,

      (2) a description which clearly shows or describes the precise location and boundaries of the proposed permit area and is sufficient to enable local residents to readily identify the proposed
permit area. It may include towns, bodies of water, local landmarks, and any other information which would identify the location,

(3) the location where a copy of the application is available for public inspection,

(4) the name and address of the Department where written comments, objections, or requests for informal conferences formal hearings on the application may be submitted pursuant to subsection P Q of this section,

(5) if an applicant seeks a permit to mine which includes relocation or closing of a public road, a copy of the county resolution pertaining to the affected county road, and

(6) such other information as is required by the Department.

2. Any property owner or resident of an occupied dwelling who may be adversely affected located within one (1) mile of by the mining operation shall have the right to protest the issuance of a permit and request a public formal hearing.

3. The Department shall notify the surface owners of any hearings in connection with applications or permits in the same manner as the operator is notified.
4. Such protests must be received by the Department within fourteen (14) days after the date of publication of the newspaper advertisement. If a public formal hearing is requested, the Department shall then hold an informal hearing in the vicinity of the proposed mining mediation within sixty (60) days after the close of the deadline to file protests. The mediator shall be paid for by the applicant and be consented to by all parties, if not provided by the Department. The mediator shall advise the Department after the mediation as to whether the parties were able to resolve some or all their concerns, in which case the resolutions shall be incorporated into the permit as conditions, or whether the parties were not able to resolve their concerns. If the parties were not able to resolve all their concerns, the matter shall proceed to formal hearing. The individual serving as mediator shall not serve as the hearing examiner at the formal hearing.

5. Upon completion of findings after the hearing, the Department shall determine whether to issue or deny the permit, and shall notify all parties of its decision.

6. Any decision regarding the issuance of a permit under this section shall be appealable when entered, as provided in the Administrative Procedures Act.

I. Each application for a new operation shall contain, where applicable, a list of all other licenses and permits needed by the
applicant to conduct the proposed mining operation. This list shall identify each license and permit by:

1. Type of permit or license;
2. Name and address of issuing authority;
3. Identification number or a copy of the application for permits or licenses or, if issued, a copy of the permit or license; and
4. If a decision has been made, the date of approval or disapproval by each issuing authority.

An existing operation which does not have on file a list of the applicable licenses or permits with the Department on the date of enactment of this act shall not be out of compliance with the provisions of this section. Any renewal of an existing permit or expansion or amendment to an existing operation upon time of application shall submit a copy of all approved licenses and permits issued by other agencies or jurisdictions.

Identifications of all permits and licenses shall include local government agencies with jurisdiction over or an interest in the area of the proposed mining operation including, but not limited to, planning agencies, water and sewer authorities; and all state and federal government agencies with authority to issue permits and licenses applicable to the proposed mining operation, including all state environmental agencies, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S.
Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service
district office, and federal fish and wildlife agencies.

J. An operator desiring to have such operator’s permit amended
to cover additional land may file an amended application with the
Department. Upon receipt of the amended application, and such
additional bond as may be required under the provisions of the
Mining Lands Reclamation Act, the Department shall issue an
amendment to the original permit covering the additional land
described in the amended application, without the payment of any
additional fee.

K. An operator may withdraw any land covered by a permit,
deleting affected land therefrom, by notifying the Department, in
which case the penalty of the bond or security filed by such
operator pursuant to the provisions of the Mining Lands Reclamation
Act shall be reduced proportionately.

L. Permits issued to an operator may be transferable to another
operator, provided the new operator can demonstrate to the
Department, prior to the transfer of ownership, that conditions and
obligations required for the permit will be met and the new operator
has submitted a performance bond or other guarantee, or has obtained
the bond coverage of the original permittee.

M. The perimeter of the permit area shall be clearly marked by
durable and recognizable markers or by other means approved by the
Department.
N. The Department shall determine the blasting distance to transmission lines by rule.

O. 1. If any mining operations where blasting is required occur within the limits of a municipality with a population in excess of three hundred thousand (300,000) according to the latest Federal Decennial Census or within the limits of a municipality within a county with a population in excess of three hundred thousand (300,000) according to the latest Federal Decennial Census, the application for a permit pursuant to subsections C and D of this section shall be accompanied by proof that the operator is in full compliance with all applicable regulations of the municipality. Certified copies of any required municipal permits and any other required written municipal approvals shall be attached to the application when submitted to the Department. No mining permit shall be issued by the Department unless the applicant first complies with the requirements of this subsection. A municipality is not required to reconsider requests denied by the municipality related to the same site unless the municipality determines there has been a material change in the application.

2. The provisions of paragraph 1 of this subsection shall not apply to existing permitted operations, revisions or amendments thereto, or any application on file with the Department prior to May 25, 2005. In addition, the provisions of paragraph 1 of this subsection shall not apply to any future operation on property
directly adjacent to property on which a permitted operation is located, provided that the operation is permitted and the adjacent property is owned or leased by the operator on the effective date of this act May 25, 2005. For purposes of this subsection, properties separated by a public road shall be considered to be adjacent.

P. Within a reasonable time, as established by the Department, written comments or objections on permit or bond release applications may be submitted to the Department by public entities including but not limited to the local soil conservation district, with respect to the effects of the proposed mining operations on the environment.

Q. Any person having an interest in or who is or may be adversely affected by the decision on a permit or bond release application, or any federal, state or local agency, shall have the right to request in writing that the Department hold an informal conference a formal hearing on the application. The Department shall hold the informal conference hearing within a reasonable time following the receipt of the written request at a location in the vicinity of the proposed or active surface mining or reclamation operation.

SECTION 29. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 725, is amended to read as follows:
Section 725.  A. All affected land other than lands affected by coal mining operations shall be reclaimed as provided in this section.

B. The operator shall determine which parts of the affected land shall be reclaimed for forest, pasture, crop, horticultural, homesite, recreational, industrial or other use including food, shelter and ground cover for wildlife.

C. All ridges and peaks of overburden created by surface mining shall be graded to a rolling topography traversable by machines or equipment customarily used in connection with the use to be made of the land after reclamation, but such slopes need not be reduced to less than the original grade of the area prior to mining, and the slope of the ridge of overburden resulting from a box cut need not be reduced to less than twenty-five degrees (25°) from horizontal. Surface mining operations conducted in the flood plains of streams and rivers and subject to periodic flooding shall be exempt from the grading requirements of this section.

D. The operator may construct earth dams to form lakes in pits resulting from surface mining operations, provided that the formation of lakes shall not interfere with other mining operations or damage property of others.

E. The operator shall cover the exposed face of a mineral seam, where significant concentrations of acid-forming materials are
present, to a depth of not less than three (3) feet with earth that will support plant life or with a permanent water impoundment.

F. The operator shall grade down the banks of any pits or depressions created by the removal of sand or gravel by surface mining to a degree of slope determined by the Department of Environmental Quality, which shall give due consideration to the natural topography of the land affected and adjacent lands, the composition of such banks and the most beneficial use of the pits and depressions comprising the affected land after reclamation. If the pits or depressions are deeper than ten (10) feet, the operator may elect to bench the highwall, provided that such benches are not in excess of ten (10) feet in height.

G. All affected land except that which is to be covered with water or used for homesites or industrial purposes shall be revegetated by the planting of seeds, plants, trees, shrubs or other plantings appropriate to the use to be made of the land as determined by the operator. No planting of any kind shall be required on any affected land so long as the chemical and physical characteristics of the soil of such affected land are toxic, deficient in plant nutrients or composed of sand, gravel, shale or stone to such an extent as to seriously inhibit plant growth. The Department may prescribe by rules and regulations the required density of such plantings, and may make replanting requirements.
H. Except where prevented by weather conditions, all grading shall be completed within one (1) year after mining of the affected land has been completed. Initial seeding or planting shall be made at the first appropriate time following completion of grading. If the operator is unable to acquire sufficient planting stock of desired species from state nurseries, or acquire such species elsewhere at comparable prices the Department shall grant the operator an extension of time until planting stock is available to plant such land as originally planned.

I. In any noncoal mining operation where the type and amount of material removed precludes the filling of the quarry, the Department of Mines shall prescribe necessary measures for the protection of the public and animal life.

SECTION 30. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 727, is amended to read as follows:

Section 727. The Department of Environmental Quality, or its accredited representatives, may enter upon the lands of the operator at all reasonable times, for the purpose of inspection, to determine whether the provisions of this act have been complied with.

SECTION 31. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 728, is amended to read as follows:

Section 728. A. Any bond required to be filed with the Department of Environmental Quality by the operator shall be in such form as the Division Director of the Division of Mines within the

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Department prescribes, payable to the State of Oklahoma, conditioned that the operator shall faithfully perform all requirements of the Mining Lands Reclamation Act and comply with all rules of the Department made in accordance with the provisions of the Mining Lands Reclamation Act. Such bond shall be signed by the operator as principal, and by a good and sufficient corporate surety, licensed to do business in the state, as surety.

B. The penal sum of such bond shall be determined by the Department and shall depend on the performance requirements of the approved permit. The minimum bond shall be Two Thousand Dollars ($2,000.00).

In determining the amount of the bond, the Department shall take into consideration the character and nature of the overburden, the future suitable use of the land involved and the cost of reclamation to be required.

C. A bond shall not be cancelable by the surety except after not less than ninety (90) days’ prior written notice to the Department. Bonds may be continued in effect from year to year, and a new bond need not be provided for each permit application. A single bond may cover all of the operator’s mining operations in the state. The penalty of the bond or amount of cash and securities, as provided in subsection E of this section, shall be increased or reduced from time to time as provided in the Mining Lands Reclamation Act.
D. If the license to do business in the state of any surety upon a bond filed with the Department pursuant to the Mining Lands Reclamation Act shall be suspended or revoked, the operator, within thirty (30) days after receiving notice from the Department, shall substitute for such surety a good and sufficient corporate surety licensed to do business in the state. Upon failure of the operator to make substitution of surety as required, the Department shall have the right to suspend the permit of the operator to conduct operations upon the land described in such permit until such substitution has been made.

E. In lieu of such bond, the operator may deposit cash government securities, Certificates of Deposit or an irrevocable letter of credit with the Department in an amount equal to that of the required bond on conditions as prescribed by the Department. In the discretion of the Department surety bond requirements may also be fulfilled by using existing reclaimed areas, in excess of cumulative permit or mined acres, that have been completed under the jurisdiction of the Mining Lands Reclamation Act and approved by the Department.

F. Such bond or security shall remain in effect until the mined acres have been reclaimed, approved and released by the Department. If the Department determines that grading has been satisfactorily completed pursuant to the Mining Lands Reclamation Act, the Department may release up to eighty percent (80%) of the penal sum
of the bond filed for each acre of land graded. The remaining portion of the bond shall continue in effect until the completion of the requirements pursuant to Section 725 of this title.

SECTION 32. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 729, is amended to read as follows:

Section 729. The Department of Mines Environmental Quality shall notify the operator and the surety in writing of any claimed violation of the provisions of the Mining Lands Reclamation Act or the rules of the Department. If the alleged violation is discovered as a result of a citizen complaint and the person claiming the violation states in writing the desire that the source of the complaint be kept confidential, the Department shall maintain such information in confidence. If the operator denies the alleged violation, the Department shall hold a hearing on said charges. Said hearing shall be held not less than thirty (30) days from the notice of hearing.

At such hearing the operator shall have the right to present evidence in opposition to the claimed violation.

If upon such hearing the Department shall determine that a violation has occurred, the Department shall make detailed findings of fact and conclusions of law. The surety, if applicable, may perform for the operator.

If the operator or surety, if applicable, fails to perform the corrective work required by the Department or fails to properly
perform said work, the Department may initiate permit revocation and/or bond forfeiture proceedings. After successful collection of the security required by Section 728 of this title, the Department shall contract for the work to be done consistent with all state requirements. The Department shall not issue any permits to an operator who has failed to perform such corrective work, or has defaulted with respect to the bond or other security required by Section 728 of this title, until such obligations are met by the operator or his surety or agent, as determined by the Department.

If the Department determines that an entity or individual has mined without a permit in violation of Section 724 of this title, the Department shall assess a fine of up to Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000.00) against the entity, individuals, or agents of said entity. Any agent is jointly and severally liable with its principal for such violation and any resulting fines.

The Department may pursue civil action for relief, including a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining order, or any other appropriate order in the district court for the district in which the illegal mining operation is located, in which the entity, individuals, or agents of said entity, have their principal offices, or in Oklahoma County, to enforce any Department action against the entity, individual, or agents. Further, the Department shall be entitled to recover penalties or fines assessed for mining without a permit from the entity, individuals or agents conducting said mining
in violation of this title. The Department shall also be entitled to reasonable attorneys fees incurred in enforcing this provision. All monies collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Department of Mines Environmental Quality Revolving Fund.

In order to fully inform affected surface owners who have filed a complaint of any alleged violations affecting the surface estate by an operator, the Department shall:

1. Provide by mail to the affected surface owners who have filed a complaint, a copy of any alleged violations affecting the surface estate issued to the operator within five (5) days after such violation is cited;

2. Notify the surface owners who have filed a complaint of any hearings in connection to alleged violations affecting the surface estate in the same manner and at the same time as the operator; and

3. Provide surface owners who have filed a complaint with complete information on the disposition of all violations affecting the surface estate cited at the same time the operator is notified.

SECTION 33. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 731, is amended to read as follows:

Section 731. The operator shall submit to the Department of Environmental Quality, no later than September 1 following the end of each permit year, a map in a form approved by the Department showing the location of the pit or pits by section, township, range and county, with such other description as will identify the land
which the operator has affected by mining during such permit year
and has completed mining operations thereon, with a legend upon such
map showing the number of acres of affected land. Such map shall
also show in acres the extent of the reclamation accomplished on the
affected land, including grading and revegetation efforts, as of the
end of the permit year, and shall show by appropriate designation
any deviation from the plan of reclamation filed under subsection
(c) of Section 724 of this title and the reasons therefor.

Whenever an operator shall have completed all requirements under
the provisions of this act as to any affected land, he shall notify
the Department thereof. If the Department determines that the
operator has completed reclamation requirements and achieved results
appropriate to the use for which the area was reclaimed, the
Department shall release the operator from further obligations
regarding such affected land and the penalty of the bond shall be
reduced proportionately.

SECTION 34. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 732, is
amended to read as follows:

Section 732. In addition to the duties and powers conferred on
the Department of Environmental Quality in other provisions of this
act, the Department shall have authority and power to:

(a) 1. Adopt and promulgate reasonable rules and regulations
respecting the administration of this act and in conformity
therewith and the Administrative Procedures Act;
(e) 2. Order, after hearing, the revocation of any permit issued hereunder for violation of this act.

(e) 3. Cause to be instituted, in any court of competent jurisdiction, legal proceedings for injunctive or other appropriate relief to enforce this act.

(e) 4. Make investigations and inspections which are necessary or appropriate to insure compliance with this act.

(e) 5. Collect and disseminate information relating to reclamation of affected lands; and

(e) 6. Request the assistance of any federal or state agency for technical advice or any other type of assistance deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

SECTION 35. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 733, is amended to read as follows:

Section 733. At the request of the Department of Environmental Quality, the Attorney General shall provide such legal assistance as may be needed in interpreting, enforcing and carrying out the provisions of this act including but not limited to institution of and prosecuting legal actions and proceedings for injunctive relief and this improvement shall include the provisions of Section 737 of this title.

SECTION 36. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 734, is amended to read as follows:
Section 734. Any act authorized to be done by the Department of Environmental Quality related to mining may be performed by the Chief Mine Inspector, Division Director of the Division of Mines, or an assistant designated by him or her.

SECTION 37. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 735, is amended to read as follows:

Section 735. The Department of Environmental Quality is designated as the agency to make safety inspections in sand, sand and gravel, and in quarrying operations. Any person required by this act to have a permit who engages in mining without a valid permit therefor issued pursuant to this act is guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined not less than Fifty Dollars ($50.00) nor more than One Thousand Dollars ($1,000.00). Each day of operation without the permit required by this act shall be deemed a separate violation.

SECTION 38. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 738, is amended to read as follows:

Section 738. All final decisions and orders of the Department of Environmental Quality shall be subject to judicial review of the acts of administrative agencies.

SECTION 39. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 742.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 742.1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Coal Reclamation Act of 1979”.

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It is the intent of the Oklahoma Legislature that the Coal Reclamation Act of 1978, Sections 742-742.1 et seq. of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title, and this Coal Reclamation Act of 1979, be read together as the law regulating the reclamation of lands affected by surface coal mining operations and the surface effects of underground coal mining, to bring Oklahoma into compliance with Public Law 95-87, the “Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977”.

The provisions of the Mining Lands Reclamation Act, Sections 721 through 728-738 of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title, shall not apply to surface coal mining operations or the surface effects of underground coal mining operations.

The Oklahoma Legislature finds and declares that coal mining operations presently contribute significantly to the nation’s energy requirements, that Oklahoma's coal production is part of those energy requirements, and that the cooperative effort established by this act is necessary to prevent or mitigate adverse environmental effects of all surface mining operations.

It is the purpose of this act to protect the rights of surface owners and the environment, and to require reclamation of lands affected by surface and underground coal mining in a manner compatible with the social, environmental and aesthetic needs of this state. If reclamation is not feasible, surface mining operations should not be conducted. It is the intent of the
Legislature to insure the existence of an expanding and economically healthy coal mining industry and that there be public participation in the development of rules and regulations appropriate to the State of Oklahoma and that the Department of Mines Environmental Quality exercise the full reach of its powers to insure the protection of the public interest through the effective control of surface mining operations.

SECTION 40. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 742.2, is amended to read as follows:

Section 742.2. As used in this act:

1. “Acid drainage” means water with a pH of less than 6.0 Standard Units and in which total acidity exceeds total alkalinity, discharged from active, inactive, or abandoned mines and from areas affected by surface coal mining and reclamation operations. 

