



APR - 1 2005

Honorable Wesley Chesbro, Chair
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee

Attention: Mr. Danny Alvarez, Staff Director (2)

Honorable John Laird, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee

Attention: Mr. Christopher W. Woods, Chief Consultant (2)

Amendment to Budget Bill Item 3480-001-0001, Support, Department of Conservation

It is requested that Item 3480-001-0001 be amended to establish five positions needed to meet workload required by the federal Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA). These positions will be funded within the proposed budget for the Department of Conservation (DOC). Therefore, only position authority, not funding, is being requested.

The Office of Mine Reclamation (OMR) within the DOC is responsible for monitoring the activities of the 133 local lead agencies that implement SMARA in cities and counties around the state. The OMR reviews mine inspection reports and advises local lead agencies regarding the adequacy of the reclamation plans that each operating mine is required to prepare. Three of the proposed positions would be allocated to this function in order to ensure that effective reclamation plans, with adequate financial assurances, are put in place for current mining activities. Two of the five positions requested in this Finance Letter will be used by the OMR in its efforts to identify and mitigate abandoned mine hazards.

The effect of my requested action is reflected on the attachment.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this matter, please call Robert Schladale, Principal Program Budget Analyst, at 324-0043.

TOM CAMPBELL
Director
By:

/s/ Stephen W. Kessler

STEPHEN W. KESSLER
Chief Deputy Director

Attachment

cc: On following page

APR - 1 2005

cc: Honorable Carole Migden, Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
Attention: Ms. Anne Maitland, Staff Director
Honorable Dennis Hollingsworth, Vice Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review
Committee
Attention: Mr. Jeff Bell, Staff Director
Honorable Judy Chu, Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Attention: Mr. Geoff Long, Chief Consultant
Honorable Rick Keene, Vice Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
Attention: Mr. Peter Schaafsma, Staff Director
Honorable Sheila Kuehl, Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 2
Honorable Fran Pavley, Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 3
Ms. Elizabeth Hill, Legislative Analyst (4)
Ms. Diane Cummins, Senate President pro Tempore's Office
Mr. Craig Cornett, Assembly Speaker's Office (2)
Ms. Julie Sauls, Chief of Staff, Assembly Republican Leader's Office
Honorable Mike Chrisman, Secretary, Resources Agency
Mr. Don Wallace, Assistant Secretary, Resources Agency
Ms. Debbie Sareeram, Interim Director, Department of Conservation
Mr. Tom Gibbs, Assistant Director, Administration, Department of Conservation
Mr. Eric Jarvis, Budget Officer, Department of Conservation

