

Reclamation and Development Grant Program



Purpose

The Reclamation and Development Grants Program (RDGP) is designed to fund projects that, “...indemnify the people of the state for the effects of mineral development on public resources and that meet other crucial state needs serving the public interest and the total environment of the citizens of Montana”. As provided in statute, projects approved in the RDGP are intended to

- o Repair, reclaim, and mitigate environmental damage to public resources from non-renewable resource extraction and/or meet a crucial state need.
- o Develop and ensure the quality of public resources for the benefit of all Montana citizens

Administrating Agency:

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation,
Conservation and Resource Development Division

Approving Authority:

Final approval is provided by the Legislature

Statutory Reference:

Title 85, Chapter 1, Part 6, MCA

Eligible Applicants:

- o Political subdivisions of state
- o Local government including state agencies and universities
- o Counties, incorporated cities and towns
- o Conservation districts
- o Irrigation districts
- o Water/sewer/solid waste districts
- o Tribal Governments



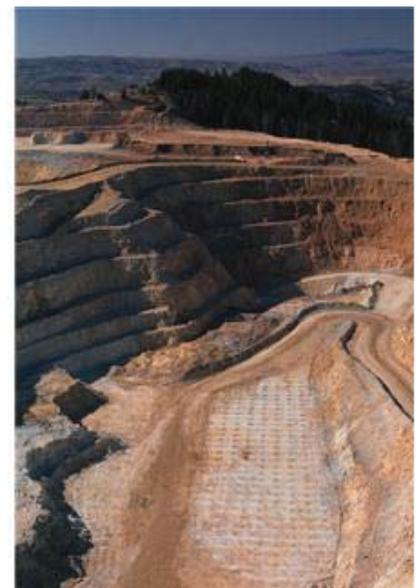
Statutory Evaluation Criteria Include:

- o Public benefit
- o Need and urgency
- o Appropriateness of technical design
- o Financial feasibility
- o Project management/organization

Types of Projects:

- o Abandoned mine reclamation
- o Brownfields cleanup
- o Abandoned hazardous waste site cleanup
- o Abandoned oil and gas well cleanup
- o Erosion control (mining related)
- o Exploration for a regional sustainable water supply
- o Large-scale river bank restoration

2013 Interim Projects



Source of Funding:

Resource Indemnity Trust Natural Resource Project Account Fund Balance

Appropriations for the RDGP grant program are derived from the natural resource projects account. The account primarily receives the income from the interest income of the resource indemnity trust fund, the resource indemnity and ground water assessment tax, and the oil and gas production tax. In the 2013 biennium, the natural resource projects fund was projected to receive total income of \$13.5 million. The income from the fund is appropriated to four natural resource grant programs, including RDGP.

Legislative Appropriations:

Appropriations for the RDGP include preliminary engineering grants and local reclamation and development grants (RDGP grants). In the 2013 biennium, approximately \$5.9 million was appropriated for RDGP grants.

Grant Limits:

Project grants are limited to \$300,000 per project.

Matching Fund Requirements:

N/A

Application Deadline:

For consideration by the 2013 Legislature, applications must be submitted by May 15th 2012.

General Application Requirements:

To be considered a mineral development impact project, the project objectives must achieve at least one of the following:

- o Reclaim land, water or other resources adversely affected by mineral development
- o Mitigate damage to public resources caused by mineral development
- o Research, demonstrate, or provide technical assistance to promote the wise use of Montana minerals, including efforts to make processing more environmentally compatible
- o Investigate and remediate sites where hazardous wastes or regulated substances threaten public health or the environment
- o Research to assess existing or potential environmental damage resulting from mineral development
- o Meet an immediate crucial state need

For Further Information Contact:

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Conservation and Resource Development Division
1625 Eleventh Avenue

Helena, Montana 59620-1601

Phone: (406) 444-6668

Fax: (406) 444-6721

Web: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/cardd/ResourceDevelopment/rdgp/ReclamationDevelopmentGrantsProgram.asp>



Room 110, State Capitol

P.O. Box 201711

Helena, MT 59620-1711

Contact: Cathy Duncan, Senior Fiscal Analyst, (406) 444-4580

Web: www.leg.mt.gov/css/fiscal