2. “Acid-forming materials” means earth materials that contain sulfide minerals or other materials which, if exposed to air, water, or weathering processes, will result in the formation of acids that may create acid drainage.

3. “Adjacent area” means land located outside the affected area, permit area, or mine plan area, depending on the context in which “adjacent area” is used, where air, surface or ground water, fish, wildlife, vegetation or other resources protected by this act may be adversely impacted by surface coal mining and reclamation operations.
4. “Affected area” means, with respect to surface mining activities, any land or water upon or in which those activities are conducted or located. With respect to underground mining activities, “affected area” means any water or surface land upon or in which those activities are conducted or located, and land or water which is located above underground mine workings.

5. “Approximate original contour” means that surface configuration achieved by backfilling and grading of the mined areas so that the reclaimed area, including any terracing or access roads, closely resembles the general surface configuration of the land prior to mining and blends into and complements the drainage pattern of the surrounding terrain, with all highwalls, spoil piles and coal refuse piles eliminated. Water impoundments may be permitted where the regulatory authority determines that they are in compliance with Section 745.18 of this title and applicable rules and regulations.

6. “Aquifer” means a zone, stratum, or group of strata confined or unconfined, including perched conditions, that can store and transmit water in sufficient quantities for a specific use.

7. “Auger mining” means a method of mining coal at a cliff or highwall by drilling holes laterally into an exposed coal seam from the highwall and transporting the coal along an auger bit to the surface.
8. “Box cut” means the first open cut in strip mining which results in the placing of overburden on unmined land adjacent to the initial pit and outside the area to be mined—.

9. “Coal exploration” means the gathering of surface or subsurface geologic, physical, or chemical data by mapping, trenching, drilling, geophysical or other techniques necessary to determine the quality and quantity of overburden and coal of an area and the gathering of environmental data to establish the conditions of the area beginning before surface coal mining and reclamation operations—.

10. “Coal processing plant” means a collection of facilities where run-of-the-mine coal is prepared for market by chemical or physical processing, and separated from its impurities. The processing plant may consist of, but not be limited to, the following support facilities: loading facilities; storage and stockpile facilities; shed, shops and other buildings; water treatment and water storage facilities; settling basins and impoundments; coal processing and other waste disposal areas; roads, railroads and other transport facilities; and utilities—.

11. “Consolidated material” means material of sufficient hardness or ability to resist weathering and to inhibit erosion or sloughing—.

12. “Department” means the office of the Chief Mine Inspector Department of Environmental Quality and the Division of Mines within—.
the Department, including all employees, agents, deputies, and representatives of the Department, herein called the Department of Mines and Mining, or such department, bureau or commission as may lawfully succeed to the powers and duties of such department, having primary responsibility for administering all titles of the Surface Mining Law.

13. “Director” means the Chief Mine Inspector of the State of Oklahoma or such officer, bureau or commission as may lawfully succeed to the powers and duties of such Chief Mine Inspector or such employee, agent, deputy or representative of the Chief Mine Inspector as shall be designated by the Chief Mine Inspector to perform any actions required by this act.

14. “Disturbed area” means an area where vegetation, topsoil, or overburden is removed by surface coal mining operations or upon which topsoil, spoil, coal processing waste or noncoal waste is placed. Those areas are “disturbed” until reclamation of those areas is complete and the bond or other assurance of performance is released.

15. “Diversion” means a channel, embankment, or other manmade structure constructed for the purpose of diverting the flow of water from one area to another:

a. Permanent diversion means a diversion remaining after surface coal mining and reclamation are completed and which has been approved for retention by the
Department and other appropriate state and federal agencies,

b. Temporary diversion means a diversion which is used during coal exploration or surface coal mining and reclamation operations, and not approved by the Department to remain after reclamation as part of the approved postmining land use.

16. "Ephemeral stream" means a stream which flows only in direct response to precipitation in the immediate watershed or in response to the melting of snow and ice, and which has a channel bottom that is always above the local water table.

17. "Ground water" means subsurface water that fills available openings in rock or soil materials such that they may be considered water-saturated.

18. "Head-of-hollow fill" means a fill structure consisting of any material, other than coal processing waste and organic material, placed in the uppermost reaches of a hollow where side slopes of the existing hollow measured at the steepest point are greater than twenty (20) degrees or the average slope of the profile of the hollow from the toe of the fill to the top of the fill is greater than ten (10) degrees. In fills with less than two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) cubic yards of material, associated with contour mining, the top surface of the fill will be at the elevation of the coal seam. In all other head-of-hollow fills, the top surface of
the fill, when completed, is at approximately the same elevation as
the adjacent ridge line, and no significant area of natural drainage
occurs above the fill draining into the fill area.

19. “Highwall” means the face of exposed overburden and coal in
an open cut of a surface or for entry to an underground coal mine.

20. “Hydrologic balance” means the relationship between the
quality and quantity of inflow to, outflow from and storage in a
hydrologic unit such as a drainage basin, aquifer, soil zone, lake,
or reservoir. It encompasses the quantity and quality relationships
between precipitation, runoff, evaporation, and the change in ground
and surface water storage.

21. “Hydrologic regime” means the entire state of water
movement in a given area. It is a function of the climate, and
includes the phenomena by which water first occurs as atmospheric
water vapor, passes into a liquid or solid form and falls as
precipitation, moves along or into the ground surface, and returns
to the atmosphere as vapor by means of evaporation and
transpiration.

22. “Imminent danger to the health and safety of the public”
means the existence of any condition or practice, or any violation
of a permit or other requirements of this act in a surface coal
mining and reclamation operation, which condition, practice, or
violation could reasonably be expected to cause substantial physical
harm to persons outside the permit area before such condition,
practice, or violation can be abated. A reasonable expectation of
death or serious injury before abatement exists if a rational
person, subjected to the same condition or practice giving rise to
the peril, would not expose oneself to the danger during the time
necessary for abatement.

23. “Impoundment” means a closed basin, naturally formed or
artificially built, which is dammed or excavated for the retention
of water, sediment, or waste.

24. “In situ processes” means activities conducted on the
surface or underground in connection with in-place distillation,
retorting, leaching, or other chemical or physical processing of
coal, to include, but not be limited to, in situ gasification, in
situ leaching, slurry mining, solution mining, bore hole mining and
fluid recovery mining.

25. “Intermittent stream” means a stream or reach of a stream
that drains a watershed of at least one (1) square mile, or a stream
or reach of a stream that is below the local water table for at
least some part of the year, and obtains its flow from both surface
runoff and ground water discharge.

26. “Operator” means any person, partnership, firm or
corporation engaged in coal mining who removes or intends to remove
more than two hundred fifty (250) tons from the earth within twelve
(12) consecutive months in any one location.
27. “Other minerals” means clay, stone, sand, gravel, metalliferous and nonmetalliferous ores, and any other solid material or substances of commercial value excavated in solid form from natural deposits on or in the earth, exclusive of coal and those minerals which occur naturally in liquid or gaseous form;

28. “Overburden” means all of the earth and other materials, excluding topsoil, which lie above natural deposits of coal and other minerals, and also means such earth and other materials disturbed from their natural state in the process of surface mining;

29. “Peak” means an upward projecting point of overburden created in the surface mining process;

30. “Perennial stream” means a stream or part of a stream that flows continuously during all of the calendar year as a result of groundwater discharge or surface runoff;

31. “Performance bond” means the indemnity instrument in a sum certain, supported by a surety’s guarantee, pledge of collateral or other acceptable contractual guarantee, by which the permit applicant assures faithful performance of all the applicable permit requirements of this act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder;

32. “Permit” means a permit to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations issued by the Department pursuant to state law.
33. “Permit area” means the area, including all natural and human resources, included within the boundaries specified in a permit, whether or not the areas will be impacted by surface coal mining and reclamation operations, which are designated on the approved maps submitted by the applicant with his permit application and covered by the performance and reclamation bonds as required.

34. “Permittee” means a person holding a “permit” to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations issued by the Department pursuant to state law.

35. “Pit” means a tract of land from which overburden or minerals have been or are being removed in the process of surface mining.

36. “Prime farmland” means lands which meet the criteria of the Department, which shall prescribe criteria at least as stringent as criteria prescribed by the United States Secretary of Agriculture on the basis of such factors as moisture availability, temperature regime, chemical balance, permeability, surface layer composition, susceptibility to flooding, and erosion characteristics, and which historically have been used for intensive agricultural purposes.

37. “Reclamation” means, through the process of backfilling, regrading, topsoil replacement, reutilization, and revegetation activities, the bringing back of land to its approximate original contours and configuration, and resulting in an equal or better land...
use category, and shall be consistent with the existing surrounding environment.

38. “Reference areas” means land units of varying size and shape identified and maintained under appropriate management for the purpose of measuring ground cover, productivity and species diversity that are produced naturally or by crop production methods approved by the Department. Reference areas must be representative of geology, soils, slope, aspect and vegetation in the permit area.

39. “Refuse” means all waste material directly connected with the production, cleaning or preparation of coal or other minerals which have been mined by either underground or surface mining method.

40. “Regulatory authority” means the Department of Mines and Mining, Environmental Quality;

41. “Ridge” means a lengthened elevation of overburden created in the surface mining process.

42. “Significant, imminent environmental harm to land, air or water resources” is determined as follows:

a. An environmental harm is any adverse impact on land, air, or water resources, including but not limited to, plant and animal life,

b. An environmental harm is imminent if a condition, practice or violation exists which:

(1) is causing such harm or,
(2) may reasonably be expected to cause such harm at any time before the end of the reasonable abatement time that would be set under Section 775 of this title,

c. An environmental harm is significant if that harm is appreciable and not immediately reparable.

43. “Slope” means average inclination of a surface, measured from the horizontal; normally expressed as a unit of vertical distance to a given number of units of horizontal distance (e.g., one unit vertical (1v) to five units horizontal (5h) = 11.3 degrees).

44. “Soil horizons” means contrasting layers of soil lying one below the other, parallel or near parallel to the land surface. Soil horizons are differentiated on the basis of field characteristics and laboratory data. The three (3) major soil horizons are:

a. “A horizon”. The uppermost layer in the soil profile often called the surface soil. It is the part of the soil in which organic matter is most abundant and where leaching of soluble or suspended particles is the greatest,

b. “B horizon”. The layer immediately beneath the A horizon and often called the subsoil. This middle
layer commonly contains more clay, iron or aluminum than the A or C horizons, and

c. “C horizon”. The deepest layer of the soil profile. It consists of loose material or weathered rock that is relatively unaffected by biologic activity.

45. “Spoil” means displaced overburden.

46. “Strip mining” means those mining operations carried out by removing the overburden lying above natural deposits of coal and other minerals, and mining directly from such natural deposits thereby exposed, but excludes auger mining, quarrying, dredging, pumping or the use of hydraulic methods.

47. “Substantially disturb” means, for purposes of coal exploration, to significantly impact upon land, air or water resources by such activities as blasting, mechanical excavation of land, drilling or altering coal or water exploratory holes or wells, construction or creation of roads and other access routes, and the placement of structures, excavated earth or other debris upon the surface of land.

48. “Surface coal mining and reclamation operations” means surface mining operations and all activities necessary and incident to the reclamation of such operations.

49. “Surface coal mining operations” means:

a. Activities conducted on the surface of lands in connection with a surface coal mine or surface
operations and surface impacts incident to an underground coal mine. Such activities include excavation for the purpose of obtaining coal, including such common methods as contour, strip, auger, mountaintop removal, box cut, open pit, and area mining, the uses of explosives and blasting, in situ distillation or retorting, leaching or other chemical or physical processing, and the cleaning, concentrating, or other processing or preparation, loading of coal at or near the mine site. Such activities do not include the extraction of coal incidental to the extraction of other minerals where coal does not exceed sixteen and two-thirds percent (16 2/3%) of the tonnage of minerals removed for the purposes of commercial use or sale or coal exploration, subject to Section 745.11 of this title, and

b. The areas upon which such activities occur or where such activities disturb the natural land surface. Such areas shall also include any adjacent land, the use of which is incidental to any such activities, all lands affected by the construction of new roads or improvement or use of existing roads to gain access to the site of such activities and for haulage and
excavations, workings, impoundments, dams, ventilation shafts, entryways, refuse banks, dumps, stockpiles, overburden piles, spoil banks, culm banks, tailings, holes or depressions, repair areas, storage areas, processing areas, shipping areas and other areas upon which are sited structures, facilities, or other property or materials on the surface, resulting from or incident to such activities—

50. “Surface water” means water, either flowing or standing, on the surface of the earth—

51. “Topsoil” means the “A” soil horizon, which is the uppermost layer of the three (3) major soil horizons—

52. “Underground mining activities” means a combination of:
   a. Surface operations incident to underground extraction of coal or in situ processing, such as construction, use, maintenance, and reclamation of roads, above-ground repair areas, storage areas, processing areas, shipping areas, areas upon which are sited support facilities including hoist and ventilating ducts, areas utilized for the disposal and storage of waste, and areas on which materials incident to underground mining operations are placed, and
   b. Underground operations such as underground construction, operation, and reclamation of shafts,
adits, underground support facilities, in situ processing, and underground mining, hauling, storage, and blasting, and

c. The areas in which activities enumerated above occur or where such activities disturb the natural land surface.

53. “Unwarranted failure to comply” means the failure of a permittee to prevent the occurrence of any violation of his permit or any requirement of this act due to indifference, lack of diligence, or lack of reasonable care, or the failure to abate any violation of such permit or the act due to indifference, lack of diligence, or lack of reasonable care; and

54. “Water table” means the upper surface of a zone of saturation, where the body of ground water is not confined by an overlying impermeable zone.

SECTION 41. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 745.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 745.1. A. It shall be unlawful for any operator to engage in any mining operations in this state without first obtaining from the Department of Environmental Quality a permit to do so for each separate mining operation. The Department shall determine what constitutes a separate mining operation by rules and regulations promulgated under the Coal Reclamation Act of 1979.
B. Any operator desiring to engage in surface mining eight (8) months after the approval of Oklahoma’s regulatory program by the United States Secretary of the Interior shall make written application to the Department for a permit within two (2) months after the approval of the state program. Before the approval of the Oklahoma program by the Secretary of the Interior, the requirements of the Coal Reclamation Act of 1978 shall continue to apply to all permits for coal mining covered by the Coal Reclamation Act of 1979. Application for such permit shall be made upon a form furnished by the Department, which form shall require all pertinent information including, but not limited to, all information required by federal law and regulations.

C. Any operator desiring to engage in underground mining shall make written application to the Department for a permit within two (2) months after approval of the state program. Application for such permit shall be made upon a form furnished by the Department, which form shall require all pertinent information including, but not limited to, all information required by federal law and regulations for underground coal mining, taking into account the distinct differences between surface coal mining and underground coal mining.

D. Each application for a permit under subsections B and C of this section shall be accompanied by a plan for the reclamation of
the affected land that meets the requirements of the Coal Reclamation Act of 1979.

E. Each application for a permit or permit renewal under subsections B and C of this section shall be accompanied by a fee of Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) for each permit year, payable at the rate of Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) per year on the anniversary date of the year in which the permit or permit renewal was issued. Such fee shall be deposited in the Department of Mines Environmental Quality Revolving Fund and used to offset the cost of reviewing, administering and enforcing such permit issued pursuant to a state or federal program. Once mining operations have permanently terminated, no further permit fee shall be required of the operator.

F. The provisions of the Coal Reclamation Act of 1979 shall not apply to the extraction of coal by a landowner for his own noncommercial use from land owned or leased by him, or the extraction of coal as an incidental part of federal, state or local government-financed highway or other construction under regulations established by the Department.

SECTION 42. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 753, is amended to read as follows:

Section 753. A. The operator shall ensure that explosives are used only in accordance with existing state and federal law and the regulations promulgated by the Department of Environmental Quality, which shall require:
1. Adequate advance written notice to local governments and residents who might be affected by the use of such explosives by publication of the planned blasting schedule in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality, and by mailing a copy of the proposed blasting schedule to every resident living within one-half (1/2) mile of the proposed blasting site and by providing daily notice to resident/occupiers in such areas prior to any blasting;

2. Maintaining for a period of at least three (3) years and making available for public inspection upon request a log detailing the location of the blasts, the pattern and depth of the drill holes, the amount of explosives used per hole, and the order and length of delay in the blasts;

3. Limiting the type of explosives and detonating equipment, the size, the timing and frequency of blasts based upon the physical conditions of the site so as to prevent injury to persons, damage to public and private property outside the permit area, adverse impacts on any underground mine, and change in the course, channel, or availability of ground or surface water outside the permit area;

4. All blasting operations be conducted by trained and competent persons as certified by the Department;

5. Upon the request of a resident or owner of a man-made dwelling or structure within one-half (1/2) mile of any portion of the permitted area the applicant or permittee shall conduct a pre-blasting survey of such structures and submit the survey to the
Department and a copy to the resident or owner making the request.
The area of the survey shall be decided by the Department; and

6. For the purposes of this section:
   a. for blasting operations using electronic-blasting detonators, a “loaded hole” is defined as one that contains explosives or blasting agents with a primer where the hole has been stemmed and has a short length of connecting wire sticking out but does not have a firing device connected,
   b. for blasting operations not using electronic detonators, a hole with explosives and a blasting cap is considered a “loaded and charged hole”,
   c. for blasting operations using electronic-blasting detonators, a “charged hole” is defined as one that contains explosives or blasting agents with a primer where the hole has been tamped with a short length of connecting device sticking out and it does have a firing device connected,
   d. “blasting site” is defined as the area within fifty (50) feet, or any alternative distance provided in the blasting plan of the approved permit on file, of any holes loaded with explosives, blasting agents or detonators, and
e. “blasting area” is defined as the area where flying rock may be considered dangerous, which shall be determined by the certified blaster.

