



South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management

General Coastal Zone Consistency Certification
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
Mining Permits

Recipient: Regulated Public – State of South Carolina

GCZC Number: GCZC-2023-001

Date of Issuance: January 4, 2023

Expiration Date: January 4, 2028

Authorized Work: Permits for Small Mining Operations

Permits for the excavation of five acres or less with mining limited to sand, clay, and topsoil and does not include mineral processing. A reclamation plan is required for these activities.

Location: The eight Coastal Zone counties of South Carolina - Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Georgetown, Horry, and Jasper.

This General Coastal Zone Consistency Certification (GCZC) is issued under the provisions of Coastal Tidelands and Wetlands Act, S.C. Code Ann. §§ 48-39-10 et seq. (2008 & Supp. 2019) and the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Program (SCCZMP) of the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (DHEC OCRM). The intent of this GCZC is to provide a means by which certain mining activities that have minimal to no coastal resource impacts can be authorized in an expedited manner. The activities covered by this GCZC have been determined to be consistent with the SCCZMP after a thorough review of the policies and guidelines as listed below. Consistency with Stormwater Management Guidelines of the SCCZMP only apply to activities covered under DHEC's Bureau of Land and Waste Management's (BLWM) Mining General Permit. Projects seeking coverage under the GCZC will be reviewed and evaluated for consistency with the conditions below to ensure that there are no impacts to wetlands, threatened or endangered species, conflicts of use with any GAPCs, and any known archaeological and/or cultural resources. Activities occurring outside of those specified under the Mining General Permit may require additional review at the time of an NPDES permit submittal for land disturbance activities.

This GCZC will serve as the final staff coastal zone consistency certification associated with the activities granted coverage under BLWM's Mining General Permit unless DHEC staff determines that an individual certification will be required, or unless otherwise specified. For more information

regarding BLWM's Mining Permitting Program, please visit <https://scdhec.gov/environment/land-management/mining-reclamation>.

In reviewing this GCZC for consistency with the SCCZMP, staff determined the referenced policies listed below allow for minor impacts without further review:

Policies applicable in the review of the activity for consistency:

- III. Coastal Industries (*Mineral Extraction*)
- XII. Activities in Areas of Special Resource Significance (*Barrier Islands, Dune Areas, Navigational Channels, Public Open Spaces, and Wetlands*)
- XIII. Stormwater Management (Mines)

Policies not applicable in the review of the activity for consistency:

- I. Residential Development
- II. Transportation Facilities (Ports, Roads and Highways, Airports, Railways, and Parking Facilities)
- III. Coastal Industries (Agriculture, Forestry, Fish and Seafood Processing, Aquaculture, and Manufacturing)
- IV. Commercial Development
- V. Recreation and Tourism (Parks and Commercial Recreation)
- VI. Marine Related Facilities (Marinas, Boat Ramps, and Docks)
- VII. Wildlife and Fisheries Management (Artificial Reefs and Impoundments)
- VIII. Dredging (Dredging and Spoil Disposal)
- IX. Public Services and facilities (Sewage Treatment, Solid Waste Disposal, Dams and Reservoirs, Public Buildings, and Water Supply)
- X. Erosion Control (Funding and General Erosion Control)
- XI. Energy and Energy Related Facilities
- XIII. Stormwater Management (Runoff, Bridge Runoff, Golf Course Management, and Landfills)
- XIV. Beach and Shoreline Access

DHEC OCRM must be notified in writing to request coverage under this GCZC prior to project initiation. The notification must include General Coastal Zone Consistency Request Form (DHEC 0352), copies of the maps and diagrams for the proposed mining operation, a copy of the Notice of Intent for Coverage under a General Mine Operating Permit – GP1 (D-3114), and any other information deemed necessary for the review.

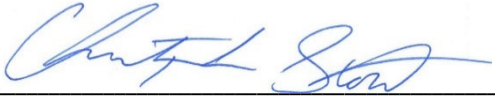
Please carefully read the project description and all conditions which appear on this certification as they affect the activities allowed.

