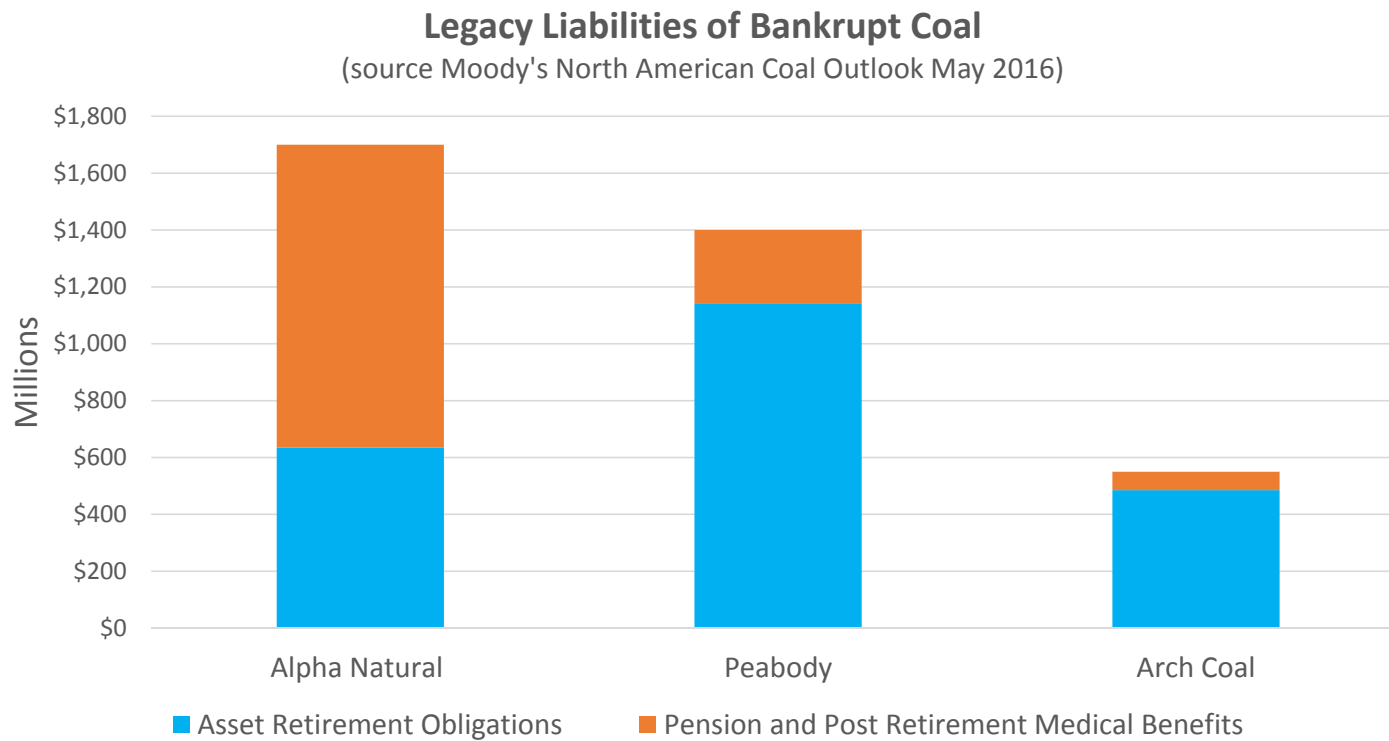


# **Taxpayer Exposure to Bankrupt Coal**

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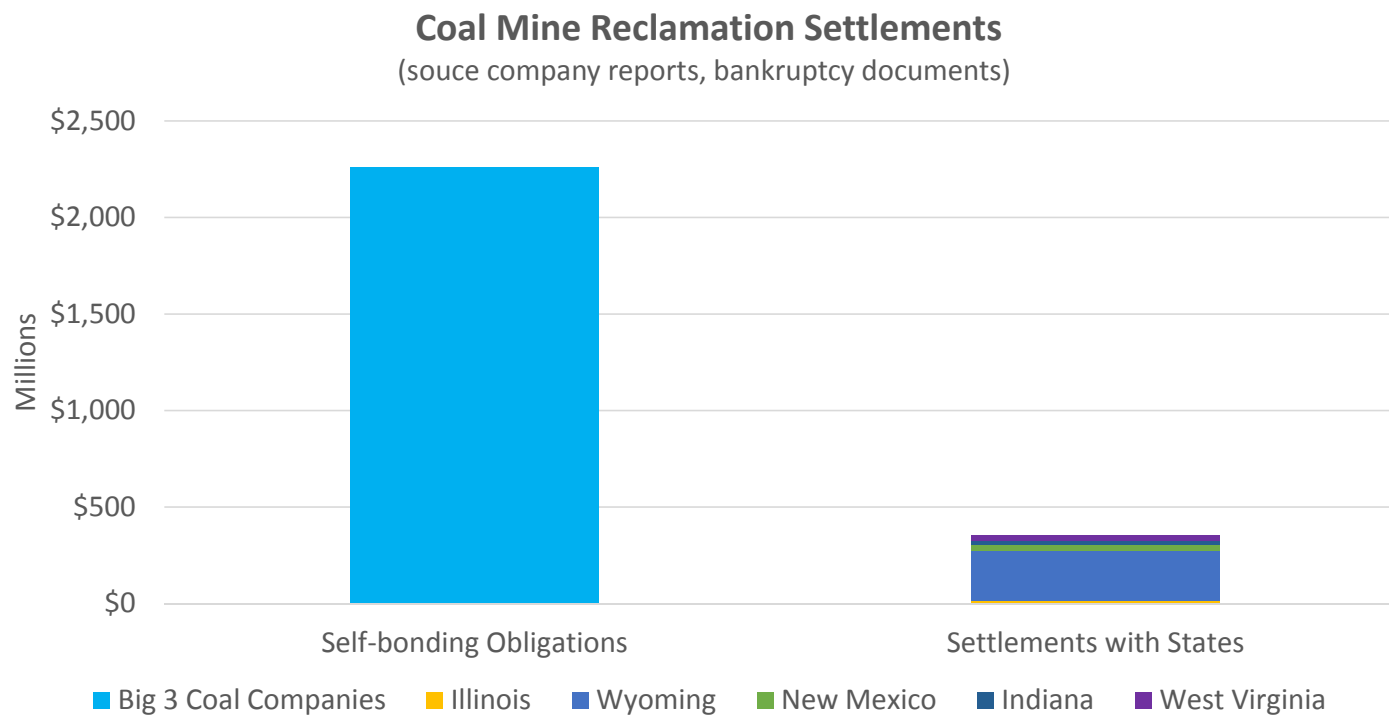