B. Rules and procedures for the use of explosives are as follows:

1. Persons who use explosives, blasting agents or detonators shall be certified by the Oklahoma Mining Commission Department. Such persons shall understand the hazards involved, and trainees shall do such work only under the supervision of and in the immediate presence of certified persons;

2. Blasting operations shall be under the direct control of certified persons designated by the operator for that purpose;

3. Damaged or deteriorated explosives, blasting agents and detonators shall be disposed of in a safe manner;

4. For blasting operations using electronic blasting detonators, loaded holes shall be charged as near to blasting time as practical and in compliance with the known physical limitations and properties of the specific blasting materials and equipment specified by the manufacturer. Unless authorized by the appropriate regulatory authority, loaded holes shall be detonated within sixty (60) days from the date of loading;

5. No person shall smoke within fifty (50) feet of explosives, blasting agents or detonators;
6. Only wooden or other nonsparking devices shall be used to punch holes in explosives cartridges;

7. Tamping poles shall be blunt and squared at one end and made of wood or other nonsparking material;

8. No tamping shall be done directly on primer cartridges;

9. During the loading of holes, only the work activities associated with the explosives operation will be permitted in the blasting site;

10. During charging and firing, only the work activities associated with the explosives operation will be permitted in the blasting area;

11. Unused explosives and detonators shall be moved to a safe location as soon as charging operations are completed;

12. Approaches to areas in which charged holes are awaiting firing shall be guarded or barricaded and posted or flagged against unauthorized entry;

13. When a blast is about to be fired, ample warning shall be given to allow all persons to retreat to a safe place. Each mine shall have a definite plan of warning signals that can be clearly seen or heard by anyone in the blasting area. The operator shall inform all employees at the local mine as to the established procedure;
14. Enclosed blasting shelters constructed of strong materials shall be provided to protect all persons endangered by flying rock from blasting;

15. When safety fuse has been used, persons shall not return to misfired holes for at least thirty (30) minutes;

16. When electric blasting caps have been used, persons shall not return to misfired holes for at least fifteen (15) minutes. Leading wires from the power source must be disconnected before persons can be allowed to return to the blasting sites;

17. Blasted materials shall be examined for undetonated explosives after each blast and undetonated explosives found shall be disposed of safely;

18. Misfires shall be reported to the proper supervisor and shall be disposed of safely before any other work is performed in the blasting area;

19. Blast holes in hot-hole areas and holes that have been sprung shall not be charged before tests have been made to ensure that the heat has been dissipated to a safe level;

20. If explosives are suspected of burning in a hole, all persons in the endangered area shall move to a safe location until the danger has passed;

21. Holes shall not be drilled where there is danger of intersecting a charge or misfired hole;
22. Fuses and igniters shall be stored in a cool, dry place away from oils or grease;

23. Fuses shall not be kinked, bent sharply or handled roughly;

24. Fuses shall be cut and capped in safe, dry locations posted with “No Smoking” signs;

25. Blasting caps shall be crimped to fuses only with devices designed for that specific purpose;

26. Fuses of less than forty-eight (48) inches in length shall not be used for any purpose;

27. At least two persons shall be present when lighting fuses, and no person shall light more than fifteen individual fuses. If more than fifteen holes per person are to be fired, igniter cord and connectors or electric blasting shall be used;

28. A safe interval of time shall be allowed to light a round and evacuate the blasting area;

29. Fuses shall be ignited with hot-wire lighters, lead spitters, igniter cord or other such devices designed for this purpose;

30. Fuses shall not be ignited before the primer and the entire charge are securely in place;

31. Electric detonators of different brands shall not be used in the same round;
32. Electric detonators shall remain shunted until they are being wired into the blasting circuit. Lead lines and wired rounds shall be kept shunted until immediately before blasting;

33. Completely wired rounds shall be tested with a blasting galvanometer before connections are made to the blasting line;

34. Lead wires and blasting lines shall not be strung across power conductors, pipelines or within twenty (20) feet of bare power lines. They shall be protected from sources of static or other electrical contact;

35. Permanent blasting lines shall be properly supported, insulated and kept in good repair;

36. Charging shall be stopped immediately when the presence of static electricity or stray current is detected; the condition shall be corrected before charging is resumed;

37. Charging of holes shall be suspended and the persons withdrawn to a safe location upon the approach of an electrical storm;

38. Safety switches and blasting switches shall be labeled, encased in boxes and arranged so that the covers of the boxes cannot be closed with the switches in closed position;

39. Blasting switches shall be locked in the open position except when closed to fire the blast. Lead wires shall not be connected to the blasting switch until the shot is ready to be fired;
40. The key to a blasting switch shall be entrusted only to the person designated to fire blasts;

41. Electric circuits from the blasting switches to the blast area shall not be grounded;

42. At least a five-foot air gap shall be provided between the blasting circuit and the power circuit;

43. Where electric blasting is to be performed, electric circuits to equipment within twenty-five (25) feet of a hole that is to be charged with an electric blasting cap shall be de-energized before electric detonators are brought into the immediate area, or the electric equipment shall be moved out of the immediate area;

44. Power sources shall be suitable for the number of electric detonators to be fired and for the type of circuits used;

45. When instantaneous blasting is performed, the double-trunkline or loop system shall be used in detonating-cord blasting;

46. When instantaneous blasting is performed, trunklines in multiple-row blasting shall make one or more complete loops with crossties between loops at intervals of not over two hundred (200) feet;

47. All detonating-cord knots shall be tight and all connections shall be kept at right angles to the trunklines;

48. Delay connectors for firing detonating-cord shall be treated and handled with the same safety precautions as blasting caps and electric detonators; and
49. Detonating-cord shall not be kinked, bent or otherwise handled in such a manner that the train of detonation may be interrupted.

SECTION 43. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 767, is amended to read as follows:

Section 767. No employee of the Department of Mines Environmental Quality or any other state employee performing any function or duty under this act shall be directly or indirectly interested in any mining operation, or any contract for purchase of any property or construction or any work for any mining operation. Any person who knowingly violates the provision of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction shall be punished by incarceration for a period not to exceed one (1) year or a fine not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00), or both.

SECTION 44. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 768, is amended to read as follows:

Section 768. A. Any person who is or may be adversely affected by a surface mining operation may notify the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director of the Division of Mines within the Department of Environmental Quality or any representative of the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director responsible for conducting the inspection, in writing, of any violation of this act which he has reason to believe exists at the surface mining site. If the person who is or may be adversely affected by surface mining operations
states in such writing that he desires the source of the complaint or writing kept confidential, the Department shall maintain such information in confidence. The Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall, by regulation, establish procedures for informal review of any refusal by a representative of the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director to issue a citation with respect to any such alleged violation. The Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall furnish such persons requesting the review a written statement of the reasons for the Chief Mine Inspector’s Division Director’s final disposition of the case.

B. The Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall also, by regulation, establish procedures to ensure that adequate and complete inspections are made. Any such person may notify the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director of any failure to make such inspections, after which the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall determine whether adequate and complete inspections have been made. The Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall furnish such persons a written statement of the reasons for the Chief Mine Inspector’s Division Director’s determination that adequate and complete inspections have or have not been conducted.

SECTION 45. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 769, is amended to read as follows:

Section 769. A. In the enforcement of a state program pursuant to this act any operator who violates any permit condition or who
violates any other provision of this act may be assessed a civil penalty by the Department of Environmental Quality except that if such violation leads to the issuance of a cessation order under this act, the civil penalty shall be assessed. Such penalty shall not exceed Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00) for each violation. Each day of continuing violation may be deemed a separate violation for purposes of penalty assessments. In determining the amount of the penalty, consideration shall be given to the operator’s history of previous violations at the particular surface coal mining operation; the seriousness of the violation, including any irreparable harm to the environment and any hazard to the health or safety of the public; whether the permittee was negligent; and the demonstrated good faith of the permittee charged in attempting to achieve rapid compliance after notification of the violation.

B. A civil penalty shall be assessed by the Department only after the person charged with a violation described under subsection A of this section has been given an opportunity for a public hearing. Where such a public hearing has been held, the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director of the Division of Mines within the Department shall make findings of fact, and he or she shall issue a written decision as to the occurrence of the violation and the amount of the penalty which is warranted, incorporating, when appropriate, an order therein requiring that the penalty be paid. When appropriate, the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall
consolidate such hearings with other proceedings under this act. Any hearing under this section shall be of record. Where the person charged with such a violation fails to avail himself of the opportunity for a public hearing, a civil penalty shall be assessed by the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director after the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director has determined that a violation did occur, and the amount of the penalty which is warranted, and has issued an order requiring that the penalty be paid.

C. Upon the issuance of a notice or order charging that a violation of this act has occurred, the Department shall inform the operator within thirty (30) days of the proposed amount of said penalty. The person charged with the penalty shall then have thirty (30) days to pay the proposed penalty in full or, if the person wishes to contest either the amount of the penalty or the fact of the violation, forward the proposed amount to the Department for placement in an escrow account. If through administrative or judicial review of the proposed penalty, it is determined that no violation occurred, or that the amount of the penalty should be reduced, the Department shall within thirty (30) days remit the appropriate amount to the person, with interest at the rate of six percent (6%), or at the prevailing United States Department of the Treasury rate, whichever is greater. Failure to forward the money to the Department within thirty (30) days shall result in a waiver
of all legal rights to contest the violation or the amount of the penalty.

D. Civil penalties owed under this act may be recovered in a civil action brought by the Attorney General at the request of the Chief Mine Inspector Department of Environmental Quality in any appropriate district court.

E. Any person who willfully and knowingly violates a condition of a permit issued pursuant to this act or fails or refuses to comply with any order issued under this act, or any order incorporated in a final decision issued by the Chief Mine Inspector Department of Environmental Quality under this act except an order incorporated in a decision issued under subsection B of this section, shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000.00) or by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or both.

F. Whenever a corporate permittee violates a condition of a permit issued pursuant to this act or fails or refuses to comply with any order issued under this act, or any order incorporated in a final decision issued by the Chief Mine Inspector Department of Environmental Quality under this act except an order incorporated in a decision issued under subsection B of this section, any director, officer or agent of such corporation who willfully and knowingly authorized, ordered or carried out such violation, failure or refusal shall be subject to the same civil penalties, fines and
imprisonment that may be imposed upon a person under subsections A
and E of this section.

G. Whoever knowingly makes any false statement, representation
or certification, or knowingly fails to make any statement,
representation or certification in any application, record, report,
plan or other document filed or required to be maintained pursuant
to this act or any order of decision issued by the Department
under this act, shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not
more than Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000.00) or by imprisonment for
not more than one (1) year, or both.

H. Any operator who fails to correct a violation for which a
citation has been issued within the period permitted for its
correction shall be assessed a civil penalty of not less than Seven
Hundred Fifty Dollars ($750.00) for each day during which such
failure or violation continues.

The period permitted for corrections of violations shall not end
until:

1. The entry of a final order by the Department after an
expedited hearing, as provided by Section 53 786 of this act title,
which ordered the suspension of the abatement requirements of the
citation because it was determined that the operator will suffer
irreparable loss or damage from the application of the abatement
requirements; or
2. The entry of an order by a court in any review proceedings initiated by the operator in which the court orders the suspension of the abatement requirements.

I. Any person who shall, except as permitted by law, willfully resist, prevent, impede or interfere with the Chief Mine Inspector Department of Environmental Quality or any of the agents or employees of the Department in the performance of duties pursuant to this act shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00), or by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or both.

SECTION 46. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 775, is amended to read as follows:

Section 775. Whenever the Department of Environmental Quality has reason to believe that any person is in violation of any requirement of this act or any permit condition required by this act, the Department shall immediately order inspection of the surface coal mining operation at which the alleged violation is occurring unless the information available to the Department is a result of a previous inspection of such surface coal mining operation. When the inspection results from information provided to the Department by any person, the Department shall notify such person when the inspection is proposed to be carried out and such person shall be allowed to accompany the inspector during the inspection.
SECTION 47. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 780, is amended to read as follows:

Section 780. A. The Attorney General, upon request of the Department, shall institute proceedings to recover any damages and expense which the Department may have sustained by reason of the default of the operator. Such proceedings shall be brought against the operator and surety either in Oklahoma County or the county in which the violation occurred.

The Department may request the Attorney General to institute a civil action for relief, including a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining order or any other appropriate order in the district court for the district in which the surface coal mining and reclamation operation is located or in which the permittee thereof has his principal office, whenever such permittee or his or her agent:

1. Violates or fails or refuses to comply with any order or decision issued by the Department under this act;

2. Interferes with, hinders or delays the Department in carrying out the provisions of this act;

3. Refuses to admit authorized representatives of the Department to the mine;

4. Refuses to permit inspection of the mine by authorized representatives of the Department;
5. Refuses to furnish any information or report requested by the Department in furtherance of the provisions of this act; or

6. Refuses to permit access to, and copying of, such records as the Department determines necessary in carrying out the provisions of this act.

B. The court shall have jurisdiction to provide such relief as may be appropriate. Any relief granted by the court to enforce an order under paragraph 1 of subsection A this section shall continue in effect until the completion or final termination of all proceedings for review of such order under this title, unless the district court granting such relief sets it aside or modifies it.

SECTION 48. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 786, is amended to read as follows:

Section 786. A. A permittee issued a notice or order by the Department pursuant to the provisions of this act or any person having an interest which is or may be adversely affected by such notice or order or by any modification, vacation or termination of such notice or order, may apply to the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director of the Division of Mines within the Department of Environmental Quality for review of the notice or order within thirty (30) days of receipt thereof or within thirty (30) days of its modification, vacation or termination. Upon receipt of such application, the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall cause such investigation to be made as it deems appropriate. Such
investigation shall provide an opportunity for a public hearing, at the request of the applicant or the person having an interest which is or may be adversely affected, to enable the applicant or such person to present information relating to the issuance and continuance of such notice or order or the modification, vacation or termination thereof. The filing of an application for review under this subsection shall not operate as a stay of any order or notice.

The permittee and other interested persons shall be given written notice of the time and place of the hearing at least five (5) days prior thereto. Any such hearing shall be of record.

B. Upon receiving the report of such investigation, the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall make findings of fact, and shall issue a written decision, incorporating therein an order vacating, affirming, modifying or terminating the notice or order, or the modification, vacation or termination of such notice or order complained of and incorporate his findings therein. Where the application for review concerns an order for cessation of surface coal mining and reclamation operations issued pursuant to the provisions of this title, the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall issue the written decision within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the application for review, unless temporary relief has been granted by the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director pursuant to this section or by the court.
C. Pending completion of the investigation and hearing required by this section, the applicant may file with the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director a written request that the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director grant temporary relief from any notice or order issued together with a detailed statement giving reasons for granting such relief. The Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall issue an order or decision granting or denying such relief expeditiously. Where the applicant requests relief from an order for cessation of coal mining and reclamation operations, the order or decision on such a request shall be issued within five (5) days of its receipt. The Chief Mine Inspector Division Director may grant such relief, under such conditions as it may prescribe, if:

1. A hearing has been held in the locality of the permit area on the request for temporary relief in which all parties were given an opportunity to be heard;

2. The applicant shows that there is substantial likelihood that the findings of the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director will be favorable to him; and

3. Such relief will not adversely affect the health or safety of the public or cause significant, imminent environmental harm to land, air or water resources.

D. Following the issuance of an order to show cause as to why a permit should not be suspended or revoked, the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall hold a public hearing after giving written
notice of the time, place and date. Any such hearing shall be of record. Within sixty (60) days following the public hearing, the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall issue and furnish to the permittee and all other parties to the hearing a written decision, and the reasons therefor, concerning suspension or revocation of the permit. If the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director revokes the permit, the permittee shall immediately cease surface coal mining operations on the permit area and shall complete reclamation within a period specified by the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director, or the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director shall declare as forfeited the performance bonds for the operation.

E. Whenever an order is issued under this section, or as a result of any administrative proceeding under this act, at the request of any person, a sum equal to the aggregate amount of all costs and expenses, including attorney fees, as determined by the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director to have been reasonably incurred by such person for or in connection with his participation in such proceedings, including any judicial review of agency actions, may be assessed against any party or the Department as the court, resulting from judicial review or the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director, resulting from administrative proceedings, deems proper.

SECTION 49. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 787, is amended to read as follows:
Section 787. Any order or other action of the Department of Environmental Quality or the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director of the Division of Mines within the Department shall be appealable when entered, as provided in Section 318 et seq. of Title 75 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

SECTION 50. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 852, is amended to read as follows:

Section 852. The Governor shall be, ex officio, this state’s member of the Interstate Mining Compact as established by Article V of the Compact. Provided, that whenever the Governor shall deem it advisable to do so, he may appoint an alternate to serve in his stead and thereafter such alternate shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. An executed counterpart of each letter of appointment by the Governor shall be filed with the Secretary of the Commission Department of Environmental Quality.

