

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0123

Mine reclamation-disposal of materials.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Barlow, Bear, Burkhart,  
Greear, Knapp and Larsen and Senator(s)  
Anderson, Driskill, Rothfuss and  
Wasserburger

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to environmental quality; requiring the  
2 environmental quality council to establish rules for uses  
3 and disposal of inert material in non-coal mining sites as  
4 specified; amending requirements for fees associated with  
5 the disposal of decommissioned wind turbine blades and  
6 towers in surface coal mines; providing definitions; and  
7 providing for an effective date.

8

9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 35-11-103(e) by creating a new  
12 paragraph (xxxi) and 35-11-402(a)(xiii)(C) and by creating  
13 a new paragraph (xv) are amended to read:

14

1           **35-11-103. Definitions.**

2

3           (e) Specific definitions for land quality:

4

5                   (xxxi) "Inert material" means any material that  
6 is not reusable or recyclable, that will not undergo any  
7 significant physical, chemical or biological transformation  
8 and that will not adversely affect other matter with which  
9 the material comes into contact.

10

11           **35-11-402. Establishment of standards.**

12

13           (a) The council shall, upon recommendation by the  
14 advisory board through the administrator and the director,  
15 establish rules and regulations pursuant to the following  
16 reclamation standards for the affected areas, including but  
17 not limited to:

18

19                   (xiii) Rules and regulations governing the use  
20 of decommissioned wind turbine blades and towers to  
21 backfill surface coal mining sites as part of an approved  
22 reclamation plan. Rules promulgated under this paragraph  
23 shall, at a minimum, provide for:

1

2 (C) Disposal fees to be remitted to the  
3 department by the operator who allows disposal of  
4 decommissioned wind turbine blades and towers in surface  
5 coal mining sites, which shall be ~~twenty-five percent (25%)~~  
6 ten percent (10%) of any revenues collected by the operator  
7 for the disposal of the decommissioned wind turbine blades  
8 and towers. The fees collected under this subparagraph  
9 shall be credited to the general fund;

10

11 (xv) Rules and regulations governing the use of  
12 inert material to backfill non-coal mining sites as part of  
13 an approved reclamation plan. Rules promulgated under this  
14 paragraph shall, at a minimum, provide for:

15

16 (A) Minimum depth requirements for the  
17 burial of inert material to be buried below the surface and  
18 above any aquifers as defined in W.S. 35-11-103(h)(i). In  
19 setting depth requirements under this subparagraph, the  
20 council, administrator and director may consult standards  
21 for solid waste management facilities established by the  
22 solid and hazardous waste management division;

23