# 1) What are the short-term taxpayer costs of coal bankruptcies?

Up to \$3.7bln from the Big 3 coal companies alone.



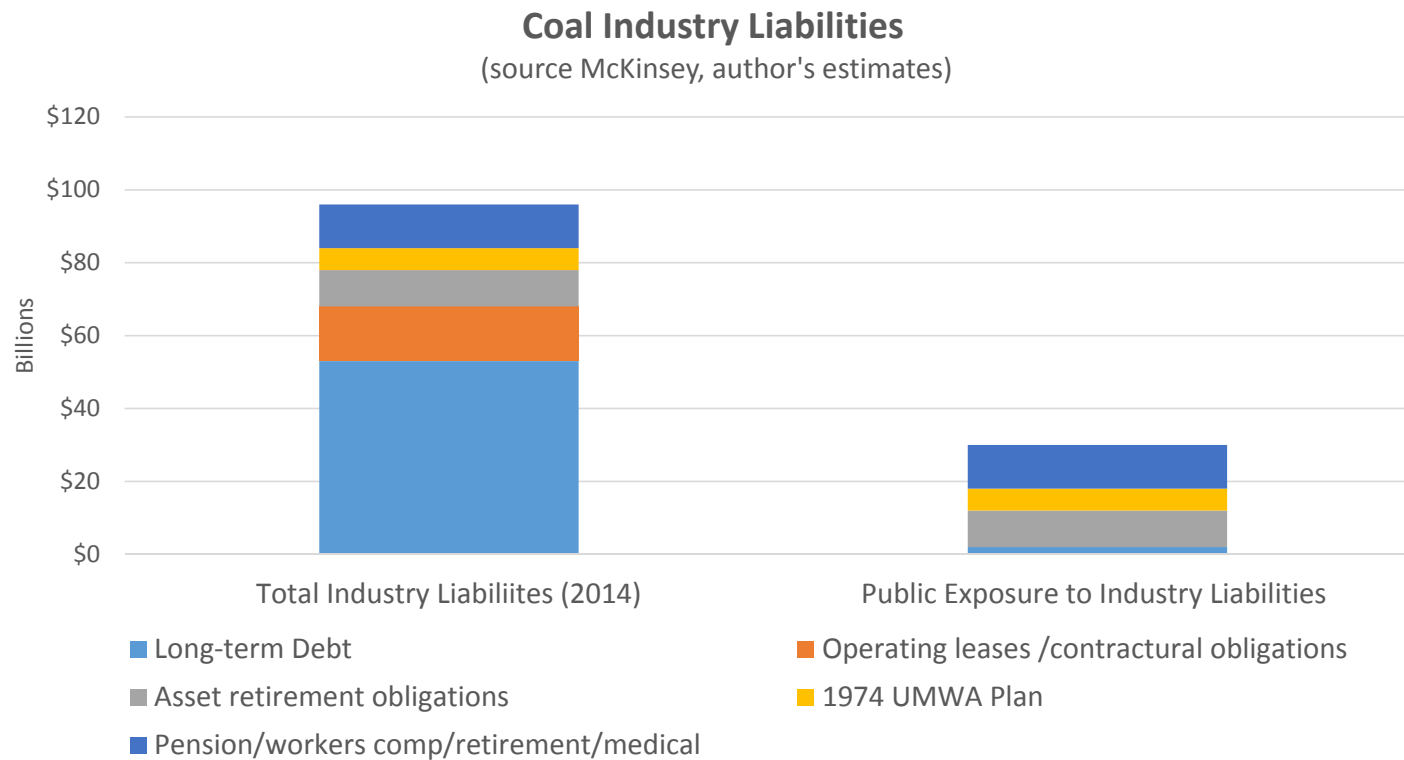
## 2) What are the short-term costs for reclamation alone?