SECTION 51. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 901, is amended to read as follows:

Section 901. As used in this act:

1. “Active workings” means any place in a mine where miners are normally required to work or travel;


3. “ANFO” means ammonium nitrate fuel oil mixtures;
4. “Approved” means tested and accepted for a specific purpose by a nationally recognized safety agency;

5. “Barricaded” means obstructed to restrict the passage of persons, vehicles or flying materials;

6. “Berm” means a pile or mound of material capable of restraining a vehicle; also a shelf, ledge or material placed to contain loose slope material;

7. “Blasting agent” means a cap insensitive chemical composition or mixture consisting of fuel and oxidizer and no explosive ingredient but which can be made to detonate when initiated with a high strength explosive primer;

8. “Blasting area” means the area near blasting operations in which concussion or flying material can reasonably be expected to cause injury;

9. “Blasting cap” means a detonator containing a charge of detonating compound which is ignited by electric current or the spark of a fuse and is used for detonating explosives;

10. “Blasting circuit” means electric current used to fire electric detonators or to ignite an igniter cord by means of an electric starter;

11. “Box-type magazine” means a small, portable magazine used to store limited quantities of explosives or detonators for short periods of time in locations at the mine which are convenient to the blasting sites at which they will be used;
1. "Capped fuse" means a length of safety fuse to which a detonator has been attached;

2. "Capped primer" means a package or cartridge of explosives which is specifically designed to transmit detonation to other explosives and which contains a detonator;

3. "Certified person" means an individual who has satisfactorily passed the required State Department of Environmental Quality Mining Board examination, thereby earning a certificate of competency which will allow him to work in a particular position for which certification is necessary;

4. "Combustible" means capable of being ignited and consumed by fire;

5. "Commercial mine" means any mine from which the product is mined for sale, exchange or commercial use. Except as the context requires otherwise, this act applies only to commercial mines;

6. "Company official" means a member of the company supervisory or technical staff;

7. "Department" means the State of Oklahoma Department of Mines Environmental Quality;

8. "Detonator" means a device containing a small detonating charge that is used for detonating an explosive including, but not limited to, blasting caps, exploders, electric detonators and delay electric blasting caps;
20. “Distribution box” means a portable apparatus with an enclosure through which an electric circuit is carried to one (1) or more cables from a single incoming feedline, each cable circuit being connected through individual overcurrent protective devices;

21. “Electric blasting cap” means a blasting cap designed for and capable of being initiated by means of an electric current;

22. “Electric grounding” means to connect with the ground to make the earth part of the circuit;

23. “Employee” means a person who works for wages or salary in the service of an employer;

24. “Employer” means a person or organization employing one (1) or more persons to work for wages or salary;

25. “Explosive” means any chemical compound, mixture or device, the primary or common purpose of which is to function by explosion. Explosives include, but are not limited to, black powder, dynamite, nitroglycerin, fulminate and ammonium nitrate;

26. “Face” or “wall” means that part of any mine where excavating is progressing or was last done;

27. “Flammable” means capable of being easily ignited and of burning rapidly as defined by the National Fire Protection Association;

28. “Highway” means any public road or travelway used by the general public;
29. “Igniter cord” means a fuse, cordlike in appearance, which burns progressively along its length with an external flame at the zone of burning and is used for lighting a series of safety fuses in the desired sequence;

30. “Inhabited building” means a building regularly occupied in whole or in part as a habitation for human beings, or any church, schoolhouse, railroad station, store, factory or other structure where people are accustomed to assemble, except any building or structure occupied in connection with the manufacture, transportation, storage or use of explosives;

31. “Inspector” means a mine inspector in the employ of the State of Oklahoma;

32. “Magazine” means a storage place for explosives or detonators;

33. “Major electrical installation” means an assemblage of stationary electrical equipment for the generation, transmission, distribution or conversion of electric power;

34. “Misfire” means the complete or partial failure of a blasting charge to explode as planned;

35. “Overburden” means material of any nature, consolidated or unconsolidated, that overlies a deposit of useful materials or ores that are to be mined;
36. “Owner” means the owner, lessee, manager, superintendent, operator or agent, receiver or trustee operating any clay, coal or copper mine;

37. “Primer” or “booster” means a package or cartridge of explosives designed specifically to transmit detonation to other explosives but which does not contain a detonator;

38. “Reverse-current protection” means a method or device used on direct-current circuits of equipment to prevent the flow of current in the reverse direction;

39. “Roll protection” means a framework or safety canopy to protect the vehicle operator if equipment should overturn;

40. “Safety can” means an approved container of not over five (5) gallons capacity having a spring-closing lid and a spout cover;

41. “Safety fuse” means a train of powder enclosed in cotton, jute yarn and waterproofing compounds which burns at a uniform rate. It is used for firing a cap containing the detonating compound which in turn sets off the explosive charge;

42. “Safety switch” means a sectionalizing switch that also provides shunt protection in blasting circuits between the blasting switch and the shot area;

43. “Scaling” means removal of insecure material from a face or highwall;

44. “Secondary safety connection” means a second connection between a conveyance and rope, intended to prevent the conveyance
from running away or falling in the event the primary connection fails;

45. “Semiconductive hose” means hose having an electrical resistance of not less than five thousand (5,000) ohms per foot and not more than two (2) megohms for its total length, used in pneumatic placement of blasting agents in boreholes;

46. “Sprung hole” means a blasting hole chambered or enlarged to take an increased charge of explosives;

47. “Stemming” means the inert material, and the placing of such material, on top of any charge of explosives;

48. “Stray current” means that portion of a total electric current that flows through paths other than the intended circuit;

49. “Strip or surface pit” means the excavation in which superincumbent strata are removed exposing the natural deposit so it may be excavated and loaded by hand or by mechanical equipment in open working. Strip or surface pits shall be subject to such mining laws of the State of Oklahoma as apply to them, and such operations shall comply with recommendations for safety of employees made by the Chief Mine Inspector Department;

50. “Substantial construction” means construction of such strength, material and workmanship that the object will withstand all reasonable shock, wear, usage and deterioration to which it will normally be subjected;
51. “Suitable” means that which fits and has the qualities or qualifications to normally meet a given purpose, occasion, condition, function or circumstance;

52. “Travelway” means a passage, walk or way regularly used and designated for persons to go from one place to another while at work;

53. Voltage:
   a. “low voltage” means up to and including 660 volts,
   b. “medium voltage” means from 661 to 1,000 volts, and
   c. “high voltage” means more than 1,000 volts;

54. “Wet drilling” means the continuous application of water to the back or bottom of the drill holes while drilling; and

55. “Working place” means any place in or about a mine where work is being performed.

SECTION 52. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 902, is amended to read as follows:

Section 902. It shall be unlawful for any person in the State of Oklahoma to act as superintendent, mine foreman or shot firer without first having obtained a certificate of competency from the State Mining Board as herein provided for Department of Environmental Quality pursuant to this section.

The examination given by the State Mining Board Department to an applicant for a certificate of competency as superintendent, mine foreman or shot firer shall include a written or oral or written and
oral examination to determine that he fully understands the requirements of the mining laws of Oklahoma.

Each applicant shall hold a first-aid certificate issued to him within two (2) years previous to the date of the examination by an organization recognized by the State Mining Board Department.

Certificates of competency for the positions enumerated shall be granted to persons who have given the Chief Executive Officer of the Board Department satisfactory evidence of their ability to perform the duties of the positions applied for and who have obtained the necessary grades as determined by the Board Department for respective positions. In determining the grade of each applicant, due respect shall be given to the applicant’s previous experience and record of service which shall have equal weight with the oral or written examination given to test the practical and technical knowledge of the applicant for the certificate of competency being sought. Provided, however, successful completion of the course of instruction provided by the Oklahoma Miner Training Institute (OMTI) or other courses of instruction provided by other training facilities and approved by the Board Department shall be considered as having met this examination requirement.

SECTION 53. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 903, is amended to read as follows:

Section 903. Certifications provided for in this act shall be issued under the signature and seal of the State Mining Board by the
Department of Environmental Quality; such certificates shall bear the date of issuance, full name, age and years of experience of recipient and shall designate the position for which the recipient is certified by the Board Department. Provided that all persons making applications to the State Mining Board Department for certificates of competency as mine superintendent, mine foreman or shot-firer shot-firer shall accompany said application with a fee of Two Dollars and fifty cents ($2.50) as a fee for such examination and shall pay an additional fee of Two Dollars and fifty cents ($2.50) when said certificate is issued.

SECTION 54. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 904, is amended to read as follows:

Section 904. The Secretary of the Board Department of Environmental Quality shall maintain a record of the names, addresses and other pertinent information of all persons to whom certificates are issued. Certificates of competency, when issued as provided for herein, shall entitle the holders thereof to accept and discharge the duties for which said certificates declare them qualified.

SECTION 55. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 905, is amended to read as follows:

Section 905. The State Mining Board Department of Environmental Quality shall have power to revoke any certificates, by it granted, because of incompetency, intoxication or other sufficient cause,
provided that any person against whom charges are made shall have ten (10) days written notice from the Board Department and shall have opportunity to be heard by it in his or her own behalf.

SECTION 56. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 906, is amended to read as follows:

Section 906. The Secretary of the Board Department of Environmental Quality may, upon the recommendation of at least two (2) other members of the Board, issue a temporary permit to an applicant for a certificate for mine foreman or shot firer. Said temporary permit shall be valid only until the next meeting of the Board or not to exceed for thirty-one (31) days.

SECTION 57. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 907, is amended to read as follows:

Section 907. It shall be the duty of the Department of Mines Environmental Quality to enter into and examine thoroughly each and every active strip or surface mine in the state four to six times annually and in response to compliance concerns to see that the provisions of this act are observed and strictly carried out. Mines with resident safety engineers supplying the Department with monthly self-monitoring reports shall be inspected a minimum of twice a year. The Chief Mine Inspector or assistant inspectors, or both, Inspectors of the Department may enter, inspect and examine any strip or surface pit and the works and machinery belonging thereto at all times, either by night or by day. The owner and the
employees may each designate a person who shall accompany the inspector during the state inspection of the mine. After each inspection the inspector shall make a report in triplicate of the condition of the mine with recommendations and orders. One copy shall be placed on file in the office of the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director of the Division of Mines within the Department, one copy shall remain with the inspector, and one copy shall be given to the operator who shall post it in a conspicuous place available for public inspection where it can be read and where it shall remain until the next state inspection report is issued. Within thirty (30) days after receiving the report of the inspector in which any important recommendations are made, the owner shall send a report to the Chief Mine Inspector Division Director stating what steps have been taken to comply with the recommendations.

SECTION 58. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 911, is amended to read as follows:

Section 911. A. Rules and procedures for storage of explosives shall be as follows:

1. Detonators and other cap-sensitive high explosives shall be stored in magazines provided for that purpose. Blasting agents may be stored in van-type trailers, provided they are well-ventilated, kept clean and free of extraneous material that could create a fire hazard;
2. Separate magazines shall be provided for the storage of detonators and for explosives;

3. Detonators shall not be stored in the same magazine with explosives or blasting agents;

4. Blasting agents, safety fuse or detonating cord may be stored with explosives, but blasting agents must be kept physically separated from the fuse, detonating cord and explosives;

5. Magazines shall be:
   a. located in accordance with the current American Table of Distances for Storage of Explosives,
   b. detached structures located away from power lines, fuel storage area and other possible sources of fire,
   c. constructed substantially of noncombustible material or covered with fire-resistant material,
   d. reasonably bullet-resistant,
   e. electrically bonded and grounded if constructed of metal,
   f. made of nonsparking materials on the inside, including floors,
   g. provided with adequate and effectively screened ventilation openings near the floor and ceiling,
   h. kept securely locked when unattended,
i. posted with suitable danger signs so located that a bullet passing through the face of a sign will not strike the magazine,

j. used exclusively for storage of blasting agents, explosives, or detonators and kept free of all extraneous materials,

k. kept clean and dry in the interior, and in good repair, and

l. unheated, unless heated in a manner that does not create a fire or explosion hazard. Electrical heating devices shall not be used inside a magazine;

6. Only permissible lights, worn or carried, shall be used inside magazines;

7. Areas surrounding magazines not less than twenty-five (25) feet in all directions shall be kept free of rubbish and other combustibles;

8. Smoking and open flames shall not be permitted within twenty-five (25) feet of explosives and detonator storage magazines;

9. Cases of explosives shall be stored in such a manner as to assure the use of the oldest stock first;

10. Ammonium nitrate fuel oil mixtures shall be physically separated from dynamite stored in the same magazine and in such a manner that oil does not contaminate the dynamite; and
11. Cases of explosives shall not be stored on case ends or sides nor in stacks over six (6) feet high.

B. Rules and procedures as follows shall be complied with in the transportation of explosives:

1. Explosives and detonators shall be transported in separate vehicles unless separated by four (4) inches of hardwood or the equivalent;

2. Self-propelled vehicles used to transport explosives or detonators shall be equipped with suitable fire extinguishers and marked with proper warning signs;

3. When vehicles containing explosives or detonators are parked, the brakes shall be set, the motive power shut off when not in use, and if parked on an incline, the vehicle shall be blocked securely against rolling;

4. Vehicles containing explosives or detonators shall not be left unattended except in blasting areas where loading or charging is in progress;

5. Vehicles containing explosives or detonators shall not be taken to a repair garage or shop for any purpose;

6. Vehicles used to transport explosives or detonators shall be maintained in good condition and shall be operated at a safe speed and in accordance with recognized safe operating practices;

7. Vehicles used to transport explosives other than Ammonium Nitrate Fuel Oil (ANFO) mixtures shall have substantially
constructed bodies, no sparking metal exposed in the cargo space, and the explosives shall not be piled higher than the side or end enclosures;

8. Explosives shall be transported at times and over routes that endanger a minimum number of persons;

9. Other materials or supplies shall not be placed on or in the cargo space of a conveyance containing explosives or detonators;

10. No person shall smoke while transporting or handling explosives or detonators;

11. Only the necessary attendants shall ride on or in vehicles containing explosives or detonators;

12. Explosives shall be transported promptly without undue delays in transit;

13. Nonconductive containers with tight-fitting covers shall be used to transport or carry capped fuses and electric detonators to blasting sites; and

14. Substantial nonconductive closed containers shall be used to carry explosives to blasting sites.

C. Rules and procedures as follows shall be complied with in the use of explosives, with the exception of persons with a valid coal permit issued by the Department of Mines Environmental Quality:

1. Persons who use explosives, blasting agents or detonators shall be certified by the Oklahoma Mining Commission Department. Such persons shall understand the hazards involved, and trainees
shall do such work only under the supervision of and in the immediate presence of certified persons;

2. Blasting operations shall be under the direct control of certified persons designated by the operator for that purpose;

3. Damaged or deteriorated explosives, blasting agents and detonators shall be disposed of in a safe manner;

4. Holes to be blasted shall be charged as near to blasting time as practical, and such holes shall be blasted as soon as practical after charging has been completed;

5. No person shall smoke within fifty (50) feet of explosives, blasting agents or detonators;

6. Explosives and blasting agents shall be kept separated from detonators until charging of holes is started;

7. Primers shall be made up at the time of charging and as close to the blasting site as conditions allow;

8. Only wooden or other nonsparking devices shall be used to punch holes in explosives cartridges;

9. Tamping poles shall be blunt and squared at one end and made of wood or other nonsparking material;

10. No tamping shall be done directly on primer cartridges;

11. Unused explosives and detonators shall be moved to a safe location as soon as charging operations are completed;

12. Approaches to areas in which charged holes are awaiting firing shall be guarded, or barricaded and posted, or flagged,
against unauthorized entry. If blasting is done after dark, red flashing lights shall be used at the approaches to the blasting area;

13. When a blast is about to be fired, ample warning shall be given to allow all persons to retreat to a safe place. Each mine shall have a definite plan of warning signals that can be clearly seen or heard by anyone in the blasting area. The operator shall inform all employees at the local mine as to the established procedure;

14. Enclosed blasting shelters constructed of strong materials shall be provided to protect all persons endangered by flying rock from blasting;

15. When safety fuse has been used, persons shall not return to misfired holes for at least thirty (30) minutes;

16. When electric blasting caps have been used, persons shall not return to misfired holes for at least fifteen (15) minutes. Leading wires from the power source must be disconnected before persons can be allowed to return to the blasting sites;

17. Blasted materials shall be examined for undetonated explosives after each blast and undetonated explosives found shall be disposed of safely;

18. Misfires shall be reported to the proper supervisor and shall be disposed of safely before any other work is performed in the blasting area;
19. Blast holes in hot-hole areas and holes that have been sprung shall not be charged before tests have been made to ensure that the heat has been dissipated to a safe level;

20. If explosives are suspected of burning in a hole, all persons in the endangered area shall move to a safe location until the danger has passed;

21. Holes shall not be drilled where there is danger of intersecting a charge or misfired hole;

22. Fuses and igniters shall be stored in a cool, dry place away from oils or grease;

23. Fuses shall not be kinked, bent sharply or handled roughly;

24. Fuses shall be cut and capped in safe, dry locations posted with "No Smoking" signs;

25. Blasting caps shall be crimped to fuses only with devices designed for that specific purpose;

26. Fuses of less than forty-eight (48) inches in length shall not be used for any purpose;

27. At least two persons shall be present when lighting fuses, and no person shall light more than fifteen individual fuses. If more than fifteen holes per person are to be fired, igniter cord and connectors or electric blasting shall be used;

28. A safe interval of time shall be allowed to light a round and evacuate the blasting area;
29. Fuses shall be ignited with hot-wire lighters, lead spitters, igniter cord or other such devices designed for this purpose;

30. Fuses shall not be ignited before the primer and the entire charge are securely in place;

31. Electric detonators of different brands shall not be used in the same round;

32. Electric detonators shall remain shunted until they are being wired into the blasting circuit. Lead lines and wired rounds shall be kept shunted until immediately before blasting;

33. Completely wired rounds shall be tested with a blasting galvanometer before connections are made to the blasting line;

34. Lead wires and blasting lines shall not be strung across power conductors, pipelines or within twenty (20) feet of bare power lines. They shall be protected from sources of static or other electrical contact;

35. Permanent blasting lines shall be properly supported, insulated and kept in good repair;

36. Charging shall be stopped immediately when the presence of static electricity or stray current is detected; the condition shall be corrected before charging is resumed;

37. Charging of holes shall be suspended and the persons withdrawn to a safe location upon the approach of an electrical storm;
38. Safety switches and blasting switches shall be labeled, encased in boxes and arranged so that the covers of the boxes cannot be closed with the switches in closed position;

39. Blasting switches shall be locked in the open position except when closed to fire the blast. Lead wires shall not be connected to the blasting switch until the shot is ready to be fired;

40. The key to a blasting switch shall be entrusted only to the person designated to fire blasts;

41. Electric circuits from the blasting switches to the blast area shall not be grounded;

42. At least a five-foot air gap shall be provided between the blasting circuit and the power circuit;

43. Where electric blasting is to be performed, electric circuits to equipment within twenty-five (25) feet of a hole that is to be charged with an electric blasting cap shall be de-energized before electric detonators are brought into the immediate area, or the electric equipment shall be moved out of the immediate area;

44. Power sources shall be suitable for the number of electric detonators to be fired and for the type of circuits used;

45. When instantaneous blasting is performed, the double-trunkline or loop system shall be used in detonating-cord blasting;

46. When instantaneous blasting is performed, trunklines in multiple-row blasting shall make one or more complete loops with
crossties between loops at intervals of not over two hundred (200) feet;

47. All detonating-cord knots shall be tight and all connections shall be kept at right angles to the trunklines;

48. Delay connectors for firing detonating-cord shall be treated and handled with the same safety precautions as blasting caps and electric detonators; and

49. Detonating-cord shall not be kinked, bent or otherwise handled in such a manner that the train of detonation may be interrupted.

