

Department of Mineral Resources
Budget No. 474
Senate Bill No. 2014

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 legislative appropriations	113.00	\$34,329,766	\$6,022,837	\$40,352,603
2025-27 base budget	108.00	28,113,785	268,000	28,381,785
Legislative increase (decrease) to base budget	5.00	\$6,215,981	\$5,754,837	\$11,970,818

ONGOING AND ONE-TIME GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS

	Ongoing General Fund Appropriation	One-Time General Fund Appropriation	Total General Fund Appropriation
2025-27 legislative appropriations	\$34,160,331	\$169,435	\$34,329,766
2023-25 legislative appropriations	28,113,785	4,468,851	32,582,636
2025-27 legislative increase (decrease) to 2023-25 appropriations	\$6,046,546	(\$4,299,416)	\$1,747,130
Percentage increase (decrease) to 2023-25 appropriations	21.5%	(96.2%)	5.4%

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO THE BASE BUDGET AND MAJOR FUNDING ITEMS
Changes to Base Budget

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
The legislative action:				
Added funding to provide employee salary increases of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026		\$978,870		\$978,870
Added funding for employee health insurance premiums to reflect a revised premium estimate of \$1,893 per month		666,585		666,585
Added funding to replace the 2023-25 biennium new and vacant FTE funding pool, including \$1,284,293 for new positions and \$1,389,856 for vacant positions		2,674,149		2,674,149
Added funding from the abandoned oil and gas well plugging and site reclamation fund for 3 FTE reclamation specialist positions, including \$554,661 for salaries and wages and \$193,770 for operating expenses	3.00		\$748,431	748,431
Added funding for salaries and wages for 1 FTE administrative assistant position	1.00	163,030		163,030

Added funding for 1 FTE deputy director position, including \$351,400 for salaries and wages and \$12,727 for operating expenses	1.00	364,127		364,127
Transferred \$1,069,091 for 5 new FTE positions from the salaries and wages line item to the new and vacant FTE pool line item and reduced the amount to \$962,182 resulting in the savings as shown		(51,443)	(55,466)	(106,909)
Transferred \$1,656,337 for estimated savings from vacant FTE positions from the salaries and wages line item to the new and vacant FTE pool line item and reduced the amount to \$1,159,436 resulting in the savings as shown		(496,901)		(496,901)
Added funding to convert an administrative assistant position to a geologist position, including \$101,785 for salaries and wages and \$70,159 for operating expenses		171,944		171,944
Adjusted funding for salaries and wages, including an increase of \$16,000 from federal funds for federal program administration, an increase of \$45,000 from the general fund for temporary salaries, and a decrease of \$300,587 from the general fund for budget reductions from salary savings		(255,587)	16,000	(239,587)
Adjusted funding for operating expenses, including a decrease of \$511,293 as a budget reduction for operating efficiency savings, an increase of \$108,065 for information technology rate adjustments, and an increase of \$2,235,000 for state fleet rate adjustments		1,831,772		1,831,772
Added one-time funding from the federal funds for the administration of a federal abandoned well reclamation program, including \$500,727 for salaries and wages and \$943,650 for operating expenses			1,444,377	1,444,377
Added one-time funding for new FTE position operating expenses, including \$24,435 from the general fund and \$51,495 from the abandoned oil and gas well plugging and site reclamation fund		24,435	51,495	75,930
Added one-time funding from the general fund, including \$100,000 for mineral analyses and \$45,000 for portable mineral detection equipment		145,000		145,000
Added one-time funding from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF), including \$400,000 for a rare earth elements study, \$150,000 for a paleontology excavation project and \$3 million for oil and gas litigation			3,550,000	3,550,000
Total	5.00	\$6,215,981	\$5,754,837	\$11,970,818

FTE Changes

The Legislative Assembly approved 113 FTE positions for the Department of Mineral Resources for the 2025-27 biennium, an increase of 5 FTE positions from the 2023-25 biennium authorized level of 108 FTE positions. The Legislative Assembly added 3 FTE reclamation specialist positions, 1 FTE administrative assistant, and 1 FTE deputy director position.

One-Time Funding

The following is a summary of one-time funding items for the Department of Mineral Resources for the 2025-27 biennium:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Federal abandoned well program (federal funds)		\$1,444,377	\$1,444,377
FTE position operating expenses (abandoned oil and gas well plugging and site reclamation fund)	\$24,435	51,495	75,930
Mineral analyses	100,000		100,000
Rare earth elements study (SIIF)		400,000	400,000
Paleontology excavation project (SIIF)		150,000	150,000
Oil and gas litigation (SIIF)		3,000,000	3,000,000
Portable mineral detection equipment	45,000		45,000
Total	\$169,435	\$5,045,872	\$5,215,307

Other Sections in Senate Bill No. 2014

New and vacant FTE pool line item - Section 3 provides guidelines regarding the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE pool line item.

Strategic investment and improvements fund - Section 14 identifies \$3,550,000 from SIIF for a rare earth elements study (\$400,000), a paleontology excavation project (\$150,000), and oil and gas litigation (\$3,000,000).

Abandoned oil and gas well plugging and site reclamation fund - Section 15 identifies \$799,926 from the abandoned oil and gas well plugging and site reclamation fund for reclamation specialists and related operating expenses. Section 23 amends the abandoned oil and gas well plugging and site reclamation fund allowing moneys in the fund to be used for administrative expenses subject to legislative appropriation.

Unspent biennium appropriation authority exemption - Section 29 provides exemptions allowing unspent prior biennium appropriation authority to continue into the 2025-27 biennium for a federal abandoned oil well conversion to water supply grant program, a survey review, and a federal abandoned well reclamation program.

Related Legislation

There is no major related legislation affecting this agency.