

**MEETING OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA MINING COMMISSION
October 14,2025
512 N. SALISBURY ST
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA**

Chairman Tom Freeman, in the City of Raleigh, NC on October 14, 2025, called a meeting of the North Carolina Mining Commission to order at 1:12 P.M. The following persons were in attendance in person or via webinar for all or part of the meeting, with the following Commission members being present for the entire meeting:

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT (IN PERSON)

Mr. Brian North
Mr. Dwain Veach

COMMISSION MEMBERS (VIRTUAL)

Mr. Tom Freeman (Chair)
Dr. Luis Chia
Mr. Brandon Jones

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Ms. Elizabeth Young

DEMLR STAFF MEMBERS

Mr. Toby Vinson, Director, DEMLR
Mr. Doug Ansel, General Counsel, DEMLR
Mr. Adam Parr, Deputy Director, DEMLR
Mr. Corey Clayton, Assistant State Mining Engineer, DEMLR
Mr. Josh Kastrinsky, Deputy Communications Director, Office Public Affairs

IN PERSON ATTENDEES

Ms. Natalie Lew
Dr. Jean Spooner
Mr. Jay Stem

Chairman Freeman read the conflict-of-interest statement. There was no conflict-of-interest among the Commission Members.

Charman Freeman recognized those attending and the Commission Members stated their names.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF July 8, 2025, Regular Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. North and seconded by Mr. Jones. Roll call vote. Chair Freeman, Mr. North, and Mr. Jones voted in favor of approval. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF September 17, 2025, Special Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. North. Roll call vote. Chair Freeman, Mr. North, and Mr. Jones voted in favor of approval. Motion passed.

ACTION ITEMS

There were no Action items

INFORMATION ITEMS

2026 Commission Meeting Schedule

Mr. Freeman will distribute the 2026 meeting dates for next following the meeting on October 15, 2025.

Rules Review/Readoption – Status Update

Mr. Parr provided an update that the Mining Rules will appear in the Register tomorrow (October 15, 2025), which will open the public comment period. The public hearing is scheduled for November 18, 2025, where Mr. Veach will be the Hearing Officer. Following the hearing the comment period will remain open until December 15, 2025. There will be a hearing report that is produced and provided to the Commission for the next meeting in the Spring.

Permitting Data Update

Mr. Parr provided an update on recent permitting actions. He started with the total list of permits by commodity. He then provided a table showing the permit actions that have occurred since the last Commission Meeting. This includes Modifications, New, and Transfers issued.

Mr. North asked for the Annual Reclamation Report (ARR) information for the 2024 calendar year at the next meeting. He also asked for the information that is submitted to the IMCC.

Horizon 30 Update

Mr. Ansel provided the Commission an update the status of Horizon 30 unpermitted mine site.

Mine Reclamation Award Discussion

The Commission decided to push this topic to the next meeting.

CONCLUSION

Comments by DEMLR Director

Mr. Vinson updated on hiring new State Mining Engineer and schedule for Access DEQ

Comments of the Commission

Mr. Veach stated his support for the reclamation award. Mr. North seconded Mr. Veach's comments. Mr. North stated the importance of coordination between the Department and industry.

Comments by Commission Counsel

No remarks

Comments of the Chair

Chair Freeman thanked Mr. Veach for volunteering to be the Hearing Officer and stated that he would provide the 2026 Meeting schedule the next day.

No other comments.

With no other comments, Chair Freeman made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Mr. North

The Commission adjourned at 1:37 pm.