D. Rules and procedures as follows shall be complied with in dealing with sensitized ammonium nitrate blasting agents:

1. When sensitized ammonium nitrate mixtures and blasting agents are used, the same precautions shall be taken as for high explosives;

2. Adequate priming shall be employed to guard against misfires, increased toxic fumes and poor performance;

3. Where pneumatic loading is employed, before any type of blasting operation using blasting agents is put into effect, an evaluation of the potential hazard of static electricity shall be made. Adequate steps, including the grounding of the conductive parts of pneumatic loading equipment, shall be taken to eliminate the hazard of static electricity before blasting agent preparation is commenced;
4. Pneumatic loading equipment shall not be grounded to water lines, air lines, rails or other permanent electrical grounding systems;

5. Hoses used in connection with pneumatic loading machines shall be of the semiconductive type having a total resistance low enough to permit the dissipation of static electricity and high enough to limit the flow of stray electric currents to a safe level. Wire-countered hose shall not be used because of the potential hazard from stray electric currents; and

6. Plastic tubes shall not be used to protect pneumatically loaded blasting agent charges against water unless a positive grounding system is provided to drain electrostatic charges from the holes.

SECTION 59. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 918, is amended to read as follows:

Section 918. The following rules and procedures shall be complied with in dealing with augering:

1. Planning: before augering is done, advance planning shall be made to ensure that no hazards shall be created affecting active underground workings. Auger mine workings and holes drilled shall be located so as to prevent:

   a. interference with the ventilation system of any underground mine, and
(2)

b. inundation hazards from the surface to active underground workings;

2. Inspection:
   a. at least fifty (50) feet on each side of highwalls being drilled shall be inspected for loose material before drilling or other work in the area is begun, and an inspection shall be made at least once during each operating shift,
   b. when abandoned mines or abandoned parts of active mines are penetrated by drilling, machinery shall be stopped and tests shall be made at the collar of the hole for explosive gas or oxygen or oxygen deficiency by a certified person qualified to use approved instruments to make such tests. If tests show the presence of gas or the lack of oxygen, the equipment shall not be operated until the condition has been corrected;

3. Auger holes; persons not to enter:
   a. no person shall enter an auger hole for any purpose without having first received permission from a representative of the Oklahoma Department of Mines Environmental Quality,
b. auger machines and other related equipment on which persons are required to work during drilling operations shall be protected against falling material from highwalls by heavy gauge screen or equivalent material subject to the approval of the mine inspector. The protective screen shall permit workmen to keep the highwall in view at all times,
c. no work shall be done on the highwall in the vicinity of drilling equipment while it is in operation;

4. Auger equipment; operation:
a. persons shall stay clear of the auger train while it is in motion, and they shall not pass over or under the auger train except where crossing facilities are provided;

b. persons must be in the clear while auger sections are being swung into position,
c. auger operators shall not leave the controls of the equipment while the auger is operating, and
d. when auger operations are performed after dark, adequate illumination shall be provided;

5. Auger Holes; blocking: auger holes shall be securely blocked by spoil or other suitable material before they are abandoned.
SECTION 60. AMENDATORY  45 O.S. 2021, Section 931, is amended to read as follows:

Section 931.  A.  All operators of coal mining operations shall pay to the Department of Mines Environmental Quality a fee of seven and one-half cents ($0.075) per ton of coal produced.

B.  All operators of noncoal mining operations shall pay to the Department of Mines a fee of one and one-fourth cents ($0.0125) per ton of mineral produced.  For the purposes of this section, “mineral” shall be defined as provided in paragraph 4 of Section 723 of this title.

C.  The fees imposed by this section shall be paid no later than thirty (30) days after the end of each calendar quarter beginning the first calendar quarter after June 30, 1982.

D.  The Department shall develop and promulgate a report form, which shall be as similar as possible to the form required of operators by federal law, and which shall state the amount of coal or mineral produced during the calendar quarter, the method of coal or mineral removal, and the type of coal or mineral.  The operator shall swear to the accuracy of the report before a notary public, who shall duly notarize the report.

E.  All fees collected by the Department of Mines pursuant to this section shall be deposited with the State Treasurer, who shall credit one cent ($0.01) per ton of fees collected on coal produced on or after July 1, 1988, and one-tenth of one cent ($0.001) per ton...
of fees collected on minerals produced on or after July 1, 1988, to
the Oklahoma Miner Training Institute Revolving Fund, with the
balance of the fees collected to be deposited in the Department of
Mines Environmental Quality Revolving Fund.

SECTION 61. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 938.1, is
amended to read as follows:

Section 938.1. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a
revolving fund for the Oklahoma Miner Training Institute to be
designated the “Oklahoma Miner Training Institute Revolving Fund”. The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year
limitations, and shall consist of all monies designated by Section
931 of this title to be deposited in the fund. All monies accruing
to the credit of said fund are hereby appropriated and may be
budgeted and expended by the Oklahoma Mining Commission Department of Environmental Quality for the contract with the Board of Regents of Eastern Oklahoma State College for operation of the Oklahoma
Miner Training Institute and associated expenses. Expenditures from
said fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer
against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the
Office of Management and Enterprise Services for approval and
payment.

SECTION 62. AMENDATORY 45 O.S. 2021, Section 950, is
amended to read as follows:
Section 950. A. For purposes of this section, a “subject mine” shall mean a mine, as defined in paragraph 2 of Section 723 of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes, proposed for a location overlying a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin, exclusive of any mine that meets at least one of the following conditions:

1. As of November 1, 2019, is engaged in the permitted extraction of minerals from natural deposits; or

2. Satisfies the criteria of paragraph 1 or 2 of subsection C of Section 1020.2 of Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes; or

3. Is not to be permitted to operate for a period of more than five (5) years, with no extensions or renewals; or

4. The operation of which will not result in more than five (5) acre-feet per year of groundwater emanating from a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin to infiltrate its pit, as that term is defined in paragraph 12 of Section 723 of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title.

B. Due to the inadequacy of existing technical resources, analytic tools and regulatory systems for purposes of the effective implementation of statutes relating to the operation of mines that overlies a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin, the Legislature hereby declares and establishes a moratorium on the Department of Mines Environmental Quality issuing, in relation to any location overlying a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin or in which groundwater emanating from any sensitive sole
source groundwater basin or subbasin may collect within a pit, as defined in paragraph 12 of Section 723 of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title:

1. Any permit, pursuant to Section 724 of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes, to any subject mine;

2. Any amendment or revision to any existing mining permit, that covers additional land which shall include extensions of boundaries shown in the initial permit, pursuant to subsection J of Section 724 of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes, if such amendment or revision would increase the acreage under such permit for that mine location by more than one hundred percent (100%) or four hundred (400) acres, whichever is less, as compared to the acreage under permit for that mine location prior to the effective date of this act November 1, 2019; provided, however, on or after November 1, 2030, there shall be no limitation on an increase in acreage as specified in this paragraph.

C. Notwithstanding the moratorium, nothing in paragraph 2 of subsection B of this section shall preclude the Department of Mines from issuing an amendment or revision to cover additional land, other changes to method or conduct of mining, reclamation operations contemplated by the original permit or other authorization to allow a change in mine ownership or to implement bonding under a permit issued prior to the effective date of this act November 1, 2019, nor shall any permit amendment or revision issued pursuant to this
section be deemed to render the permitted mine a subject mine for purposes of Title 27A, 45 or 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

D. Notwithstanding the moratorium or any other provision of law, the Department of Mines shall not require a permit for purposes of road or railroad construction in relation to mining activities by any mine.

E. The moratorium shall remain in effect until such time as:

1. The conditions of subsection C of Section 3 of this act 1020.9c of Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes have been satisfied; and

2. The Department of Mines promulgates final rules to provide for effective interagency consultation and coordination of activities among the Department, and the Oklahoma Water Resources Board and the Department of Environmental Quality on all administrative matters relating to the operation of mines at locations that overlie a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin.

F. The Department of Mines is hereby authorized and instructed to promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section.

G. The Department of Mines is hereby authorized to cooperate with federal, tribal and any other agencies in this state in performing its responsibilities under this section.

SECTION 63. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 156, is amended to read as follows:
Section 156. A. Unless otherwise provided for by law, no state board, commission, department, institution, official, or employee, except the following, shall purchase any passenger automobile or bus with public funds:

1. The Department of Public Safety;
2. The Department of Human Services;
3. The State Department of Rehabilitation Services;
4. The Department of Wildlife Conservation;
5. The Department of Corrections;
6. The State Department of Education;
7. The Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics;
8. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control;
9. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation;
10. The Transportation Commission;
11. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry;
12. The State Department of Health;
13. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services;
14. The J.D. McCarty Center for Children with Developmental Disabilities;
15. The Military Department of the State of Oklahoma;
16. The Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department;
17. The Oklahoma Conservation Commission;
18. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board; 
19. The Department of Mines Environmental Quality; 
20. The Office of Juvenile Affairs; 
21. The Oklahoma Department of Veteran Affairs; 
22. The Oklahoma Supreme Court; 
23. The District Attorneys Council and Oklahoma district attorneys, provided adequate funding exists; 
24. The Oklahoma Boll Weevil Eradication Organization; and 
25. The Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission.

B. 1. The Oklahoma School for the Deaf at Sulphur, the Oklahoma School for the Blind at Muskogee, and any state institution of higher education may purchase, own, or keep if now owned, or acquire by lease or gift, and use and maintain such station wagons, automobiles, trucks, or buses as are reasonably necessary for the implementation of the educational programs of said institutions.

2. No bus operated, owned, or used by such educational institutions shall be permitted to carry any person other than students, faculty members, employees, or volunteers of such institutions. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to prohibit:

   a. the operation of intracampus buses or buses routed directly between portions of the campus of any institution not adjacent to each other, nor to prohibit the collection of fares from such students,
faculty members, or employees of such institutions, sufficient in amount to cover the reasonable cost of such transportation, or

b. the Oklahoma School for the Blind or the Oklahoma School for the Deaf from entering into agreements with local public school districts pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act for the mutual use of the schools’ and the districts’ vehicles. Such use may include, but is not limited to, the transportation of students from local school districts with students from the Oklahoma School for the Blind or the Oklahoma School for the Deaf in vehicles owned by the Oklahoma School for the Blind or the Oklahoma School for the Deaf when traveling to school-related activities.

C. The J.D. McCarty Center for Children with Developmental Disabilities, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Oklahoma Veterans Centers may own and maintain such passenger vehicles as those institutions have acquired prior to May 1, 1981.

D. The use of station wagons, automobiles, and buses, other than as provided for in this section, shall be permitted only upon written request for such use by heads of departments of the institution, approved in writing by the president of said institution or by some administrative official of said institution
authorized by the president to grant said approval. Such use shall be permitted only for official institutional business or activities connected therewith. Such use shall be subject to the provisions of Section 156.1 of this title forbidding personal use of such vehicles, and to the penalties therein declared.

E. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by fine or imprisonment, or both, as provided for in Section 156.1 of this title.

F. For the purpose of this section and Section 156.3 of this title, a station wagon is classified as a passenger automobile and may not be purchased solely for the use of transporting property. Such vehicles shall include, but not be limited to, all vehicles which have no separate luggage compartment or trunk but which do not have open beds, whether the same are called station wagons, vans, suburbans, town and country, blazers, or any other names. All state boards, commissions, departments, and institutions may own and maintain station wagons purchased solely for the purpose of transporting property if acquired prior to July 1, 1985.

G. The provisions of this section and Section 156.1 of this title shall not apply to public officials who are statewide elected commissioners.

SECTION 64. AMENDATORY 51 O.S. 2021, Section 24A.27, is amended to read as follows:
Section 24A.27. A. Any state environmental agency or public utility shall keep confidential vulnerability assessments of critical assets in both water and wastewater systems. State environmental agencies or public utilities may use the information for internal purposes or allow the information to be used for survey purposes only. The state environmental agencies or public utilities shall allow any public body to have access to the information for purposes specifically related to the public bodies function.

B. For purposes of this section:

1. “State environmental agencies” includes the:
   a. Oklahoma Water Resources Board,
   b. Oklahoma Corporation Commission,
   c. State [Oklahoma] Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry,
   d. Oklahoma Conservation Commission,
   e. Department of Wildlife Conservation, and
   f. Department of Mines, and
   g. Department of Environmental Quality;

2. “Public Utility” means any individual, firm, association, partnership, corporation or any combination thereof, municipal corporations or their lessees, trustees and receivers, owning or operating for compensation in this state equipment or facilities for:
a. producing, generating, transmitting, distributing, selling or furnishing electricity,
b. the conveyance, transmission, reception or communications over a telephone system,
c. transmitting directly or indirectly or distributing combustible hydrocarbon natural or synthetic natural gas for sale to the public, or
d. the transportation, delivery or furnishing of water for domestic purposes or for power.

SECTION 65. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 3022, is amended to read as follows:

Section 3022. As used in the Elevator Safety Act:
1. “Agency” means the Oklahoma Department of Labor;
2. “Certificate of operation” means a document issued by the Commissioner and affixed to an elevator that indicates that the elevator has been inspected and tested and found to be in compliance with all applicable standards of operation as determined by the Department of Labor;
3. “Certificate of operation - temporary” means a document issued by the Commissioner that permits temporary use of a noncompliant elevator by the general public for not more than thirty (30) days while minor repairs are being completed;
4. “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Labor or his/her authorized representative;
5. “Chief elevator inspector” means the chief elevator inspector appointed under the Elevator Safety Act;

6. “Deputy inspector” means an inspector appointed by the chief elevator inspector subject to the approval of the Commissioner under the provisions of the Elevator Safety Act;

7. a. “Elevator” means any device for lifting or moving people, cargo, or freight within, or adjacent and connected to, a structure or excavation, and includes any escalator, power-driven stairway, moving walkway or stairway chair lift.

b. The term “elevator” does not mean any:

   (1) amusement ride or device subject to inspection and regulation under the provisions of Section 460 et seq. of Title 40 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

   (2) mining equipment subject to inspection and regulation by the Department of Mines Environmental Quality,

   (3) aircraft, railroad car, boat, barge, ship, truck, or other self-propelled vehicle or component thereof,

   (4) boiler grate stoker or other similar firing mechanism subject to inspection under the provisions of the Oklahoma Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Act,
(5) dumbwaiter, conveyor, chain or bucket hoist, construction hoist or similar devices used for the primary purpose of elevating or lowering materials, or

(6) elevator, conveyance, manlift or similar device in grain elevators, grain warehouses, seed processing facilities, feed mills and/or flour mills which is used by employees, but is not accessible to or used by customers or members of the general public.

This list is not exhaustive;

8. “Elevator apprentice” means an unlicensed person registered with the Department of Labor who works under the direct supervision of a licensed elevator mechanic, licensed elevator contractor, or licensed elevator inspector;

9. “Licensed elevator contractor” means a person or business entity that possesses a valid elevator contractor’s license issued by the Department of Labor pursuant to the provisions of the Elevator Safety Act and is thus entitled to engage in the business of erecting, constructing, installing, altering, servicing, repairing, or maintaining elevators;

10. “Licensed elevator inspector” means a person who possesses a valid elevator inspector’s license issued by the Department of
Labor pursuant to the provisions of the Elevator Safety Act and is thus entitled to engage in the business of inspecting elevators;

11. “Licensed elevator mechanic” means a person who possesses a valid elevator mechanic’s license issued by the Department of Labor in accordance with the provisions of the Elevator Safety Act and is thus, when employed by a licensed elevator contractor, entitled to install, construct, alter, service, repair, perform electrical work on, test, and maintain elevators; and

12. “Private residence” means a separate dwelling or a separate apartment in a multiple dwelling that is occupied by members of a single-family unit.

