

# COMPREHENSIVE RECLAMATION PLAN FOR

**Site/pit name and ADOL File Number** (Attach legal description and map.)

This plan will be followed to carry out reclamation as mining progresses, as well as the final closeout of the above-referenced site by:

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(Operator's Name and Address)

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## **I. Reclamation Practices During Mining**

1. All disturbed acreage will be revegetated upon cessation of mining or related land disturbance activities in a manner prescribed by the Alabama Department of Labor in accordance with the *Alabama Surface Mining Act of 1969 (Act 99-579)*. Reclamation shall proceed in a contemporaneous manner, i.e., in accompaniment to normal mining activities and in conjunction with site grading. Appropriate control procedures shall include:
  - a. Backfilling, regrading and stabilizing exposed highwalls in inactive pits to a slope of 3:1 or flatter with appropriate drainage control.
  - b. When appropriate, the conversion of inactive pits to ponds, i.e., where the groundwater level does not lie significantly below a pit's highest rim.
  - c. Revegetating all disturbed areas by applying lime and fertilizer as recommended by a comprehensive soil analysis, in conjunction with mulching and seeding using permanent native grasses or legumes in order to achieve no less than 75% vegetative ground cover.
  - d. In addition, trees shall be planted on affected land with native commercial species on a spacing of 10 feet, approximately 435 trees per acre, and planting methods shall be governed by good planting practices approved by a registered forester.
  
2. A minimum 50-foot, undisturbed buffer setback from adjacent properties, public roads, streams, lakes, residences, and all other features which may be adversely affected by mining activities shall be maintained during the operational life of the mine. Lateral support for this setback shall be graded to a slope of 3:1 or flatter, and vegetated with permanent native grasses.

3. All reclamation activities will be initiated at the earliest practicable time. Where overburden is used to eliminate sheer walls, the placement of overburden against any section of sheer wall will begin as soon as practical after mining operations have ceased along that section, but no longer than six months after overburden becomes available and mining operations are complete. Contouring of the overburden will be completed no later than six months after the overburden has been placed.
4. Revegetation activities will be initiated as soon as practical and completed no later than one year after the final contours are established in an area and revegetation activities would not interfere with mining operations.
5. If mining operations cease, for whatever reason, for more than two years at the site, then all of the requirements of the Alabama Surface Mining Act of 1969 will be met. This period may be extended for a maximum of two years when the cessation of mining is caused by governmental action during the review of environmental permit applications. However, we will complete those reclamation activities necessary to protect the public health and safety.
6. Reclamation activities will be consistent with all applicable local government ordinances which are at least as stringent as the minimum standards of the Alabama Surface Mining Act of 1969.
7. Reclamation will achieve the stormwater drainage, wetlands, and other surface and groundwater management requirements of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management and other agencies.
8. Safety provisions for persons, wildlife, and adjoining property will be provided during mining and reclamation.

## **II. Final Reclamation**

**The site manager will ensure completion of the following steps during the mine's final reclamation, within two (2) years of the expiration date of the ADOL surface mining permit period:**

1. All mining and processing equipment (mobile or stationary) will be removed from the site.
2. The contents of all fuel/lubricant storage vessels will be pumped for subsequent transportation off-site and the vessels themselves will be removed.

3. All man-made structures will be removed or demolished; any remains of such structures will be disposed of or recycled off-site, except where permission is received from the Alabama Department of Labor, Alabama Department of Environmental Management, or other permitting authorities to refrain from doing so.
4. Any remaining stockpiles of material will be transported elsewhere for sale or utilized in the mine's reclamation via backfilling of pits.
5. The site will be graded to a 3:1 or flatter slope where necessary to minimize future erosion of topsoil, to direct surface runoff flow to retention ponds, and to prevent bodies of standing water other than reclaimed pits or settling ponds from forming.
6. Disturbed acreage will be revegetated by means of seeding and/or planting, using the methods described above.
7. Existing extraction pits will be converted into ponds as appropriate; above-water portions of ponds shall be vegetated as described above.
8. Gullies and washouts will be repaired by backfilling with soil or Type 3 riprap, and stabilized with vegetative cover where appropriate.
9. All lands shall be reclaimed to a neat, clean condition by removing or adequately burying, where allowed by law, all visible debris, litter, junk, worn-out or unusable equipment or materials, as well as all poles, pilings, and cables.
10. In addition to providing soil for revegetation purposes, overburden will be utilized to reduce the occurrence of slopes steeper than three horizontal feet for each vertical foot. Long, continuous slopes will be avoided.
11. Best management practices will be utilized to minimize erosion.
12. Native top soils will be used, especially in areas reclaimed for aquatic or wildlife habitats, and where topsoil is not available, a soil or growing medium including amendments suitable for the type of vegetative communities planned.
13. A suitable berm or backsloping will be employed along the tops of sheer walls above all benches to prevent uncontrolled surface runoff over the sheer wall.

Comprehensive Reclamation Plan

- 14. A revegetation plan will be developed, including the species of grasses, shrubs, trees, and aquatic and wetland vegetation to be planted, spacing of vegetation, and, where necessary, soil amendments necessary to prepare them for revegetation.

**III. Submitted by:**

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**Operator (or authorized representative)**

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**Date**

**IV. Approved by:**

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**Alabama Department of Labor**

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**Date**