

Applicant/Violator System Office System Advisory Memorandum



SAM # 20 DATE: October 29, 1999

Subject: Discontinued AVS and OSM Permit Eligibility Recommendation

The Applicant/Violator System (AVS) was designed as an informational data base for OSM and regulatory authorities to use to support a variety of program efforts. The most visible use of AVS has been to generate information in the form of permit eligibility recommendations for regulatory authorities to use in making permitting decisions. We are implementing several changes in how AVS operates to promote the computer system as an informational data base to use in support of many types of research, but primarily to process information in support of permit eligibility determinations under section 510(c) of SMCRA.

The first change is that we will no longer provide system-generated or OSM permit eligibility recommendations. This will include recommendations for pending applications, AML contractor eligibility, and the Small Operator Assistance Program. Instead of recommendations, we will use AVS to provide a report for regulatory authorities to use in their review of pending applications to determine permit eligibility.

The change does not affect OSM policies on the Federal and State application, permit, and violation information required to be maintained in the system. Regulatory authorities are expected to continue to enter and maintain their regulatory program information in AVS.

Regulatory authorities should continue to use AVS to obtain information to evaluate applicants prior to making permitting and eligibility decisions. OSM is committed to maintaining accurate and complete data in the computer system to continue to support a variety of uses. We are confident that AVS remains the best tool for regulatory authorities to use in complying with the permit eligibility requirements of section 510(c) of SMCRA.

This System Advisory Memorandum supersedes current SAMs 3, 4, 6, and 7, all dated January 23, 1998. They are hereby withdrawn. A notice to the effect of this SAM also will be posted in AVS. If you have questions regarding OSM's termination of permit eligibility recommendations, please contact your User Assistance Liaison at 1-800-643-9748.

Signed; _____

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