SECTION 66. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 122.2, is amended to read as follows:

Section 122.2. The provisions of this section specify the jurisdictional areas of state agencies relating to the regulation of blasting and explosives. Agencies regulating explosives and blasting are directed to cooperate and coordinate with each other as necessary to carrying out the duties required to regulate explosives. Agencies regulating explosives may enter into interagency agreements with other state agencies and law enforcement agencies of any political subdivision of this state for the purpose of conducting investigations related to the regulation of explosives or criminal activity. The jurisdictional areas of responsibility specified in this section shall be in addition to those otherwise
provided by law and assigned to the specific state agency as follows:

1. Department of Mines. The Department of Mines shall have the following jurisdictional areas relating to the regulation of blasting and explosives:

   a. the use of explosives and blasting activities for surface and nonsurface mining operations pursuant to Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

   b. except as otherwise provided by this part, the use of explosives and blasting activities for nonmining activities, and

   c. except as otherwise provided by this part, the regulation of the use of explosives or of blasting activity not subject to the specific statutory authority of another state agency;

2. State Fire Marshal. The State Fire Marshal shall have regulatory jurisdictional responsibility relating to explosives as follows:

   a. the regulation of the manufacture, sale, transportation for hire or storage of explosives or blasting agents for resale pursuant to Division 2 of the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act,
b. the examination of buildings and premises and reporting and orders authorized pursuant to Section 317 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and
c. licensure, regulation and enforcement of fire extinguishers, pursuant to the Fire Extinguisher Licensing Act;

3-2. The Department of Public Safety. The Department of Public Safety shall have the regulatory jurisdictional responsibility relating to explosives as follows:

a. the transportation of explosives or blasting agents classified as hazardous materials pursuant to the Oklahoma Motor Carrier Safety and Hazardous Materials Transportation Act,

b. the construction or making of any explosive or explosive device not subject to specific regulatory authority of another state agency,

c. the intentional storage of any materials which are intended to be used to construct or make any explosive or explosive device not subject to specific regulatory authority of another state agency, and

d. the intentional use of any explosive or explosive device in any manner not subject to specific regulatory authority of another state agency.
Provided, nothing in this provision shall be construed to expand jurisdiction of the Department of Public Safety to investigate any crime occurring within the jurisdiction of another law enforcement authority of any political subdivision of this state, and nothing shall prohibit, limit, or restrict any law enforcement officer, agency, or specialized law enforcement unit from investigating or otherwise performing any duty or responsibility for crimes within their respective jurisdiction relating to explosives, blasting agents, or hazardous materials; and

4. Department of Environmental Quality. The Department of Environmental Quality shall have jurisdictional responsibility relating to the regulation and disposal of explosives or blasting agents classified as solid or hazardous waste pursuant to the Oklahoma Environmental Quality Code. The Department shall also have the following jurisdictional areas relating to the regulation of blasting and explosives:

a. the use of explosives and blasting activities for surface and nonsurface mining operations pursuant to Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes,

b. except as otherwise provided by Section 122.1 et seq. of this title, the use of explosives and blasting activities for nonmining activities, and

c. except as otherwise provided by Section 122.1 et seq. of this title, the regulation of the use of explosives
or of blasting activity not subject to the specific statutory authority of another state agency.

SECTION 67. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 123.1, is amended to read as follows:

Section 123.1. A. Pursuant to the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act, except as otherwise provided by this part Section 122.1 et seq. of this title, the Department of Mines Environmental Quality shall be responsible for the administration, regulation and enforcement of all blasting operations or activities, and the storage and use of all blasting agents and explosives by any person, which is not located within the area of a mining operation or site.

B. Except as otherwise provided by this part Section 122.1 et seq. of this title, it shall be unlawful for any person to store or use any blasting agents or explosives, or conduct, supervise or control a blasting operation in this state without first complying with the provisions of the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act and rules promulgated by the Oklahoma Mining Commission Department.

C. Except as otherwise required by this part Section 122.1 et seq. of this title, by January 1, 1996:

1. Any person performing blasting activity shall be certified as a blaster by the Department of Mines;
2. All blasting operations shall be conducted under the direction of a certified blaster. Blaster certification may be obtained from the Department upon application and proof of competency as determined by rules of the Department; and

3. Before January 1, 1996, all blasting operations and activities shall be conducted by competent, experienced persons who understand the hazards involved.

D. Any blaster certification issued by the Department shall be carried by the blaster or shall be on file at the blasting area during blasting operations.

E. A blaster and at least one other person shall be present at the firing of a blast.

SECTION 68. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 123.2, is amended to read as follows:

Section 123.2. A. Except as otherwise provided by this part Section 122.1 et seq. of this title, it is a violation to manufacture, store, or use explosives or blasting agents without first obtaining a permit from the Department of Mines Environmental Quality.

B. Permits issued under this division Section 122.1 et seq. of this title shall not be transferable, and shall be readily available for inspection by representatives of the Department and law enforcement officials.
C. The Department may place such restrictions and limitations on permits as it deems necessary.

D. The Department may issue one-time or limited-time permits or permits for continuous blasting operations.

E. 1. Permits for continuous blasting operations issued under this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title shall be valid for the calendar year after the date of issue unless revoked or suspended. Permits for continuous blasting operations may be renewed on each issuance date and a showing of compliance with the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act and rules promulgated thereto.

    2. Permits for one-time or limited-time permits shall be valid only for the time specified in the permit.

F. Any person holding a permit issued under this division Section 123.1 et seq of this title shall keep such records as may be required by the Department. Records shall be maintained for not less than two (2) years following the year in which the record is made. All such records shall be open to inspection by the Department or its representatives during normal business hours.

SECTION 69. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 123.2A, is amended to read as follows:

Section 123.2A. A. No person shall purchase blasting agents or explosives in this state without first obtaining a permit pursuant to the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act or without
first obtaining written notification from the Department of Mines Environmental Quality that the person is exempt from this permit requirement.

B. Distributors or sellers of blasting agents or explosives shall require presentation of either the permit or exemption notification required in subsection A of this section before the sale or transfer of blasting agents or explosives.

C. The Oklahoma Mining Commission Environmental Quality Board shall promulgate rules to implement this section.

SECTION 70. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 123.3, is amended to read as follows:

Section 123.3. The Department of Environmental Quality shall enforce the provisions of this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title and for such purposes shall:

1. Issue permits to applicants found by the Department, after inspection and investigation, to be qualified for such permit under the provisions of this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title and the rules promulgated by the Department;

2. Deny, suspend, or revoke permits upon a finding of noncompliance or violation of the provisions of this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title or of the applicable rules of the Department;
3. Hold hearings upon the application of any person aggrieved by any order of the Department with respect to the denial, suspension, or revocation of any permit; and

4. Inspect, during normal business hours, any building, structure, or premises subject to the provisions of this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title, and, upon the discovery of any violation of this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title or the applicable rules, issue such orders as are necessary for the safety of workers and the public, and, in the case of imminent hazard or emergency, apply for an injunction in the appropriate district court.

SECTION 71. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 123.4, is amended to read as follows:

Section 123.4. A. The Department of Mines Environmental Quality shall promulgate the necessary rules to implement the provisions of this Division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title. Rules promulgated by the Department shall include but not be limited to requirements for blasting plans, use of explosives, public notices, and records.

B. The Department of Mines may establish a schedule of fees to be charged for applications for or issuance of new and renewed certifications and permits required pursuant to this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title. The fees shall be subject to the following provisions:
1. The Department shall follow the procedures required by the Administrative Procedures Act for promulgating rules in establishing or amending any such schedule of fees;

2. The Department shall base its schedule of fees upon the reasonable costs of operating the programs specified by this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title; and

3. The fees authorized by this section shall not be implemented by emergency rule but shall be adopted by permanent rules, which shall be submitted to the Legislature for review pursuant to Section 308 of Title 75 of the Oklahoma Statutes prior to implementation.

SECTION 72. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 123.5, is amended to read as follows:

Section 123.5. A. In the enforcement of the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act pursuant to this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title, any person who violates any permit condition or who violates any other provision of the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act or rules promulgated thereto pursuant to this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title may be assessed an administrative penalty by the Department of Environmental Quality. Such penalty shall not exceed Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00) for each violation. Each day of continuing violation may be deemed a separate violation for purposes of penalty assessments. In determining the amount of the penalty, consideration shall be given to the person’s history of previous...
violations regarding explosives and blasting operation; the
seriousness of the violation, including any irreparable harm to the
environment and any hazard to the health or safety of the public;
whether the person was negligent; and the demonstrated good faith of
the person charged in attempting to achieve rapid compliance after
notification of the violation.

B. An administrative penalty shall be assessed by the
Department only after the person charged with a violation described
under subsection A of this section has been given an opportunity for
a hearing pursuant to Article II of the Administrative Procedures
Act. Where such a hearing has been held, the Department shall make
findings of fact, and shall issue a written decision as to the
occurrence of the violation and the amount of the penalty which is
warranted, incorporating, when appropriate, an order therein
requiring that the penalty be paid. When appropriate, the
Department shall consolidate such hearings with other proceedings
under the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act. Any
hearing under this section shall be of record. Where the person
charged with such a violation fails to avail himself of the
opportunity for a hearing, an administrative penalty shall be
assessed by the Department after determining that a violation did
occur, and the amount of the penalty which is warranted, and issuing
an order requiring that the penalty be paid.
C. Upon the issuance of a notice or order charging that a violation of the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act has occurred, the Department shall inform the operator within thirty (30) days of the proposed amount of said penalty. The person charged with the penalty shall then have thirty (30) days to pay the proposed penalty in full or, if the person wishes to contest either the amount of the penalty or the fact of the violation, forward the proposed amount to the Department for placement in an escrow account. If through administrative or judicial review of the proposed penalty, it is determined that no violation occurred, or that the amount of the penalty should be reduced, the Department shall within thirty (30) days remit the appropriate amount to the person.

D. Administrative penalties owed under the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act may be recovered in a civil action brought by the Attorney General or any district attorney in the district in which the violation occurred at the request of the Department in the appropriate district court. Such action, also, may be brought by the Department.

E. Any person who willfully and knowingly violates a condition of a permit issued pursuant to this division or fails or refuses to comply with any order issued under this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title, or any order incorporated in a final decision issued by the Department under this division Section 123.1 et seq.
of this title, shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000.00) or by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or both.

F. Whenever a corporate permittee violates a condition of a permit issued pursuant to this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title or fails or refuses to comply with any order issued under this division, or any order incorporated in a final decision issued by the Executive Director of the Department of Mines under this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title, any director, officer or agent of such corporation who willfully and knowingly authorized, ordered or carried out such violation, failure or refusal shall be subject to the same administrative penalties, fines and imprisonment that may be imposed upon a person under subsections A and E of this section.

G. Whoever knowingly makes any false statement, representation or certification, or knowingly fails to make any statement, representation or certification in any application, record, report, plan or other document filed or required to be maintained pursuant to this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title or any order of decision issued by the Department under this division Section 123.1 et seq. of this title, shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000.00) or by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or both.
H. Any person who fails to correct a violation for which a citation has been issued within the period permitted for its correction shall be assessed an administrative penalty of not less than Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars ($750.00) for each day during which such failure or violation continues.

The period permitted for corrections of violations shall not end until:

1. The entry of a final order by the Department after an expedited hearing which ordered the suspension of the abatement requirements of the citation because it was determined that the person will suffer irreparable loss or damage from the application of the abatement requirements; or

2. The entry of an order by a court in any review proceedings initiated by the person in which the court orders the suspension of the abatement requirements.

I. Any person who shall, except as permitted by law, willfully resist, prevent, impede or interfere with the Department or any of the agents or employees thereof in the performance of duties pursuant to this division shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00), or by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or both.

SECTION 73. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 123.7, is amended to read as follows:
Section 123.7. Any fees, administrative penalties or any other monies obtained by the Department of Mines Environmental Quality pursuant to the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act shall be deposited in the Department of Mines Environmental Quality Revolving Fund and shall be expended by the Department of Mines for implementation and enforcement of this part Section 122.1 et seq. of this title or as otherwise deemed necessary by the Department for complying with its responsibilities and duties according to law.

SECTION 74. AMENDATORY  63 O.S. 2021, Section 123.8, is amended to read as follows:

Section 123.8. A. 1. The provisions of the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act shall not apply to:

a. persons engaged in shooting wells or seismographic operations for the purpose of oil or gas production,

b. mining operations regulated by Title 45 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, and

c. persons using explosives or blasting agents for noncommercial use on their own land, owned in fee or by contract, for the removal of trees, rocks and dams or for other normal agricultural purposes.

2. Any person exempted from the provisions of the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act pursuant to this subsection shall be liable for all damages caused by the use of explosives, or
blasting agents and blasting operations, which damages shall be recoverable in any court of competent jurisdiction.

B. In addition, the provisions of the Oklahoma Explosives and Blasting Regulation Act shall not apply to:

1. Any municipalities or counties in this state using any blasting agents, explosives or conducting, supervising or controlling a blasting operation in this state. Any such municipality or county shall comply with rules promulgated by the Oklahoma Mining Commission Environmental Quality Board;

2. The Department of Transportation in the conducting, supervision or controlling of any blasting operation in this state, provided the Department shall comply with rules promulgated by the Oklahoma Mining Commission Board; and

3. Duly qualified and certified bomb technicians of a federally accredited bomb squad of municipal, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies for the transportation, storage or disposal of any explosive chemical, compound or device, when such technician is performing responsibilities for the preservation of public peace, safety, or criminal investigation; and

4. Any employee of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry and the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services who is trained and certified by the United States Department of Agriculture
in the safe handling and use of explosive materials in the course of
the official duties of the employee.

SECTION 75. AMENDATORY 68 O.S. 2021, Section 2357.11, is
amended to read as follows:

Section 2357.11. A. For purposes of this section, the term
"person" means any legal business entity including limited and
general partnerships, corporations, sole proprietorships, and
limited liability companies, but does not include individuals.

B. 1. Except as otherwise provided by this section, for tax
years beginning on or after January 1, 1993, and ending on or before
December 31, 2021, there shall be allowed a credit against the tax
imposed by Section 1803 or Section 2355 of this title or Section 624
or 628 of Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes for every person in this
state furnishing water, heat, light or power to the state or its
citizens, or for every person in this state burning coal to generate
heat, light or power for use in manufacturing operations located in
this state.

2. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1993, and
ending on or before December 31, 2005, and for the period of January
1, 2006, through June 30, 2006, the credit shall be in the amount of
Two Dollars ($2.00) per ton for each ton of Oklahoma-mined coal
purchased by such person.

3. For the period of July 1, 2006, through December 31, 2006,
and, except as provided in subsection N of this section, for tax
years beginning on or after January 1, 2007, and ending on or before December 31, 2021, the credit shall be in the amount of Two Dollars and eighty-five cents ($2.85) per ton for each ton of Oklahoma-mined coal purchased by such person.

4. In addition to the credit allowed pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 3 of this subsection, for the period of July 1, 2006, through December 31, 2006, and except as provided in subsections M and N of this section, for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2007, and ending on or before December 31, 2021, there shall be allowed a credit in the amount of Two Dollars and fifteen cents ($2.15) per ton for each ton of Oklahoma-mined coal purchased by such person. The credit allowed pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph may not be claimed or transferred prior to January 1, 2008.

C. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1995, and ending on or before December 31, 2005, and for the period beginning January 1, 2006, through June 30, 2006, there shall be allowed, in addition to the credits allowed pursuant to subsection B of this section, a credit against the tax imposed by Section 1803 or Section 2355 of this title or Section 624 or 628 of Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes for every person in this state which:

1. Furnishes water, heat, light or power to the state or its citizens, or burns coal to generate heat, light or power for use in manufacturing operations located in this state; and
2. Purchases at least seven hundred fifty thousand (750,000) tons of Oklahoma-mined coal in the tax year.

The additional credit allowed pursuant to this subsection shall be in the amount of Three Dollars ($3.00) per ton for each ton of Oklahoma-mined coal purchased by such person.

D. Except as otherwise provided by this section, for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2001, and ending on or before December 31, 2021, there shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed by Section 1803 or Section 2355 of this title or Section 624 or 628 of Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes for every person in this state primarily engaged in mining, producing or extracting coal, and holding a valid permit issued by the Oklahoma Department of Mines Environmental Quality. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2001, and ending on or before December 31, 2005, and for the period beginning January 1, 2006, through June 30, 2006, the credit shall be in the amount of ninety-five cents ($0.95) per ton and for the period of July 1, 2006, through December 31, 2006, and for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2007, except as provided in subsection N of this section, the credit shall be in the amount of Five Dollars ($5.00) for each ton of coal mined, produced or extracted in on, under or through a permit in this state by such person.

E. In addition to the credit allowed pursuant to the provisions of subsection D of this section and except as otherwise provided in ...
subsection F of this section, for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2001, and ending on or before December 31, 2005, and for the period of January 1, 2006, through June 30, 2006, there shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed by Section 1803 or Section 2355 of this title or Section 624 or 628 of Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes for every person in this state primarily engaged in mining, producing or extracting coal, and holding a valid permit issued by the Oklahoma Department of Mines in the amount of ninety-five cents ($0.95) per ton for each ton of coal mined, produced or extracted from thin seams in this state by such person; provided, the credit shall not apply to such coal sold to any consumer who purchases at least seven hundred fifty thousand (750,000) tons of Oklahoma-mined coal per year.

F. In addition to the credit allowed pursuant to the provisions of subsection D of this section and except as otherwise provided in subsection G of this section, for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2005, and ending on or before December 31, 2005, and for the period of January 1, 2006, through June 30, 2006, there shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed by Section 1803 or Section 2355 of this title or that portion of the tax imposed by Section 624 or 628 of Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes, which is actually paid to and placed into the General Revenue Fund, in the amount of ninety-five cents ($0.95) per ton for each ton of coal mined,
produced or extracted from thin seams in this state by such person
on or after July 1, 2005.

G. The credits provided in subsections D and E of this section
shall not be allowed for coal mined, produced or extracted in any
month in which the average price of coal is Sixty-eight Dollars
($68.00) or more per ton, excluding freight charges, as determined
by the Tax Commission.

H. The additional credits allowed pursuant to subsections B, C,
D and E of this section but not used shall be freely transferable
after January 1, 2002, but not later than December 31, 2013, by
written agreement to subsequent transferees at any time during the
five (5) years following the year of qualification; provided, the
additional credits allowed pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 4
of subsection B of this section but not used shall be freely
transferable after January 1, 2008, but not later than December 31,
2013, by written agreement to subsequent transferees at any time
during the five (5) years following the year of qualification. An
eligible transferee shall be any taxpayer subject to the tax imposed
by Section 1803 or Section 2355 of this title or Section 624 or 628
of Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The person originally allowed
the credit and the subsequent transferee shall jointly file a copy
of the written credit transfer agreement with the Tax Commission
within thirty (30) days of the transfer. The written agreement
shall contain the name, address and taxpayer identification number
of the parties to the transfer, the amount of credit being transferred, the year the credit was originally allowed to the transferring person and the tax year or years for which the credit may be claimed. The Tax Commission may promulgate rules to permit verification of the validity and timeliness of a tax credit claimed upon a tax return pursuant to this subsection but shall not promulgate any rules which unduly restrict or hinder the transfers of such tax credit.

