

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Environmental Protection Division

Surface Mining Unit

4244 International Parkway, Suite 104, Atlanta, Georgia 30354

Judson H. Turner, Director

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September 27, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Permittees/Operators of Surface Mining Facilities

FROM: Susan Wagner, Unit Manager
Surface Mining Unit



SUBJECT: Expedited Permit Review Initiative for Proposed Borrow Pits

In order to be more accommodating to schedules in the mining community, the Environmental Protection Division's Surface Mining Unit has developed an initiative to expedite the review of permit applications for proposed borrow pits.

This initiative will allow owners of proposed borrow pits to hire a registered professional engineer to complete the review of the application and surface mining land use plan (SMLUP) to ensure that the requirements of the Georgia Surface Mining Act and Rules, and any other applicable local, state or federal ordinances have been met. The professional engineer would contact EPD to be assigned a surface mining file number, conduct a site evaluation, complete the application and SMLUP review, and certify that all applicable requirements for a borrow pit surface mining permit have been met. The expedited application and SMLUP should then be submitted to the Surface Mining Unit for an administrative review, which would be completed within 10 days of receipt.

If the administrative review demonstrates that all requirements for the expedited permit have been met, a SMLUP approval shall be issued and bonding requested. Upon receipt of acceptable bonding, a proposed permit would be drafted and forwarded to the Director for action.

Based upon this timeline, a complete expedited permit application with bonding submitted with SMLUP approval could result in borrow pit permits being issued within 45 days.

We look forward to working with you and would welcome any comments or suggestions regarding this initiative.

Attachments: Application Checklist – Borrow Pits
Initial Site Evaluation Form
Certification for Completion of Application Review
Consultant Cover Letter