

## **Instructions for Surface Mining Land Use Plan Development**

REFERENCES: Georgia Surface Mining Act, O.C.G.A. 12-4-1, et seq., as amended  
Rules and Regulations for Surface Mining, Chapter 391-3-3, as amended

### **What is a Surface Mining Land Use Plan (SMLUP)?**

A Surface Mining Land Use Plan is a proposal which contains a specific plan of action, being based on sound engineering and conservation principles, for accomplishing the operator's mining plan, reclamation objective, and the protection of adjacent watersheds from effects of erosion and siltation. A Surface Mining Land Use Plan must be approved prior to recommendation for issuance of a Surface Mining Permit.

A Surface Mining Land Use Plan consists of:

1. An official Surface Mining Application and Land Use Plan form, which must be completed by the Mining Operator (discussed in II below). This form is supplied by the Environmental Protection Division and available at <https://epd.georgia.gov/surface-mining-forms>, or at the Environmental Protection Division, Surface Mining Unit, 4244 International Parkway, Suite 104, Atlanta, GA 30354.
2. Maps, drawings, and supportive documentation (discussed in Section V below), which are submitted with the forms mentioned above.

### **Instructions for Completing a Surface Mining Land Use Plan Form**

#### **Section I. Mine Information** [ref. Chapter 391-3-3-.05].

Provide the mine's name, address, latitude and longitude (decimal degrees accurate to 0.0001°), directions from the nearest interstate, as well as the contact information of the on-site representative.

Indicate whether this SMLUP is for a new mine or the re-permitting of an existing mine. (The existing mine may be in operation under another permit or previously permitted.)

#### **Section II. Operator and Owner Information** [ref. Chapter 391-3-.05]

Part A: Specify the name of the mining company, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and type of business. List the corporate officials and partnership members.

Part B: List the lessees and/or owners of all properties that are in the affected acres of the requested permit area. The total acreage listed as "Affected Acres," is equivalent to "Permitted Acres," shown on the SMLUP maps, and therefore these numbers should match exactly.

### **Section III. General Mining Information**

Part A: Name the mineral or material which will be extracted by the surface mining operation and describe the particular method or technique of surface mining.

Part B: Provide a brief description of the characteristics of the land proposed to be affected by the mining and a brief description of the characteristics of the surrounding lands and community in the vicinity of the mine site (examples: rural, urban, industrial, agricultural, residential, isolated, sparsely populated), including properties on the National Register of Historic Places located within one mile of the proposed mining site.

Part C: Provide the anticipated dates to begin and complete mining and reclamation. Please note the final reclamation date should include two growing seasons (~24 months) past the completion date. If mining is completed prior to the above stated date, the Operator shall complete the reclamation in accordance with this Plan within 24 months of completion of mining.

### **Section IV. Information on Other Permits**

Part A: List any previous Georgia Surface Mining Permit, by permit number, which has been revoked, suspended, or for which bond was forfeited.

Part B: Specify other applicable state and/or federal environmental permits for which you are applying in relation to this surface mining operation.

Mining facilities that discharge stormwater runoff associated with industrial activity, including stormwater from overburden piles, haul roads, vehicle and equipment maintenance areas, and chemical, explosive, and fuel storage areas, should seek coverage under the Industrial General Permit for stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity (IGP). Please contact the Nonpoint Source Program – Stormwater Unit to discuss obtaining coverage under the IGP. [www.epd.georgia.gov/npdes-industrial-storm-water-general-permits](http://www.epd.georgia.gov/npdes-industrial-storm-water-general-permits)

Mining facilities that discharge process wastewater, including mine pit dewatering, which is regulated as a wastewater discharge, should contact the Wastewater Regulatory Program – Industrial Permitting Unit to verify the proper National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) discharge permit has been obtained in accordance with the Clean Water Act and GA Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-6. [www.epd.georgia.gov/national-pollutant-discharge-elimination-system-npdes](http://www.epd.georgia.gov/national-pollutant-discharge-elimination-system-npdes)

Part C: List all local government approvals and or permits required and applied for regarding this surface mining operation.

### **Section V. Performance Criteria for Mining Plan and Mining Activities**

Please review the criteria for plan drawings with careful consideration for site survey control. Permanent accessible benchmarks and markers are expected to delineate all permitted areas and to be maintained to facilitate both permitting and compliance evaluations. Please provide detailed descriptions of all identifiers and their location. Site inspections will evaluate markers and survey control before recommending issuance of a Surface Mining Permit.

Part 1: Details to Include on Maps/Drawings and Supporting Documentation [ref. Chapter 391-3-3-.07]  
This section explains what is generally expected to be on the maps submitted as part of this SMLUP. These maps can be broken down into three categories: Boundary and Landmark, Erosion and Sediment Control, and Reclamation. Additional submissions may be required by the Division prior to approval of this Plan.