I. The additional credit allowed pursuant to subsection F of this section but not used shall be freely transferable on or after July 1, 2006, but not later than December 31, 2013, by written agreement to subsequent transferees at any time during the five (5) years following the year of qualification. An eligible transferee shall be any taxpayer subject to the tax imposed by Section 1803 or Section 2355 of this title or Section 624 or 628 of Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The person originally allowed the credit and the subsequent transferee shall jointly file a copy of the written credit transfer agreement with the Tax Commission within thirty (30) days of the transfer. The written agreement shall contain the name, address and taxpayer identification number of the parties to the transfer, the amount of credit being transferred, the year the credit was originally allowed to the transferring person and the tax year or years for which the credit may be claimed. The Tax Commission may promulgate rules to permit verification of the
validity and timeliness of a tax credit claimed upon a tax return pursuant to this subsection but shall not promulgate any rules which unduly restrict or hinder the transfers of such tax credit.

J. Any person receiving tax credits pursuant to the provisions of this section shall apply the credits against taxes payable or, subject to the limitation that credits earned after December 31, 2013, shall not be transferred, shall transfer the credits as provided in this section or, for credits earned on or after January 1, 2014, shall receive a refund pursuant to the provisions of subsection L of this section. Credits shall not be used to lower the price of any Oklahoma-mined coal sold that is produced by a subsidiary of the person receiving a tax credit under this section to other buyers of the Oklahoma-mined coal.

K. Except as provided by paragraph 2 of subsection L of this section, the credits allowed by subsections B, C, D, E and F of this section, upon election of the taxpayer, shall be treated and may be claimed as a payment of tax, a prepayment of tax or a payment of estimated tax for purposes of Section 1803 or 2355 of this title or Section 624 or 628 of Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

L. 1. With respect to credits allowed pursuant to the provisions of subsections B, C, D, E and F of this section earned prior to January 1, 2014, but not used in any tax year may be carried over in order to each of the five (5) years following the year of qualification.
2. With respect to credits allowed pursuant to the provisions of subsections B, C, D, E and F of this section which are earned but not used, based upon activity occurring on or after January 1, 2014, the Oklahoma Tax Commission shall, at the taxpayer’s election, refund directly to the taxpayer eighty-five percent (85%) of the face amount of such credits. The direct refund of the credits pursuant to this paragraph shall be available to all taxpayers, including, without limitation, pass-through entities and taxpayers subject to Section 2355 of this title. The amount of any direct refund of credits actually received at the eighty-five percent (85%) level by the taxpayer pursuant to this paragraph shall not be subject to the tax imposed by Section 2355 of this title. If the pass-through entity does not file a claim for a direct refund, the pass-through entity shall allocate the credit to one or more of the shareholders, partners or members of the pass-through entity; provided, the total of all credits refunded or allocated shall not exceed the amount of the credit or refund to which the pass-through entity is entitled. For the purposes of this paragraph, “pass-through entity” means a corporation that for the applicable tax year is treated as an S corporation under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, general partnership, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, trust or limited liability company that for the applicable tax year is not taxed as a corporation for federal income tax purposes.
M. No credit otherwise authorized by the provisions of this section may be claimed for any event, transaction, investment, expenditure or other act occurring on or after July 1, 2010, for which the credit would otherwise be allowable. The provisions of this subsection shall cease to be operative on July 1, 2012.

Beginning July 1, 2012, the credit authorized by this section may be claimed for any event, transaction, investment, expenditure or other act occurring on or after July 1, 2012, according to the provisions of this section.

N. Except as otherwise provided by this section, any credits calculated pursuant to paragraphs 3 or 4 of subsection B or subsection D of this section for activities occurring on or after January 1, 2016, the amount of credit allowed shall be equal to seventy-five percent (75%) of the amount otherwise provided.

O. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2018, the total amount of credits authorized by this section used to offset tax or paid as a refund shall be adjusted annually to limit the annual amount of credits to Five Million Dollars ($5,000,000.00). The Tax Commission shall annually calculate and publish a percentage by which the credits authorized by this section shall be reduced so the total amount of credits used to offset tax or paid as a refund does not exceed Five Million Dollars ($5,000,000.00) per year. The formula to be used for the percentage adjustment shall be Five...
Million Dollars ($5,000,000.00) divided by the credits claimed in the second preceding year.

P. Pursuant to subsection O of this section, in the event the total tax credits authorized by this section exceed Five Million Dollars ($5,000,000.00) in any calendar year, the Tax Commission shall permit any excess over Five Million Dollars ($5,000,000.00) but shall factor such excess into the percentage adjustment formula for subsequent years.

Q. Any credits authorized by this section not used or unable to be used because of the provisions of subsection O or P of this section may be carried over until such credits are fully used.

SECTION 76. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2021, Section 500.18, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 325, O.S.L. 2022 (74 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 500.18), is amended to read as follows:

Section 500.18. A. Except for members of the Legislature, the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor, provisions of Sections 500.1 through 500.18 of this title shall be mandatory for all officials and employees of all departments, boards, commissions and institutions of the state, regardless of the provisions of any other act of the Legislature, except as provided by this section. The enactment of any measure in the future providing for travel reimbursement of state officers and employees on the basis of “actual and necessary” expenses or in any other manner inconsistent with Sections 500.1 through 500.18 of this title shall be deemed to
provide for reimbursement in accordance with Sections 500.1 through 500.18 of this title unless a contrary intent is explicitly expressed in this section. Sections 500.1 through 500.18 of this title shall not apply, however, to travel reimbursements made by political subdivisions of this state, except as otherwise provided by law.

B. The agencies listed below are authorized certain exceptions and/or exemptions to the provisions of Sections 500.1 through 500.18 of this title to the extent specified:

1. Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry:
   a. The actual and reasonable expenses of travel and subsistence in pursuing and developing markets for Oklahoma agricultural products incurred by the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and such employees designated by the State Board of Agriculture within the marketing development programs of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry shall be reimbursed to the employee incurring such expenses. Reimbursement of such expenses shall be in accordance with rules adopted by the Board. Expenses claimed shall, prior to reimbursement, be reviewed by the Board at a regular meeting and individually approved or disapproved.
b. The actual and necessary expenses of out-of-state travel and subsistence incurred by employees of the Forestry Division authorized to evaluate and acquire federal excess property or surplus property in other states for use in its fire protection program shall be reimbursed to the employee incurring such expenses.

2. Department of Public Safety:

When traveling with the Governor or at the Governor’s request, personnel assigned by the Commissioner for executive security and pilots on executive assignment shall be allowed their actual and necessary traveling expenses, upon claims approved by the Commissioner.

3. Department of Corrections:

The Department of Corrections shall be exempt from limitations of reimbursement for rented automobiles, as set forth in Section 500.5 of this title, when the rental is by a Correctional Officer or Transportation Officer for the limited purpose of transporting inmates. Reimbursement for the expense shall be on the basis of actual cost.

4. Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department:

The Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Commission and Department staff who promote in-state and out-of-state business for Oklahoma’s state-operated or state-owned parks, lodges, and golf courses and the tourism and recreation industry may be reimbursed for the actual
and necessary expense of travel, subsistence and entertainment for this purpose. The Director of the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department may reimburse the Publisher of Oklahoma Today magazine and its staff for expenses for meals and other entertainment in order to gain advertising and promotion for Oklahoma Today magazine.

5. Oklahoma Department of Commerce:
   a. The actual and necessary expenses incurred by the Director and other employees of the Department authorized by the Director for the purpose of business recruitment shall be reimbursed. Reimbursement of expenses shall be in accordance with rules adopted by the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. Expenses claimed shall, prior to reimbursement, be reviewed by the Director and individually approved or disapproved.
   b. The Department, at the discretion of the Director, may charter aircraft for the purposes of carrying out its duties and responsibilities related to business recruitment and performing the duties of the Director. The cost of such charter shall be exempt from the provisions of Section 500.6 of this title. Claims filed with the Office of Management and Enterprise Services shall bear the following certification:
The best interests of the citizens of Oklahoma were better served in that conventional ground transportation was not practical or feasible for this trip, aircraft from the Department of Public Safety were not available for this trip, and no other claim has been or will be filed as a payment for the cost of transportation in connection with this trip.

c. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce may reimburse the Oklahoma Film and Music Office staff for the actual and necessary expenses for meals and other entertainment in order to promote the film and music industries in this state. Reimbursement of all actual and necessary expenses shall be in accordance with rules adopted by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce.

6. Office of Management and Enterprise Services:

The actual and necessary expenses of travel and subsistence incurred by the Director, any state employee approved by his or her appointing authority, or state officials, for travel outside the state in performance of duties related to bond financing shall be reimbursed to the employee or state official incurring such expenses. Reimbursement for lodging expenses shall be supported by three telephone bids from hotels within a reasonable distance of the activity for which the travel was approved.

7. Oklahoma Futures:
The actual and necessary expenses incurred by the members of Oklahoma Futures in the performance of their duties shall be reimbursed to the members incurring such expenses. Reimbursement of all actual and necessary expenses shall be in accordance with rules adopted by Oklahoma Futures.

8. Oklahoma Development Finance Authority:

The actual and necessary expenses incurred by the members and employees of the Oklahoma Development Finance Authority in the performance of their duties shall be reimbursed to the person incurring such expenses. Reimbursement of all actual and necessary expenses shall be in accordance with the bylaws of the Authority.

9. Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology:

The actual and necessary expenses incurred by the members and employees of the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology in the performance of their duties shall be reimbursed to the person incurring such expenses. Reimbursement of all actual and necessary expenses shall be in accordance with the bylaws of the Center.

10. Center for International Trade Development:

The actual and necessary expenses of travel, lodging and subsistence incurred by the Director and authorized employees of the Center for International Trade Development for performance of their duties for the purpose of business recruitment and assistance shall
be reimbursed to the person incurring such expenses. Reimbursement of such expenses shall be in accordance with the rules adopted by the Director of the Center for International Trade Development. Expenses claimed shall be reviewed and individually approved or disapproved, prior to reimbursement, first by the Director, and finally by either the Vice President, Business and Finance of Oklahoma State University or the President of Oklahoma State University.

11. Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation:

The actual and necessary expenses incurred by the Director and other employees of the Bureau authorized by the Director as a result of conducting investigations shall be reimbursed to each such employee incurring the expenses. Reimbursement of the expenses shall be in accordance with rules adopted by the Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. Prior to reimbursement, expenses claimed shall be reviewed by the Director and individually approved or disapproved.

12. Department of Human Services:

The actual and necessary expenses of travel, lodging and subsistence incurred by employees of the Legal Division in the performance of their duties for the purpose of representing the Department of Human Services or any of its officials, employees, institutions or hospitals at any proceeding including depositions, held before any court, administrative body or representative
thereof, shall be reimbursed to the employee incurring such expenses. Expenses claimed shall be approved by the General Counsel and the Director of Human Services prior to reimbursement.

13. Oklahoma Health Care Authority:

The actual and necessary expenses of travel, lodging and subsistence incurred by employees of the Legal Division in the performance of their duties for the purpose of representing the Authority or any of its officials or employees, at any proceeding including depositions, held before any court, administrative body or representative thereof, shall be reimbursed to the employee incurring such expenses. Expenses claimed shall be approved by the Administrator prior to reimbursement.

14. Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control:

The actual and necessary expenses incurred by the Director and other employees of the Bureau authorized by the Director as a result of conducting investigations shall be reimbursed to each employee incurring the expenses. Reimbursement of the expenses shall be in accordance with rules adopted by the Director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control. Prior to reimbursement, expenses claimed shall be reviewed by the Director and individually approved or disapproved.

15. University Hospitals:
The actual and necessary expenses of travel, lodging and subsistence incurred by employees of the Legal Office in the performance of their duties for the purpose of representing the University Hospitals or any of its officials, employees, institutions or hospitals at any proceeding including depositions, held before any court, administrative body or representative thereof, shall be reimbursed to the employee incurring such expenses. Expenses shall be approved by the Chief Executive Officer of the University Hospitals or by the University Hospitals Authority.

16. Oklahoma Historical Society:

   The actual and necessary expenses of travel, subsistence and entertainment incurred by the Executive Director, Deputy Director and any employees designated by the Executive Committee of the Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Directors in pursuing and developing programs and projects for the preservation and marketing of Oklahoma history shall be reimbursed to the person incurring the expenses. Reimbursement of expenses shall be in accordance with rules adopted by the Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Directors. Prior to reimbursement, expenses claimed shall be reviewed by the Executive Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting and each claim shall be individually approved or disapproved.

17. The Oklahoma Department of Mines:
The actual and necessary expenses of travel, lodging and subsistence incurred by employees of the Department in the performance of their duties for the purpose of representing the Department or any of its officials or employees, at any proceeding, hearing or meeting with federal agencies, boards, commissions, congressional representatives, congressional committees or staff, shall be reimbursed to the employee incurring such expenses. Expenses claimed shall be approved by the Executive Director prior to reimbursement.

18. The Office of Attorney General:

The actual and necessary expenses of travel, lodging and subsistence incurred by its employees in the performance of their duties for the purpose of representing the state, the Legislature, any state board, agency or commission, or any employee or official of the state entitled to representation, at any proceeding including depositions, held before any court, administrative body or any representative thereof, and the actual and necessary expenses incurred by employees as a result of conducting investigations shall be reimbursed to the employee incurring the expenses. The expenses shall be approved by the Attorney General prior to reimbursement.

19. District Attorneys Council:

The actual and necessary expenses of travel, lodging and subsistence incurred by each district attorney and other employees of the district attorney authorized by the district attorney in the...
performance of their duties for any district other than the district for which they are employed for the purpose of representing the state, any county, or any employee or official of the state entitled to representation at any proceeding including depositions held before any court, administrative body or any representative of a court or administrative body, and the actual and necessary expenses incurred as a result of conducting investigations shall be reimbursed to each employee incurring the expenses. Reimbursement of the expenses shall be in accordance with rules adopted by the District Attorneys Council. Prior to reimbursement, expenses claimed shall be reviewed by the Council and individually approved or disapproved.

20. 19. The Department of Securities:

The actual and necessary expenses of travel, lodging and subsistence incurred by the Administrator and other employees of the Department of Securities in the performance of their duties for the purpose of representing the Department of Securities, at any proceeding including depositions, held before any court, administrative body or any representative thereof, conducting on-site examinations, or conducting investigations, shall be reimbursed to each employee incurring the expenses. The expenses shall be approved by the Administrator of the Department of Securities prior to reimbursement.

21. 20. Corporation Commission:
The actual and necessary travel expenses incurred by the staff of the Public Utility Division as a result of conducting audits and/or reviews of utility service providers shall be reimbursed to each employee incurring the expense. Reimbursement of the expenses shall be as set forth in procedures established by the appointing authority.

**22. 21.** The Department of Human Services:

Employees of the Department of Human Services may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses of travel, lodging and meals and incidentals incurred in the performance of their duties for the purpose of escorting and transporting children or adults in the care or custody of the Department, subject to approval by the Department:

- a. for out-of-state visitation, care, treatment and placement of a child welfare client,
- b. for out-of-state treatment for or placement of an adult protective services client,
- c. for out-of-state treatment for or placement of a resident of a state resource center,
- d. for out-of-state treatment for or placement of an individual with a developmental disability who is living in the community in community residential services, or
e. for meals and incidental expenses necessary for the
care of children or adults in the care or custody of
the Department.

Expenses claimed shall be approved by the appropriate Division
Director or Deputy prior to reimbursement.

22. The Banking Department:

The actual and necessary expenses of travel and lodging incurred
by the Commissioner and other employees of the Banking Department in
the performance of their duties for the Banking Department shall be
paid or reimbursed by the Banking Department to each employee
incurring the expenses. The expenses shall be approved by the
Banking Commissioner prior to payment or reimbursement.

23. Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security:

The actual and necessary expenses of travel, lodging, and
subsistence incurred by the Oklahoma Homeland Security Director, as
a result of the duties and responsibilities of the Director, shall
be paid or reimbursed by the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security.

24. The Grand River Dam Authority:

The actual and necessary expenses of travel and lodging incurred
by the Board of Directors and other employees of the district in the
performance of their duties for the Grand River Dam Authority shall
be paid or reimbursed by the district to each Director or employee
incurring the expenses. The expenses shall be approved by the
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Manager of the Grand River Dam Authority prior to payment or
reimbursement.

26. 25. The Native American Cultural and Educational Authority:

The actual and necessary expenses incurred by the Directors and
employees of the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority
in performances of duties. The expenses shall be approved by the
Director prior to payment or reimbursement.

27. 26. Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education:

The actual and necessary expenses incurred by the Director and
other employees of the Department, authorized by the Director, for
the purpose of business recruitment, training, and the provision of
technical assistance shall be reimbursed. Reimbursement of expenses
shall be in accordance with rules adopted by the State Board of
Career and Technology Education. Expenses claimed, prior to the
reimbursement, will be reviewed by the Board and individually
approved or disapproved.

28. 27. Oklahoma Military Department:

The actual and necessary travel expenses incurred by the
Director, other employees of the Department and persons performing
substantial and necessary services to the state in support of the
Oklahoma National Guard shall be reimbursed to the individual
incurring such expenses. The expenses claimed shall be approved by
the Director or Chief Financial Officer prior to reimbursement.
C. The agencies listed in subsection B of this section shall be required to report annually the actual expenses excepted or exempted from Sections 500.1 through 500.18 of this title to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The report shall be submitted no later than the first day of September following the end of each fiscal year.

