Montana State Legislature

Exhibit 3

This exhibit is "The Montana COAL BOARD" pamphlet; a portion of this exhibit has been scanned for your research. To obtain a copy please contact the Montana Historical Society and may be viewed there.

Montana Historical Society Archives, 225 N. Roberts, Helena, MT 59620-1201 Phone (406) 444-4774.

Scanning by: Susie Hamilton

EXHIBIT 3
DATE 1/16/07
HB

Criteria

Under State law (Section 90-6-206, MCA) and the Administrative Rules of Montana (Section 8.10.301, ARM), grants must be awarded on the basis of:

Need – what assistance is required to eliminate or reduce a problem that threatens the public's health, safety, or welfare that is the result of coal development or decline?

Severity of impact from coal development or decline – what has been the relative amount of demographic or economic change that is a result of the coal development or decline?

Availability of funds – the weighing of the amount of available Coal Board funds in comparison to the total requests submitted?

Degree of local effort – what other funding sources can the applicant pledge to the project based on the applicant's indebtedness and current taxing efforts, and has the applicant sought out all other reasonable sources of funding to assist with the project?

Planning – does the proposal fit into an overall plan for the orderly management of the existing or contemplated growth problems?

Questions for Grant Applicants

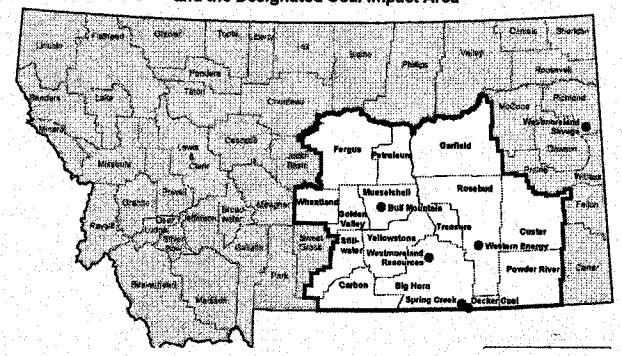
- How is the need for a grant related to impact from coal development or decline?
- Is the need documented to be a high priority project for the community?
- Can you demonstrate community input and support for the project?
- Can you demonstrate how the project will directly meet the stated needs?
- Have other possible sources of funding been seriously explored?
- Is the community's financial commitment demonstrated and secured?
- Is the budget and financial plan for the project realistic, appropriate, and feasible?
- Is a reasonable timeframe established for the completion of the project? Questions and requests should be directed to:

Administrative Staff
Montana Coal Board
Department of Commerce
Joe LaForest, Administrative Officer
(406) 841-2789
Ellen Hanpa, Admin. Assistant
(406) 841-2782
301 S. Park Avenue
Helena, MT 59620

The Montana COAL BOARD

Assisting Communities Impacted by Coal Development

MAJOR COAL MINES and the Designated Coal Impact Area



Montana Department of Commerce

Updated October 2006

Funding Authorized

Coal Board Grant Dollars Appropriated by the Montana Legislature for:

Fiscal Years 2006-2007...$ 1,672,453

Coal Board grants are funded by Montana's Coal Severance Tax.

Purpose

The Coal Board's purpose is to assist local governmental entities that must provide expanded public services and facilities needed as a consequence of coal development, consumption, or decline.
(See Section 90-6-201, MCA.)

Eligibility

Where a coal impact exists, Coal Board grants may be awarded to any:

- City
- Town (incorporated)
- County
- School District
- Special District
- Federally recognized Indian tribe
- State agency

(See Sections 90-6-206, 207, 208, MCA)

Fifty percent of the funding appropriated for coal impact grants is reserved for governmental units within the designated coal impact area.

Montana Coal Board

Returning coal severance taxes to coal impacted areas.

The seven-member Coal Board meets quarterly to consider applications for coal impact grants. All Board meetings are open to the public. *Public comment on any public matter that is within the Board's jurisdiction will be allowed at all Board meetings. The opportunity for public comment is reflected on the meeting agenda. All comments are included in the official minutes of the meeting.*

Montana Coal Board Members

John Williams, Chair –Colstrip
Dan Dutton – Belfry
Chad Fenner – Hardin
Thomas Kalakay – Billings
Gerald Navratil – Sidney
Jan Riebhoff, Vice Chair – Bozeman
James Smitham – Butte

Coal Board meetings are held at facilities that are fully accessible to persons with disabilities. Any person needing reasonable accommodations must notify the Coal Board at 406-841-2782 or TDD at 406-841-2702 before the scheduled meeting to allow for arrangements.

Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided upon request. For further information, please contact the above telephone numbers.

Application Process

1. Applicants can download application forms from the Board's website or request information and forms from the Coal Board staff.
2. Pre-Applications are due the first of the month that precedes the scheduled month of the meeting. Applicants can contact staff for assistance with pre-application procedures.
3. Staff, Board members, and other appropriate agencies review the application.
4. The applicant appears at a scheduled meeting and formally presents the proposal to the Board.
5. The Board considers the proposal and votes to either:
- **Approve** the Pre-Application and consider it as a Full-Application at the next meeting.
- **Table** the Pre-Application and request more information, as needed; or
- **Deny** the Pre-Application.

6. Full-Applications are due the first of the month that precedes the scheduled month for the next quarterly meeting.
7. The applicant appears at the scheduled meeting and presents the Full-Application to the Board. If approved, contract stipulations are established and staff prepares a grant contract.

For copies of application forms and other information please visit our website http://comdev.mt.gov/CDD_cb.asp