Surface Mining Land Use Plan (SMLUP) is prepared to show:

- map/drawing scales; north arrow; title block with Mine ID No.; 24 hour contact and telephone no.; seals and signatures of plan preparers;
- location sketch of the project relative to roadways, municipalities, major streams, and other identifiable landmarks;
- a boundary line map of the property to be mined, the “permit boundary” locating lands within the boundary to be affected by mining and buffers; metes and bounds will be shown;
- 25’ minimum buffer between the affected area and property line and/or 50’ minimum buffer if affected area is adjacent to a public road or occupied structures;
- contours, existing and proposed, for that portion of the area being mined. The following are recommended contour intervals:

<u>Scale of Map</u>	<u>Slope of Ground</u>	<u>Interval (Feet)</u>
Large (1”=100’ or less)	Flat	0.5 or 1
	Rolling	1 or 2
	Hilly	2 or 5
Intermediate (1”=100’-500’)	Flat	1,2, or 5
	Rolling	2 or 5
	Hilly	5 or 10

- streams, lakes or ponds, drainage areas, flood prone areas, wetlands, vegetation, and existing structures;
- the proposed alteration of the area, including limits of clearing and grading, access and haul roads, stockpiles, overburden storage, buildings, and other structures;
- location and extent of erosion and sedimentation control measures, including both vegetative and structural measures;
- mining advancement or phases;
- drainage ditches, pipes, cross-drains, swales and diversion berms;
- provide cross sections and plan drawings where necessary to detail activities;
- pit pump-out discharge details if proposed;
- reclamation plan with estimated final contours and the following notes:
  - All mining equipment and refuse will be removed from the mine in accordance with state rules and regulations
  - All slopes will be reclaimed to a slope of 3:1 or flatter.
  - The mine pit will be either left as a lake or permanently vegetated.

Supportive documentation (general) shall include engineering drawings and specifications, calculations, charts, graphs, maps, and other data and information used in the design and layout of the measures installed.

All maps/drawings and supporting documents shall be listed by title and page count on the final page of the SMLUP as enclosures/attachments.

Part 2: Site Survey Control [ref. Chapter 391-3-3-.05].

Provide details of survey and boundary control markers (examples: identifier- IP = iron pin, CP = concrete post, color of flagging, etc.; location-page 3 of the attached drawings). Permanent accessible benchmarks and markers are expected to delineate all permitted areas and to be maintained to facilitate both permitting and compliance evaluations. Please provide detailed descriptions of all identifiers and their location. Site inspections will evaluate markers and survey control before recommending issuance of a Surface Mining Permit

Parts 3-10: The sections are self-explanatory and require no written entry on the form. The maps, drawings, and supporting documentation shall address the “plan of action” to control potential erosion and sedimentation problems. The site specific section will address any items which are unique to this particular site. The operator will coordinate with the consulting mining engineer and the Division permitting officer to identify any special site items required for approval.

#### **Section VI. Performance Criteria for Reclamation**

This section is self-explanatory and requires no entry on the form. The maps, drawings, and supporting documentation must address the intended reclamation objectives. The reclamation page of the drawings must include the Reclamation Notes: all mining equipment and refuse will be removed from the mine in accordance with state rules and regulations; all slopes will be reclaimed to a slope of 3:1 or flatter; and the mine pit will be either left as a lake or permanently vegetated.

#### **Section VII. Additional Operator Submissions**

Part 1: Bonding [ref OCGA 12-4-75(2)]

This section is self-explanatory and advises the mining company of their obligations regarding bonding of lands to be affected by surface mining. The required bonding formats are available for download online at [www.epd.georgia.gov/surface-mining-forms](http://www.epd.georgia.gov/surface-mining-forms). Bond rate is currently set at \$2,500 per acre for quarries and \$1500 per acre for all other mining.

Part 2: Annual Permit Status Report

This section is self-explanatory and requires no entry on the form. The Annual Permit Status Report form can be found online at [www.epd.georgia.gov/surface-mining-forms](http://www.epd.georgia.gov/surface-mining-forms) and should be submitted every year until the mine is reclaimed and released.

Part 3: Amendment to Plan [ref OCGA 12-4-75(2)]

This section is self-explanatory and advises the mining company of procedures necessary should the operator decide to change or vary from the approved plan. The operator is required to contact the Environmental Protection Division for forms and instructions if a change is proposed. Amendment forms are available online at <http://epd.georgia.gov/surface-mining>.

Part 4: Change of Ownership of Mining Operation [ref OCGA 12-4-75(2)]

This section is self-explanatory and advises the mining operator of requirements to be met should a change of ownership take place. The Surface Mining Permit is not transferrable.

#### **Section VII Attachments**

This section is self-explanatory.