SECTION 77. AMENDATORY 82 O.S. 2021, Section 1020.2, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1020.2. A. It is hereby declared to be the public policy of this state, in the interest of the agricultural stability, domestic, municipal, industrial and other beneficial uses, general economy, health and welfare of the state and its citizens, to utilize the ground water resources of the state, and for that purpose to provide reasonable regulations for the allocation for reasonable use based on hydrologic surveys of fresh ground water basins or subbasins to determine a restriction on the production, based upon the acres overlying the ground water basin or subbasin.

B. The provisions of Section 1020.1 et seq. of this title shall not apply to the taking, using or disposal of salt water associated with the exploration, production or recovery of oil and gas. The provisions of this act shall not apply to the taking, using or disposal of water trapped in producing mines outside of a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin.
C. Except as provided for in subsection E of this section, the provisions of this act shall not apply to the taking, using or disposal of water trapped in producing mines:

1. That overlie a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin and have been permitted by the Oklahoma Department of Mines as of August 1, 2011;

2. That overlie a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin for which an initial application for a permit shall have been filed with the Oklahoma Department of Mines as of August 1, 2011; or

3. That overlie a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin and for which a permit revision is approved by the Oklahoma Department of Mines Environmental Quality.

Provided that the use of mine pit water, pursuant to a site-specific water management and conservation plan prepared in consultation with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, by mines that are exempted from this act by the terms of this subsection and in furtherance of mine operations and associated manufacturing and commercial activities on the mine site, shall be considered as permitted beneficial uses for all purposes under the laws of the state.

D. 1. Except with respect to the mines exempted from the terms of this act under subsections B and C of this section, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, in coordination with the Oklahoma Department
of Mines Environmental Quality, shall promulgate rules for the
taking, using or disposal of water collecting in producing mine pits
and emanating from a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or
subbasin.

2. The rules promulgated by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board
shall require, subject to a de minimis exemption to be promulgated
therein, the development by the mine operator of provisions relating
to the augmentation (a beneficial use) of stream flow or
groundwater, and of site-specific water management and conservation
plans, which plans shall establish threshold hydrologic monitoring,
management and mitigation requirements that are based on relevant
hydrologic surveys and investigations of the sensitive sole source
groundwater basin or subbasin. Such plans submitted to the Oklahoma
Water Resources Board shall be subject to the provisions of the
Oklahoma Open Records Act.

3. The rules promulgated by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board
shall contain provisions relating to augmentation of stream flow or
groundwater, or both, to offset consumptive use of groundwater
collecting in the producing mine pit that emanates from a sensitive
sole source groundwater basin or subbasin in amounts greater than
the equal proportionate share of the maximum annual yield of the
groundwater basin or subbasin established by the Oklahoma Water
Resources Board that may be allocated to the owner or operator of
the producing mine based on groundwater rights owned or leased by
the owner or operator.

E. 1. By no later than January 1, 2013, the operator of a mine
that is exempted from this act by the provisions of subsection C of
this section shall adopt and implement a plan to monitor and report
to the Board the accumulation and disposition of pit water during
the previous calendar year. The operator shall also file with the
Board interim quarterly reports containing information about the
accumulation and disposition of pit water during the previous
quarter. The first interim quarterly report for calendar year 2013
shall be sent to the Board by June 30, 2013, and the annual report
for the calendar year 2013 shall be sent to the Board by March 31,
2014. Thereafter, the annual report for each calendar year shall be
sent to the Board by March 31st of the following year. The
monitoring plan will provide for the measurement or reasonable
estimation of groundwater and surface water volumes, separately
stated, entering the pit, of the water diverted from the pit, of the
disposition of the water from the pit, and of the consumptive use,
as defined in this section, of the mine pit water by the mine
operator. The reports received by the Board will be subject to the
provisions of the Oklahoma Open Records Act. If an operator of a
mine that is exempted from this act by the provisions of subsection
C of this section fails to timely submit an interim quarterly report
or annual report, the exemption of subsection C of this section
shall no longer apply to the mine and the rules promulgated pursuant to subsection D of this section shall become applicable, provided that such rules shall contain provisions to allow the operator to show cause why the exemption contained in subsection C of this section should continue to apply.

2. If, at any time after March 31, 2015, the amount of groundwater from the pit (plus amounts of groundwater from permitted wells, if any) consumptively used in the preceding twelve (12) months by the mine operator at a mine described in paragraph 1 of this subsection exceeds the annual amount that is equivalent to the equal proportionate share of the maximum annual yield of the groundwater basin or subbasin that could be allocated to the owner or operator of the producing mine based on groundwater rights owned or leased by the owner or operator, then the exemption of subsection C of this section shall no longer apply and the provisions of subsection D of this section shall become applicable to the mine unless the mine operator submits a site-specific water management and conservation plan demonstrating, to the satisfaction of the Board, that such consumptive use of groundwater in amounts greater than the equivalent equal proportionate share either is:

   a. offset by augmentation of stream water flow or augmentation of groundwater by recharge, or
b. not likely to reduce the natural flow of springs or
    streams emanating from a sensitive sole source
    groundwater basin or subbasin, or

c. satisfied by the owner or operator acquiring
    sufficient groundwater rights within ninety (90) days
    of the reported exceedance.

The plan submitted to the Board will be subject to the provisions of
the Oklahoma Open Records Act. If the exemption of subsection C of
this section no longer applies, the rules promulgated by the
Oklahoma Water Resources Board pursuant to subsection D of this
section shall provide a period of at least ninety (90) days to come
into compliance.

3. If an operator of a mine that is exempt pursuant to
   subsection C of this section operates in compliance with a site-
   specific water management and conservation plan that complies with
   rules promulgated by the Board pursuant to subsection D of this
   section, the Board cannot otherwise require the operator of such
   mine to take an action or refrain from taking an action that would
effectively prohibit any mining operation or practice that is
otherwise allowed by the Oklahoma Department of Mines Environmental
Quality.

F. For purposes of this section, “consumptive use” or
“consumptively used” means diversion of water from a mine pit that
is not returned to the groundwater basin or subbasin, or to a mine
pit or holding basin, or to a definite stream, or to the land
surface from which surface runoff flows into a mine pit. The term
“consumptive use” includes the estimated moisture content driven off
or carried away with the mined material transported off the mining
site, plus the amount of evaporation from the mine pit that exceeds
the amount of direct precipitation and surface runoff into the mine
pit, plus any amounts for other proposed beneficial uses off the
mining site.

G. Augmentation of stream flow or groundwater, pursuant to a
site-specific water management and conservation plan prepared in
consultation with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, shall be
considered a beneficial use and not waste, and shall not count
against permitted surface water or groundwater usage, provided that
taking, using or disposal of water from a producing mine for stream
augmentation pursuant to a site-specific water management and
conservation plan prepared in consultation with the Oklahoma Water
Resources Board, may be claimed in annual water use reports as a
beneficial use for purposes of the maintenance of the right to use
surface water under any permit applicable to such mine. The mine
pit shall be considered a diversion point authorized by the surface
water use permit issued to the mine operator whenever there is
consumptive use of surface water or the surface water is used for
stream augmentation.
SECTION 78.  AMENDATORY  82 O.S. 2021, Section 1020.9C, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1020.9C.  A.  For the purposes of this section, a “subject mine” shall mean a mine, as defined in paragraph 2 of Section 723 of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes, that overlies a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin, exclusive of any mine that meets at least one of the following conditions:

1. As of November 1, 2019, was engaged in the permitted extraction of minerals from natural deposits; or

2. Satisfies the criteria of paragraph 1 or 2 of subsection C of Section 1020.2 of Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title; or

3. Is not to be permitted to operate for a period of more than five (5) years, with no extensions or renewals; or

4. The operation of which will not result in more than five (5) acre-feet per year of groundwater emanating from a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin to infiltrate its pit, as that term is defined in paragraph 12 of Section 723 of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

B. Due to the inadequacy of existing technical resources, analytic tools and regulatory systems for purposes of the effective implementation of statutes relating to the operation of mines that may affect sensitive sole source groundwater basins or subbasins,
the Legislature hereby declares and establishes a moratorium on the following actions:

1. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall not issue any permit or other administrative authorization for the appropriation, diversion, withdrawal or removal of water from or for the dewatering, in part or in full, of a pit, as defined in paragraph 12 of Section 723 of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes, of a subject mine; and

2. The Board shall not issue, allocate or recognize, pursuant to subsection D of Section 1020.2 of Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title, Section 785:30-15-5 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code or any other provision of law, any offset to the consumptive use of water of a subject mine where such offset is based on a claimed augmentation of stream flow or groundwater.

C. The moratorium shall be in effect until such time as the Board, working in coordination with the Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Mines, and East Central University and in cooperation with federal and tribal governmental agencies with interests in a subject mine that overlies a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin:

1. Completes the Enhanced Monitoring and Evaluation of Hydrologic Trends for the Eastern Arbuckle-Simpson Aquifer, South-Central Oklahoma and, based thereon, develops modeling and other technical tools capable of accurately measuring and projecting, as a
matter both of incremental and cumulative effect, whether a proposed withdrawal of groundwater from a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin would degrade or interfere with springs and streams emanating therefrom;

2. Promulgates final rules to integrate the use of such studies and tools to administrative implementation of:
   a. waste, degradation and interference analyses required by subparagraphs c and d of paragraph 1 and subparagraphs c and d of paragraph 2 of subsection A of Section 1020.9 of Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title,
   b. uniform minimum standards and requirements for the development of, and annual reporting regarding compliance with, site-specific water management and conservation plans pursuant to Section 1020.2 of Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes this title, with particular regard to methodologies for calculating amounts claimed in consumptive use of water and any claimed augmentation of stream flow or groundwater, and
   c. consultation, review and approval of such site-specific water management and conservation plans, with specific provisions for making such consultations,
reviews and approvals subject to Article 2 of the Administrative Procedures Act; and

3. Promulgates final rules to provide for effective interagency consultation and coordination of activities among the Board, the Department of Mines and the Department of Environmental Quality on all administrative matters relating to the operation of mines at locations that overlie a sensitive sole source groundwater basin or subbasin.

D. The Board is hereby authorized and instructed to promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section.

E. The Board is hereby authorized to cooperate with federal, tribal and any other agency in this state in performing its responsibilities under this section.

SECTION 79. REPEALER 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 1, 1b, 3.1, 31, 32, 41, 46, 47, and 938, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 80. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1.2, as amended by Section 9 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3001.1 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 81. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1.3, as amended by Section 10 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3001.2 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.
SECTION 82. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1.4, as amended by Section 11 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3001.3 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 83. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1.5, as amended by Section 12 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3001.4 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 84. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1a, as amended by Section 13 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3001.5 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 85. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1c, as amended by Section 14 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3001.6 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 86. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1d, as amended by Section 15 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3001.7 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 87. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 1e, as amended by Section 16 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3001.8 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.
SECTION 88.  RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 1f, as amended by Section 17 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3001.9 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 89.  RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 2, as amended by Section 18 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3002 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 90.  RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 3, as amended by Section 19 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3003 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 91.  RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 5, as amended by Section 20 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3005 of Title 45 of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 92.  RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 6, as amended by Section 21 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3006 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 93.  RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 34, as amended by Section 22 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3034 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.
SECTION 94. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 44, as amended by Section 23 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3044 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 95. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 45, as amended by Section 24 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3045 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 96. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 46.1, as amended by Section 25 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3046.1 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 97. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 48, as amended by Section 26 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3048 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 98. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 723, as amended by Section 27 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3723 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 99. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 724, as amended by Section 28 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3724 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.
SECTION 100. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 725, as amended by Section 29 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3725 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 101. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 727, as amended by Section 30 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3727 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 102. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 728, as amended by Section 31 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3728 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 103. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 729, as amended by Section 32 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3729 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 104. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 731, as amended by Section 33 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3731 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 105. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 732, as amended by Section 34 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3732 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.
SECTION 106.    RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 733, as amended by Section 35 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3733 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 107.    RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 734, as amended by Section 36 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3734 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 108.    RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 735, as amended by Section 37 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3735 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 109.    RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 738, as amended by Section 38 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3738 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 110.    RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 742.1, as amended by Section 39 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3742.1 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 111.    RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 742.2, as amended by Section 40 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3742.2 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.
SECTION 112.    RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 745.1, as amended by Section 41 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3745.1 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 113.    RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 753, as amended by Section 42 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3753 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 114.    RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 767, as amended by Section 43 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3767 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 115.    RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 768, as amended by Section 44 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3768 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 116.    RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 769, as amended by Section 45 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3769 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 117.    RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 775, as amended by Section 46 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3775 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.
SECTION 118.  RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 780, as amended by Section 47 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3780 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 119.  RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 786, as amended by Section 48 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3786 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 120.  RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 787, as amended by Section 49 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3787 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 121.  RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 852, as amended by Section 50 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3852 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 122.  RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 901, as amended by Section 51 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3901 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 123.  RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 902, as amended by Section 52 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3902 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.
SECTION 124. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 903, as amended by Section 53 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3903 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 125. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 904, as amended by Section 54 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3904 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 126. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 905, as amended by Section 55 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3905 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 127. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 906, as amended by Section 56 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3906 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 128. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 907, as amended by Section 57 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3907 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 129. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 911, as amended by Section 58 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3911 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.
SECTION 130.  RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 918, as amended by Section 59 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3918 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 131.  RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 931, as amended by Section 60 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3931 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 132.  RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 938.1, as amended by Section 61 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3938.1 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 133.  RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 950, as amended by Section 62 of this act, shall be recodified as Section 3950 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 134.  RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 1g, shall be recodified as Section 3001.10 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 135.  RECODIFICATION  45 O.S. 2021, Section 8, shall be recodified as Section 3008 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.
SECTION 136. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 9.1, shall be recodified as Section 3009.1 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 137. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 21.1, shall be recodified as Section 3021.1 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 138. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 33, shall be recodified as Section 3033 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 139. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 37, shall be recodified as Section 3037 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 140. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 40, shall be recodified as Section 3040 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 141. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 43, shall be recodified as Section 3043 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 142. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, and 419, shall be recodified as Sections 3411, 3412, 3413, 3414, 3415, 3416, 3417, 3418, and 3419 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.
SECTION 143. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 421, shall be recodified as Section 3421 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 144. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 423, shall be recodified as Section 3423 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 145. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 430, shall be recodified as Section 3430 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 146. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 434, 435, 436, and 437, shall be recodified as Sections 3434, 3435, 3436, and 3437 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 147. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 441 and 442, shall be recodified as Sections 3441 and 3442 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 148. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 477 and 478, shall be recodified as Sections 3477 and 3478 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 149. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, and 525, shall be
revised a

Section 3501, 3502, 3503, 3504, 3505, 3506, 3507, 3508, 3509, 3510, 3511, 3512, 3513, 3514, 3515, 3516, 3517, 3518, 3519, 3520, 3521, 3522, 3523, 3524, and 3525 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 150. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 527, shall be recodified as Section 3527 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 151. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 528.1, 528.2, and 528.3, shall be recodified as Sections 3528.1, 3528.2, and 3528.3 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 152. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 529, shall be recodified as Section 3529 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 153. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 580, shall be recodified as Section 3580 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 154. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 603 and 604, shall be recodified as Sections 3603 and 3604 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.
SECTION 155. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 612, shall be recodified as Section 3612 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 156. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 614, 615, and 616, shall be recodified as Sections 3614, 3615, and 3616 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 157. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 721 and 722, shall be recodified as Sections 3721 and 3722 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 158. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 726, shall be recodified as Section 3726 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 159. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 730, shall be recodified as Section 3730 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 160. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 736, shall be recodified as Section 3736 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 161. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 740.1, 740.2, 740.3, 740.4, 740.5, 740.6, and 740.7, shall be recodified as Sections 3740.1, 3740.2, 3740.3, 3740.4, 3740.5,
3740.6, and 3740.7 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 162. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 744 and 745, shall be recodified as Sections 3744 and 3745 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 163. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 745.2, 745.3, 745.4, 745.5, 745.6, 745.7, 745.8, 745.9, 745.10, 745.11, 745.12, 745.13, 745.14, 745.15, 745.16.1, 745.17, 745.18, 745.19, 745.20, 745.21, and 745.22, shall be recodified as Sections 3745.2, 3745.3, 3745.4, 3745.5, 3745.6, 3745.7, 3745.8, 3745.9, 3745.10, 3745.11, 3745.12, 3745.13, 3745.14, 3745.15, 3745.16, 3745.17, 3745.18, 3745.19, 3745.20, 3745.21, and 3745.22 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 164. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 754, 754.1, 754.2, 755, 756, and 757, shall be recodified as Sections 3746, 3747, 3748, 3749, 3750, 3751, 3752, 3754, 3754.1, 3754.2, 3755, 3756, and 3757 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 165. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 760, 760.1, 760.2, and 761, shall be recodified as Sections 3760, 3760.1,
3760.2, and 3761 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 166. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 765 and 766, shall be recodified as Sections 3765 and 3766 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 167. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 776, 777, 778, and 779, shall be recodified as Sections 3770, 3771, 3772, 3773, 3774, 3776, 3777, 3778, and 3779 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 168. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 788, and 789, shall be recodified as Sections 3781, 3782, 3783, 3784, 3785, 3788, and 3789 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 169. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 790, 791, 791.1, 792, and 793, shall be recodified as Sections 3790, 3791, 3791.1, 3792, and 3793 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 170. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 851, shall be recodified as Section 3851 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.
SECTION 171. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Section 853, shall be recodified as Section 3853 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 172. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 908, 909, and 910, shall be recodified as Sections 3908, 3909, and 3910 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 173. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, and 919, shall be recodified as Sections 3912, 3913, 3914, 3915, 3916, 3917, and 3919 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 174. RECODIFICATION 45 O.S. 2021, Sections 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 939, 939.1, and 940, shall be recodified as Sections 3932, 3933, 3934, 3935, 3936, 3937, 3939, 3939.1, and 3940 of Title 27A of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless there is created a duplication in numbering.

SECTION 175. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

SECTION 176. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.