

NMAC

NR 135 Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Program Accomplishments in 2007 & Plans for 2008

Main Known Work Items Planned for 2008

- Special Issue of NR 135 Reclamation Newsletter on reclamation trends & NR 135 program status.
- Work on fee report to NRB (to be main topic of forthcoming spring/summer NMAC meeting).

Main Work Items 2007

► Ordinance Amendment

Beginning with outreach sessions conducted statewide in January 2007, much of our time and energy was focused on providing whatever assistance we could to Regulatory Authorities in amending their ordinance and some program oversight (continuing). As you recall, the program enhancements contained in the revised NR 135 rule (effective December 2006) could not be fully implemented absent the RA ordinance revision.

County NR 135 Regulatory Authorities RAs

Region	Adopted	Pending	Extension	N/A	Subtotal
Southeast	6		1	1	8
Southern	10		1		11
West Central	17	1	1		19
Northern	16	2			18
Northeast	14		1	1	16
totals	63	3	4	2	72

► Regulatory Authority Audits

- Eight RA audits were completed during calendar year 2007. By rule each RA must be audited at least once every 10 years. There are 70 county programs and just over 20 municipal programs (city, village, and town). Since the NR 135 RA program audit process was initiated in May of 2003 there have been 58 audits.

► NMAC Meeting - One NR 135 Nonmetallic Mining Advisory Committee (NMAC) meeting was held on August 9, 2007 at the DNR's Darwin Road Facility in Madison, WI.

- DNR planned response to suggestions and requests generated at the above meeting:
It was determined that the NR 135 Newsletter would be the most practical way to address some of these suggestions and requests. The soon to be published January NR 135 Reclamation Newsletter addresses this need to some extent by providing information on regulatory requirements attendant to the beneficial use of industrial byproducts and other materials in mine reclamation as well as highlighting a current project. Unfortunately, because of the publication deadline for the January 2008 NR 135 Newsletter we were not able to fully address this need. Instead DNR elected to take more time to research this important topic and publish a forthcoming special issue of the NR 135

Reclamation Newsletter addressing reclamation trends, program status, overall success, as well as more detailed information on innovations in reclamation and other items identified in the August 9 NMAC meeting.

► Field & Technical Support

- Documents & Computer Applications

Several Publications were updated in 2007 including: Registration - WA 825 2006; Estimating Fees – WA 832 2006; The balance including Financial Assurance Guidance - WA 835 -2006; Reclamation Plan Guidance will be updated in 2008.

- Work proceeding in tracking audit results in our computer database (FIST).

- New streamlined approach for NR 135 RA annual reporting and fee transmittal available online. Thanks to some innovative thinking and hard work by Steve Drake both the annual reporting and fee transmittal process will be greatly simplified and streamlined thanks to a new web-based reporting tool that has been developed by the department. This new web-based reporting process relies on a reporting tool that will take the place of both the current Excel template, used for electronic annual reporting, and the fee transmittal coversheet.

- Field & Technical Support - project or need specific technical assistance was provided to Dunn, Pepin and Adams Counties.

- Tom Portle continues to cover SCR and has covered WCR since Deb Dix left the position.

- Audit enhancement - field inspection form complete.

- Other

- Accumulated sediment Technical Advisory Committee

Tom Portle has been working with a TAC to develop a self implementing regulatory approach for the management of sediment collected from stormwater management structures. The NMAC should be aware of this because the accumulated sediment is often spoil material and can be used either as reclamation fill or for substitute soil. This is addressed in the January 2008 NR 135 Reclamation Newsletter.

Note: Many municipalities and others generate material from periodically cleaning sediment control structures and other sources. Such materials are defined as solid waste and are typically disposed of at a landfill but may instead be evaluated as candidates for uses such as soil substitutes or fill in mine reclamation. **Mine operators should remember to consider on-site sediment derived from cleaning any on-site sediment control structures you may have or perhaps even from sediment accumulation at the low point on a quarry floor.**