Approximately \$1.7bn from recent settlements.



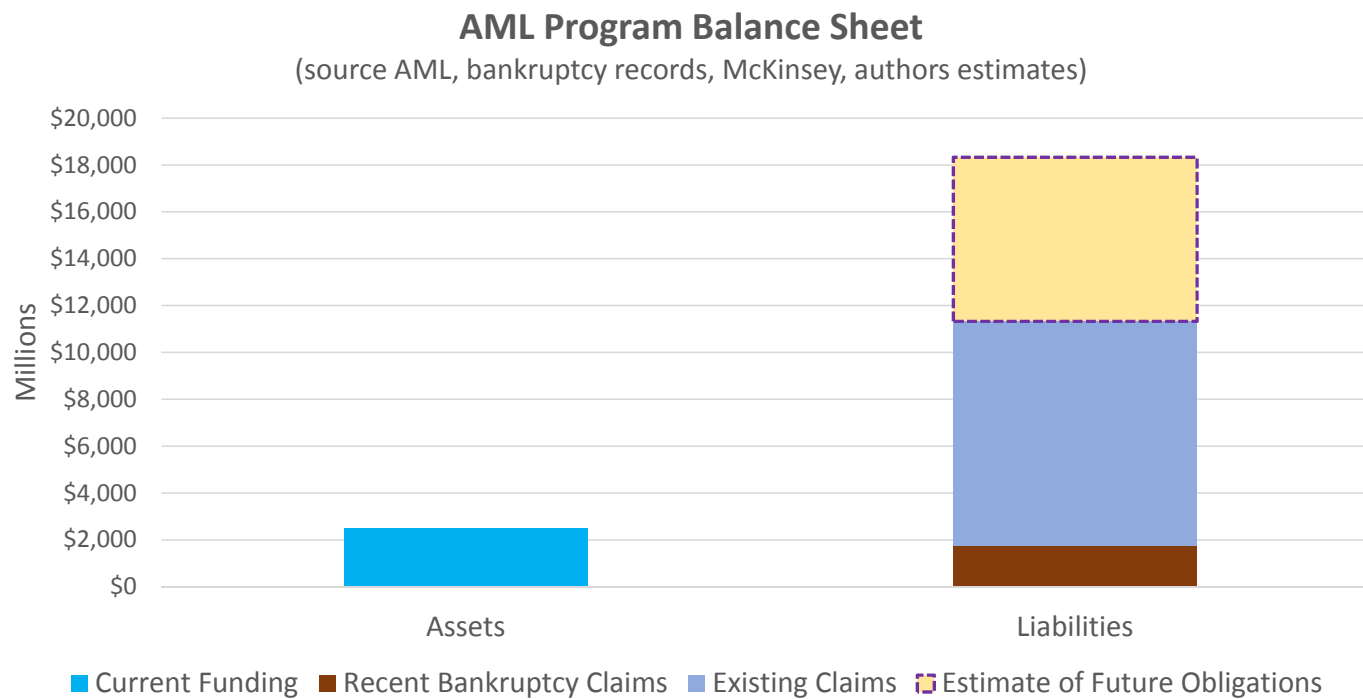
### 3) What are the long-term taxpayer costs of coal bankruptcies?

Up to \$30bln in total mine and worker retirement obligations.



## 4) What are the long-term costs of reclamation alone?

Up to \$16bln in total asset retirement obligations.



## **5) Should we considered these taxpayer costs a gift or a loan?**

The taxpayer has a choice to make:

1. If we decide to give the coal industry a free pass, we will be writing a very big check (up to \$30bln or three times the size of the US auto bailout).
2. If we hold the coal industry responsible, we need to figure out a way to get the taxpayers' money back.

## 6) What can be done to make sure coal pays its own way?

**Short-term** – A Bailout Recovery Fee needs could be established on coal production that would allow states to recoup their unpaid coal bills.

**Longer-term** – A coal utility fee needs to be considered that would be used to help cover the \$30bln in taxpayer exposure created by the coal industry.

## 7) Is a Recovery Fee an indecent proposal?

In 2011? Maybe. Today? Not really.

