

**PROPOSED RULE**  
**36.11(E)**

E. Forms of financial assurance. The division may accept the following forms of financial assurance.

(1) Surety bonds. A surety bond shall be executed and notarized by the applicant and by a corporate surety licensed by the superintendent of insurance to do business in the state [~~and shall be non-cancelable~~]. All surety bonds shall be non-cancelable and payable to the energy, minerals and natural resources department, oil conservation division within 45 days after demand is made by the division. All surety bonds shall be governed by the laws of the state of New Mexico.

(2) Letters of credit. A letter of credit shall be issued by a [~~bank organized or authorized to do commercial banking business in the United States~~] national or state-chartered banking association, shall be irrevocable for a term of not less than five years and shall provide for automatic renewal for successive, like terms upon expiration, unless the issuer has notified the division in writing of non-renewal at least [~~90~~] 120 days before its expiration date. [~~The letter of credit shall be payable to the state of New Mexico in part or in full upon receipt from the director or the director's authorized representative of demand for payment accompanied by a notice of forfeiture.~~] All letters of credit shall be governed by the laws of the state of New Mexico. If a letter of credit is not replaced by an approved financial assurance within 30 days of notice of non-renewal provided to the division, the division may demand and collect a letter of credit.

(3) Cash accounts. An [~~applicant~~] operator may provide financial assurance in the form of a federally insured or equivalently protected cash account or accounts in a financial institution, provided that the operator and the financial institution shall execute as to each such account a collateral assignment of the account to the division, which shall provide that only the division may authorize withdrawals from the account. In the event of forfeiture pursuant to [~~Subsection C of 19.15.36.18~~] 19.15.36 NMAC, the division may, at any time and from time to time, direct payment of all or part of the balance of such account [~~excluding interest accrued on the account~~] to itself or

**Current Rule**  
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(1) Surety bonds. A surety bond shall be executed by the applicant and by a corporate surety licensed to do business in the state, and shall be non-cancelable.

(2) Letters of credit. A letter of credit shall be issued by a bank organized or authorized to do commercial banking business in the United States, shall be irrevocable for a term of not less than five years and shall provide for automatic renewal for successive, like terms upon expiration, unless the issuer has notified the division in writing of non-renewal at least 90 days before its expiration date. The letter of credit shall be payable to the state of New Mexico in part or in full upon receipt from the director or the director's authorized representative of demand for payment accompanied by a notice of forfeiture.

(3) Cash accounts. An applicant may provide financial assurance in the form of a federally insured or equivalently protected cash account or accounts in a financial institution, provided that the operator and the financial institution shall execute as to each such account a collateral assignment of the account to the division, which shall provide that only the division may authorize withdrawals from the account. In the event of forfeiture pursuant to Subsection C of 19.15.36.18 NMAC, the division may, at any time and from time to time, direct payment of all or part of the balance of such account (excluding interest accrued on the account) to itself or its designee for the surface waste management facility's closure.

**EXHIBIT**

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its designee for the surface waste management facility's closure and post closure. Any assignment of cash collateral shall be governed by the laws of the state of New Mexico and shall be on division-prescribed forms.