

The coal refuse is not expected to contain material that will cause water seeping through the waste to become toxic or acid in nature. For this reason, coal waste and mine development waste can be disposed of together (Rule 4.09.1(12)) and certain requirements regarding coal processing waste banks are not applicable. No treatment of this runoff other than for sediment is anticipated. No sub-drain system will be provided to prevent the surface water or seepage from entering the groundwater system. However, the embankment drainage will be monitored and appropriate measures taken if the water does become toxic or acid. Monitoring will include the sampling of sediment pond discharges (see Hydrology section). If the water does become acid or toxic, the ponds, ditches, and disposal areas will be lined with impervious material and the drainage treated. Coal waste banks already constructed will be modified as directed by the appropriate regulatory agency.

The material will be placed and compacted in a maximum of 24-inch lifts. The material will be placed to minimize ponding of surface water on or behind the waste bank. Runoff will be picked up in the diversion ditches located along the toe of the refuse bank where it intersects the original ground. As the refuse bank grows higher, the edges will be sloped back at target of 4(h):1(v) or flatter but with limited areas constructed at up to 3(h):1(v) to provide positive slope stability and minimize slope erosion.

Access will be maintained to sedimentation ponds and ditches for periodic inspection and cleaning as warranted.

Once a sub-area is declared properly reclaimed, the sedimentation ponds, temporary ditches, and access road will be reclaimed and the permanent diversion ditches will be extended into the natural drainage channels. The reclaimed surface slopes will minimize ponding even if some settlement should occur. Some surface retention of precipitation is intended through surface roughening to improve revegetation success and minimize sediment generation. Such surface retention will not adversely affect stability. The reclamation of sub-areas 1, 2/3/4, and 5a are shown on Maps 77, 77A, 150, and 165. The reclamation of sub-area RP-A is shown on Map 162.

More refuse storage area has been provided than is estimated to be necessary. This excess area will be used if refuse volumes are greater than anticipated or the amount of coal eventually mined is greater than now expected.

The bank and pond designs for only the first five sub-areas are presented in this application. Designs for the other areas will be prepared and submitted for DRMS's approval prior to the opening of these areas.