



October 14, 2025 - Mining Commission

DEMLR Update to Mining Commission

Adam Parr
Deputy Director



Rules Review/Readoption – Status Update

- Notice of text has been files and Mining Rules will appear in the October 15 Register
- Public Hearing has been scheduled for November 18, 2025
 - 6-9 PM
 - Archdale Ground floor Hearing Room
 - Commissioner Dwain Veach will be the Hearing Officer.
- Comment period will end December 15, 2025
- Staff to develop Hearing Officer's Report (HOR) between December 2025 and early March 2026.
- Rules Committee to review draft HOR by early March 2026.
- Rules Committee to hold meeting to discuss the HOR by end of March 2026.
- Mining Commission to adopt the rules, approve the HOR including the Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) at its regularly scheduled July 2026 meeting.

Active Mine Permits

Includes Active/Inactive

2025 NORTH CAROLINA MINING STATISTICS FOR ACTIVE AND INACTIVE MINES*							
COMMODITY	CODE	# OF PERMITS	NEW AC. AFFECTED IN 2025	TOTAL AC. RECLAIMED/ RELEASED IN 2025**	TOTAL AC. AFFECTED/ UNRECLAIMED AT END OF 2025	TOTAL AC. BONDED AT THE END OF 2025	TOTAL AC. PERMITTED AT END OF 2025
Brick Clay	CL	33	0	0	1,653	5,544	9,043
Crushed Stone	CS	153	0	0	19,341	31,248	53,116
Dimension Stone	DS	8	0	0	255	276	1,144
Feldspar	FS	6	0	0	511	825	1,644
Flag Stone	FL	12	0	0	238	196	891
Gemstone	GS	6	0	0	12	17	76
Gold	AU	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lithium	LI	3	0	0	19	1,167	2,259
Mica	MI	3	0	0	435	560	4,169
Olivine	OL	1	0	0	22	39	102
Other/Unknown	OT	9	0	0	66	885	4,027
Peat	PE	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phosphate	PH	2	0	0	16,160	19,673	21,248
Pyrophyllite	PY	4	0	0	191	192	462
Sand Dipping	DP	13	0	0	31	37	111
Sand Dredging	DR	22	0	0	430	400	776
Sand and Gravel	SG	492	0	34	13,273	28,019	44,971
Silica Sand	SI	1	0	0	3	33	41
Talc	TC	1	0	0	16	38	55
TOTALS		769	0	34	52,656	89,147	144,135

* Statistics are based upon Annual Reclamation Reports submitted by each mine operator and validated by LQS regional office field staff. As validations are continually being entered into our statewide computer database from which these statistics are derived, these figures should be considered approximate.

** This acreage includes mined land that has been reclaimed, as well as undisturbed land that has been released from permit. This acreage does not reflect acreage where reclamation is in progress.



October 7, 2025

PERMITS ISSUED SINCE JULY 1, 2025

PERMIT NO.	MINE	PERMIT TYPE	APPLICATION DATE (YR/MO/D)	APPROVAL DATE (YR/MO/D)	REVIEW TIME (DAYS)*	NO. ADIs	APPROVAL TIME (DAYS)**
53-26	Sanford Quarry	Mod	2024/03/11	2025/09/26	237	4	564
54-75	Sandy Bottom Mine Excavations ¹	New	2024/06/25	2025/09/10	108	1	442
26-26	401 Mine	Mod	2024/09/11	2025/07/28	154	2	320
80-05	Balfour Quarry	Release	2024/12/04	2025/08/15	74		254
31-29	North East Dirt Rush Mine	New	2024/12/16	2025/07/15	109	1	212
54-52	Westside Minerals Mine ¹	Mod	2025/01/08	2025/09/30	101	1	265
60-02	Charlotte Quarry	Mod	2025/02/14	2025/08/22	101	2	189
51-57	Buckleberry Mine	Mod	2025/02/18	2025/09/26	164	3	220
45-10	Green River Quarry	Mod	2025/03/04	2025/07/08	71	1	126
43-41	Madeline Hall Mine	Mod	2025/03/14	2025/08/15	100	1	154
43-11	Riley II Pit ²	Mod	2025/03/14	2025/09/10	126	1	180
43-16	Hall-Rackley Pit	Mod	2025/03/14	2025/09/15	111	1	185
43-32	Cameron Pit	Mod	2025/03/14	2025/09/19	115	1	189

