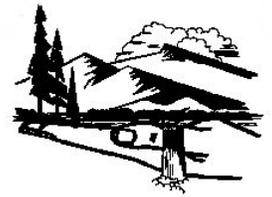




Department of Environmental Quality

To protect, conserve and enhance the quality of Wyoming's environment for the benefit of current and future generations.



Matthew H. Mead, Governor

Todd Parfitt, Director

General Performance Standards for Limited Mining Operations (LMO's)

1. **Signs** - A sign shall be posted and maintained at the entrance of the operation that clearly shows the operator's name, address, telephone number, contact name and LMO identification number.
2. **LMO Boundary** - It is recommended that the boundary of the LMO area be located and flagged on the ground prior to commencing operations. ALL areas to be affected must be within this boundary, (including exclusive-use access roads, parking areas, equipment staging areas, material stockpiles, etc.). The affected area, excluding access roads, shall not exceed fifteen (15) acres.
3. **Topsoil** - All topsoil must be saved and protected for use in reclamation, even if the soil is very rocky. All topsoil stockpiles shall be identified with a sign. Topsoil must be salvaged before the land is disturbed by any other activity, including roads. A stripped buffer zone should be maintained between the pit and any topsoil stockpiles. Topsoil stockpiles shall be located where they will not be disturbed or contaminated and they shall be seeded to provide erosion protection. Topsoil cannot be sold or removed from the site.
4. **Bond** - A bond must be posted to cover reclamation of the disturbed area at a rate of \$2000.00/acre or \$3000.00/acre for quarries. Roads used to access the operation must be included in the acreage total when calculating the bond. Bond release cannot occur until all affected lands are reclaimed and vegetation is well established. Generally, at least 2-3 full growing seasons are required.
5. **Overburden handling** - No materials (including overburden, topsoil or mineral products) shall be pushed over escarpments or steep slopes or into drainages, streams, or wetlands.
6. **Roads** - Roads shall be located on upland areas away from drainages and stream channels. Roads should be ditched to provide proper drainage off the road surface. Culverts shall be installed at all drainage crossings and sized appropriately. Roads used to access the operation are excluded from the disturbance acreage limitation, but must be bonded for reclamation.
7. **Petroleum products** - It is recommended that petroleum products not be stored on-site, unless they are properly secured within secondary containment (plastic-lined berms, stocktanks, etc, large enough to contain the full volume of the primary container). Any petroleum contaminated soils must be disposed at a municipal landfill.
8. **Trash** - No trash or waste shall be disposed in the mine area (including tires or wood waste). Materials classified as "clean fill" (sand, gravel, rock, brick or concrete with no protruding rebar) may only be buried in the pit with prior written approval from the landowner and the LQD. Such materials should be buried at least four feet deep.
9. **Reclamation** - After operations have ceased or within 30 days after abandonment of the LMO, the operator shall notify the LQD and begin reclamation, unless the landowner advises LQD in writing that product will be further utilized and reclamation will be assumed by landowner. All lands shall be graded to 3:1 or flatter slopes and through drainage shall be provided. Pit floors and other compacted surfaces should be ripped to a depth of at least 8-12 inches prior to topsoil spreading.
10. **Topsoil replacement** - Topsoil shall be spread evenly over all graded surfaces. Topsoil shall be scarified, disked or harrowed on the contour to control erosion and prepare a proper seedbed prior to seeding.
11. **Seeding** - Seeding shall be done at the earliest appropriate time; fall planting after Oct. 15th and before the ground freezes; spring planting prior to April 15th when the ground is not frozen or covered with snow. The seed mix should consist of native, drought tolerant species. Lawn or pasture mixes, even "dryland pasture mix", are generally not suitable for Wyoming's arid climate. The operator should contact LQD for recommended seed mixes.
12. **Weeds** - Weeds shall be controlled in all areas to prevent on-site infestations as well as dispersal off-site. The operator should contact the county weed & pest department for assistance.

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