Conditions for Small Mining Operations

1. This GCZC does not relieve the applicant from the requirement of obtaining all other necessary authorizations from any state or federal agency prior to initiating work, nor the necessity of complying with all applicable local laws, ordinances, and zoning regulations.
2. The applicant must implement proper best management practices during activities covered by this GCZC, as appropriate. Upon completion of construction activities, all disturbed (includes undeveloped) areas, including those impacted for access, must be immediately stabilized.
3. Ditching through wetlands for mine explorations is not covered by this GCZC and will require an individual certification.
4. Direct stormwater discharge from upland mines into adjacent wetlands is not covered by this GCZC and will require an individual certification.
5. For those mining activities within a half mile of a receiving waterbody in the coastal zone, the pumping of groundwater from the sediment basin(s) must be done with floating intakes only. Pumping of the basin(s) must cease whenever the water levels are within two (2) feet of the basin's bottom.
6. Negative effects to groundwater resources by a mining operation are not allowed by this GCZC.
7. Small mining operations that would result in the filling, excavation, or other permanent alteration of Waters of the State, including wetlands, are not covered by this GCZC. Any project proposing impacts to Waters of the State will require an individual certification, and the review of which will require a demonstration of no feasible alternatives for those proposed impacts.
8. The proposed activity is not located in areas identified as "Areas of Special Resource Significance" as detailed in Chapter III, Section XII of the SCCZMP, as refined. Areas of Special Resource Significance includes (1) Barrier Islands, (2) Dune Areas (outside of the critical area), (3) Navigation Channels, (4) Public Open Spaces, and (5) Wetlands. Any project proposing to be located in one of these Areas will require an individual certification review.
9. The proposed activity is not located in areas identified as GAPCs as detailed in Chapter IV of the SCCZMP; Areas of Unique Natural Resource Value: (1) Heritage Trust Sites, (2) State Wildlife Preserves, (3) State Parks, (4) Scenic Rivers, (5) Marine and Estuarine Sanctuaries, (6) Shellfish Areas, (7) Groundwater Resources, and (8) Threatened and Endangered Species; Activities or Facilities Dependent on Coastal Location: (1) State Ports, (2) Navigation Channels, and (3) Mining Operations; Areas of Special Historic, Archaeological or Cultural Significance: (1) special historic, (2) archaeological, or (3) culturally significant sites. For those projects adjacent to or that may significantly affect a priority of use for any GAPC, DHEC OCRM will determine a project's affects during individual review of application for coverage under this GCZC. Those projects which are likely to adversely affect the priority of use for a GAPC will require an individual certification.
10. In the event that any historic or cultural resources and/or archaeological materials are found during the course of work, the applicant must notify the State Historic Preservation Office and

the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. Historic or cultural resources consist of those sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places and those sites that are eligible for the National Register. Archaeological materials consist of any items, fifty (50) years old or older, which were made or used by man. These items include, but are not limited to, stone projectile points (arrowheads), ceramic sherds, bricks, worked wood, bone and stone, metal and glass objects, and human skeletal materials.

AN APPLICANT UTILIZING THIS GCZC HEREBY AGREES TO ABIDE BY THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE GCZC AND TO PERFORM THE WORK IN STRICT ACCORDANCE WITH THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AS APPROVED BY THE AGENCY PERMITTING AUTHORITY. ANY DEVIATION FROM THESE CONDITIONS AND TERMS OF THIS GCZC OR THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS OF THE PERMIT AS ISSUED SHALL BE GROUNDS FOR REVOCATION, SUSPENSION, OR MODIFICATION OF THIS GCZC AND THE INITIATION OF SUCH LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AS DHEC MAY CONSIDER APPROPRIATE.



Christopher Stout
Coastal Zone Consistency Section Manager
DHEC OCRM

1/4/2023

Date