PERMITS ISSUED SINCE JULY 1, 2025

PERMIT NO.	MINE	PERMIT TYPE	APPLICATION DATE (YR/MO/D)	APPROVAL DATE (YR/MO/D)	REVIEW TIME (DAYS)*	NO. ADIs	APPROVAL TIME (DAYS)**
33-48	Dunbar Sand Company	New	2025/03/19	2025/10/02	119	1	197
47-16	A&H Mine	Mod	2025/04/01	2025/09/29	94	1	181
61-22	Carter Quarry ³	New - DENIED	2025/04/11	2025/08/22	56 ³	1	133
41-08	Stokesdale Quarry	Mod	2025/05/12	2025/09/19	78	1	130
99-06	Yadkin Quarry	Mod	2025/05/12	2025/10/03	105	1	144
69-50	Grantsboro Sandmine #3	Release	2025/05/27	2025/09/19	37	0	115
86-04	Mt. Airy Quarry	Transfer	2025/06/12	2025/07/28	44	0	44
45-01	Hendersonville Quarry	Mod	2025/06/24	2025/08/08	45	0	45
92-03	Crabtree Quarry	Partial Release	2025/06/25	2025/08/22	58	0	58
16-61	Nine Foot Road Mine #2	Mod	2025/07/15	2025/09/05	52	0	52
74-97	Mattie Mine	Bond Cancel	2025/07/25	2025/09/24	13	0	61
59-34	Cherry Island Mine	Bond Cancel	2025/08/26	2025/10/03	8	0	38

Horizon 30

- In December 2024, Horizon Opps (Horizon 30, LLC) contacted DEMLR's Mining program to inquire about mining permits and requirements in NC.
- In January 2025, DEMLR received information of potential mining in Poplar, NC.
- On February 6, 2025, DEMLR inspected the site and determined the activity being conducted would require a mining permit.
- On March 7, 2025, Horizon 30, LLC was sent a Notice of Regulatory Requirement informing you that you were operating a site that required a permit under the North Carolina Mining Act.
- On April 11, 2025, an incomplete application was received by the Mining Program for this operation.
- On May 6, 2025, Horizon 30, LLC was sent a Notice of Violation (NOV) for mining without a permit. The NOV specifically required you to cease all mining activities without a permit and to either submit a complete mining permit application or to restore the site.
- A complete application was not received until May 16, 2025 when the permit application fee was received.
- On May 27, 2025, personnel of this office conducted a follow-up inspection of the mining operation. The inspection results revealed that the violations outlined in the NOV remained uncorrected and that since inspection on April 23, 2025, additional mining has occurred at the site.
- On June 5, 2025, Horizon 30, LLC was sent a Notice of Continuing Violation (NOCV) for mining without a permit. The NOCV specifically required you to cease all mining activities without a permit and to either submit a reclamation bond if the mining permit application was approved or to restore the site.



Horizon 30

- On August 13, 2025, Judge Theodore McEntire issued a Preliminary Injunction against Horizon 30, LLC. The Preliminary Injunction required Horizon 30, LLC to immediately cease mining operations, immediately cease transfer of materials off-site, and within 30 days of execution submit a reclamation plan to the Mining Program pursuant to N.C.G.S. §74-53.
- On August 22, 2025, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 74-51(d)(7), Horizon 30, LLC's permit application was denied.
- On September 12, 2025, Horizon 30, LLC emailed a DRAFT Reclamation Plan.
- On September 17, 2025, DEMLR sent an additional information request to the DRAFT Reclamation Plan
- On September 17, 2025, Horizon 30, LLC emailed a follow-up reclamation plan. (Currently in review).
- On September 19, 2025, Horizon 30, LLC filed a petition for a contested case hearing for the denial of their permit application.



Questions

Adam Parr, PE
Deputy Director
Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources
adam.parr@deq.nc.gov
919-707-9207