**Section** **845.430 Slope Maintenance**

The slopes and pertinent surrounding areas of the CCR surface impoundment must be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained with one of the forms of slope protection specified in subsection (a) that meets all the performance standards of subsection (b).

a) Slope protection must consist of one of the following:

1) A vegetative cover consisting of grassy vegetation;

2) An engineered cover consisting of a single form or combination of forms of engineered slope protection measures; or

3) A combination of the forms of cover specified in subsection (a)(1) or (a)(2).

b) Any form of cover for slope protection must meet the following performance standards:

1) The cover must be installed and maintained on the slopes and pertinent surrounding areas of the CCR surface impoundment;

2) The cover must provide protection against surface erosion, wave action, and adverse effects of rapid drawdown;

3) The cover must be maintained to allow for the observation of, and access to, the slopes and pertinent surrounding areas during routine and emergency events;

4) Woody vegetation must be removed from the slopes or pertinent surrounding areas. Any removal of woody vegetation with a diameter greater than ½ inch must be directed by a person familiar with the design and operation of the CCR surface impoundment and in consideration of the complexities of removal of a tree or shrubbery, who must ensure the removal does not create a risk of destabilizing the CCR surface impoundment or otherwise adversely affect the stability and safety of the CCR surface impoundment or personnel undertaking the removal; and

5) The height of vegetation must not exceed 12 inches.