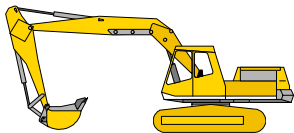


Other Information Sources.

1. Arkansas Department of Labor
10421 West Markham
Little Rock, AR 72205
General Information- (501) 682-4500
Safety Division- (501) 682-4523
2. Mine Safety and Health
Administration
700 W Capitol, Room 2420
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 324-5281
3. Arkansas Department of
Environmental Quality
8001 National Drive
Little Rock, AR 72209
Main Number- (501) 682-0744
Water Division- (501) 682-0656
Customer Service-(501) 682-0923



Non- Coal Reclamation Examples.



Before Reclamation



After Reclamation

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality



Surface Mining and Reclamation Division

Act 827 of 1991, as amended.
(The Arkansas Open Cut Land
Reclamation Act)

Regulation No. 15
(Arkansas Open Cut Mining and Land
Reclamation Code)

Introduction.

In 1971 the Arkansas General Assembly passed Act 236 of 1971, the Arkansas Open Cut Land Reclamation Act. This Act was later modified and became known as Act 336 of 1977. Various small changes were made to this Act after its passage until 1991 when the current version of the law, Act 827 of 1991, was passed.

Act 827 of 1991, as amended deals with the reclamation of land affected by the mining of non-coal minerals, such as bauxite, clay, sand and gravel, using open cut mining methods. An amendment to the law passed in 1995 authorized the regulation of the practice of removing sand and gravel from the beds of streams within Arkansas. A 1999 amendment authorized the regulation of soil and shale pits with some exemptions based on the on the size of the pit and the distance from adjacent property lines.

Pursuant to Act 827 of 1991, as amended , the Pollution Control and Ecology Commission adopted Regulation No. 15, The Arkansas Open Cut Mining and Land Reclamation Code. These regulations provide the non-coal mining operations in the state with a set of performance standards that must be followed during mining and during the process of reclaiming the land to a beneficial use.

The Surface Mining and Reclamation Division of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is charged with the enforcement of this law.

Key Elements of the Act.

- Permit to engage in Open-Cut Mining in the State of Arkansas has a maximum permit period of 5 Years and is renewable.
- Inspections are conducted annually at permitted sites to see if performance standards are being met.
- Regulation No. 15, The Arkansas Open Cut Mining and Land Reclamation Code, sets performance standards.
- Operators can request 1 year extensions for up to 3 years to complete reclamation after permit has expired.
- A reclamation bond is posted to cover the reclamation cost if operator fails to reclaim the site to standards set forth in Regulation No. 15.
- Mine Safety and Health Administration regulates safety and health issues for mine site employees.
- The Water Division of ADEQ regulates the discharge of stormwater and process water through its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program.



Who to Contact.

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