

PLANNING CRITERIA

Preliminary planning criteria developed to guide the preparation of the land use analysis and environmental impact statement include the following:

- Land use planning and environmental analyses will be conducted in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations, executive orders and manuals.
- Planning will be conducted for the Federal coal mineral estate only.
- A mine plan scenario will be prepared for the Federal resources.
- Resource data needed to assess the effects of coal mining and coal development drilling will be collected.
- The planning team will work cooperatively with Federal, State, and local governments and agencies, as well as groups, organizations, and individuals.
- In accordance with the Water Resources and Development Act of 1999, consent will not be required from the surface management agency should coal leasing be approved.
- The land use analysis and environmental impact statement will identify mitigation measures designed to reduce or avoid potential impacts of coal leasing.
- Other criteria as identified through the planning process.