**Section 1825.12 High Capability Lands: Soil Removal**

a) Surface mining operations on high capability lands shall be conducted as follows:

1) The darkened surface soil shall be removed and segregated, if not used immediately, from other materials. In no cases shall less than the top eight (8) inches of surface soil, darkened or not, be segregated for replacement; and

2) Darkened surface soil segregation and replacement requirements may be altered by the Department only if it has determined the provisions of 62 Ill. Adm. Code 1816.22(b) have been met.

b) The Department may require root medium stockpiling if necessary to meet the requirements of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.), and these regulations.

(Source: Amended at 11 Ill. Reg. 8526, effective July 1, 1987)