



Memorandum

Date: March 02, 2021

To: Adjacent Landowners & Concerned Citizens

From: South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)

Re: Joint Public Hearing – April 01, 2021, 6:30 PM
Haile Gold Mine, Inc., Haile Gold Mine
Lancaster County, South Carolina

USACE's Charleston District and DHEC's Bureau of Land and Waste Management (BLWM) will hold a **joint virtual public hearing on April 01, 2021, at 6:30PM**, to accept comments, both written and oral, on the draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) and the application to modify Haile Gold Mine, Inc.'s Mine Operating Permit (I-000601). **Interested persons may participate remotely using a phone, computer, or other mobile device.** The USACE and DHEC notice of the public hearing is enclosed and will be published in *The State* newspaper, as well as *The Camden Chronical Independent*, *Kershaw News Era*, and *The Lancaster News*. The virtual public hearing will include presentations from DHEC and USACE about the proposed project.

Anyone interested in the proposed project is encouraged to visit <http://hailegoldmineseis.com/> and <https://www.scdhec.gov/HaileMine> for additional information about the SEIS, proposed modification, and joint public hearing. These webpages are updated with new information as it becomes available. **Anyone who plans to participate in the joint public hearing should complete the registration form on the webpages prior to March 30, 2021.** If you are unable to access the webpage, or have questions about participating in the joint public hearing, please contact Kristy Ellenberg **no later than March 25, 2021**, at (803) 898-8161, or by email at ellenbke@dhec.sc.gov, to register and receive the hearing materials.

USACE's and DHEC's public comment period will remain open through April 23, 2021. All comments received will be considered. For additional information about the proposed mine or to submit written comments to the appropriate office, please contact the following staff:

USACE: Shawn Boone at (843) 329-8158, or by email at shawn.a.boone@usace.army.mil
DHEC: Jeremy Eddy at (803) 898-7609, or by email at eddyje@dhec.sc.gov.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District
&
S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
Bureau of Land and Waste Management

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, NOTICE OF INTENT TO MODIFY A MINE OPERATING PERMIT and NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Haile Gold Mine, Inc.

Haile Gold Mine

Kershaw, Lancaster County, South Carolina

DHEC Mine Application I-000601

Department of the Army Permit Number SAC-1992-24122

Date of Notice: March 02, 2021

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) Bureau of Land and Waste Management (BLWM) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are announcing the initiation of a public comment period on the USACE's Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) and a request to modify a mine operating permit for the Haile Gold Mine. USACE and DHEC intend to hold a joint virtual public hearing.

The Draft SEIS is available for review online at <http://hailegoldmineseis.com/>. Hard copies are available for review at the Kershaw County Library – Camden branch [address: 1304 Broad St, Camden, SC 29020 phone: (803) 425-1508] and the Kershaw Depot [address: 106 N. Cleveland Street, Kershaw, SC 29067, phone: (803) 475-3201]. There are COVID measures in place at the library and Kershaw Depot for public safety; for any questions or if you prefer to make an appointment to review the Draft SEIS, please call ahead.

The intent to modify a mine operating permit is located at <http://scdhec.gov/HaileMine>. The request is to continue mining gold and to add approximately 832 acres to the mine operating permit, increase overburden and tailing storage capacity, increase processing plant efficiency, increase water storage capacity, and initiate underground mining operations. Proposed land uses following reclamation include lake/pond, grasslands, and woodlands.

The virtual public hearing will be held on April 1, 2021, at 6:30 pm eastern standard time, to accept oral and written comments on the Draft SEIS for the Haile Gold Mine, Inc.'s proposed mine expansion and DHEC's consideration of a proposed modification to the Haile Gold Mine Permit (I-000601) in Kershaw, SC.

The public hearing is a formal opportunity for comments to be heard by DHEC and USACE staff and to be recorded by a court reporter. The agencies' representatives will not respond to any questions or comments during the public hearing. The public hearing will be conducted in a respectful, orderly manner with reasonable limits on the length of comments, if necessary.

Anyone who plans to participate in the joint public hearing should complete the registration form on the DHEC webpage <https://www.scdhec.gov/HaileMine> prior to March 30, 2021. Everyone who completes the registration form will be provided instructions on how to join the joint public hearing from a phone, computer, or mobile device. The public hearing will be recorded and the recording will be posted on the DHEC and USACE webpages no later than April 9, 2021.

If you are unable to access the webpages, or have questions about participating in the public hearing, please contact Kristy Ellenberg, permitting liaison, no later than March 25, 2021, at (803) 898-8161, or by email at ellenbke@dhec.sc.gov, to register and receive the materials.

All comments received will be considered before final decisions are made.

Comments on the mine permit applications will be accepted through April 23, 2021, and may be submitted by email or U.S. mail to:

Jeremy Eddy, Project Manager
DHEC | Bureau of Land and Waste Management
2600 Bull Street | Columbia, SC 29201
Email: eddyje@dhec.sc.gov

Comments on the Draft SEIS and the modification of the Department of the Army Permit will be accepted through April 23, 2021. Comments can be submitted electronically via the website <http://www.hailegoldmineseis.com/>, via email, or U.S. mail to:

Shawn Boone, Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
69A Hagood Avenue, Charleston, SC 29403
(843) 329-8158
Email: shawn.a.boone@usace.army.mil