



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way • Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor

Sam Flood, Acting Director

Land Reclamation Memorandum 2006-01

To: Coal Operators

From: Scott Fowler

Date: February 17, 2006

Re: Agricultural Land Productivity Formula Alternative Formula Option
and switch to Bulletin 811 Soil Productivity reference under new rules.

After several years in the making, the Department has adopted new regulations to use Bulletin 811 as the reference for soil productivity in the state and to provide for an alternative formula to be used for the determination of crop success under ALPF.

As you are aware, ALPF uses an annual target adjustment reflecting the local yield statistics. This annual adjustment is called the County Success Factor (CSF). The ALPF Alternative Formula uses an average of the previous five years of the CSF. The primary benefit of this is to allow a fall pass/fail determination compared to waiting until the following spring when county statistics become available.

To use the ALPF Alternative, an operator must:

1. Meet certain soil strength criteria or have deep tilled to a minimum 36 inches depth and;
2. Manage soil fertility to Optimum Management for pH, P and K values and;
3. Implement an intensive land leveling program, as needed.

In addition, for prime farmland, besides corn, two successful wheat or hay crops may be used under this plan.

Operators will remain under the original ALPF testing program(with Bulletin 811), unless they request the alternative and provide sufficient information to the Department that the above criteria have been met. Once the ALPF alternative is chosen it will be fixed for the area being tested.

If you have any questions please contact Mr. Dean Spindler in the Springfield Office at 217-782-4970.