

(1) The method of compliance with State air and water pollution requirements;

(2) The method of prevention, elimination, or minimization of conditions that would be hazardous to animal or fish life in or adjacent to the area;

(3) The method of rehabilitation of settling ponds;

(4) The method of control of contaminants and disposal of mining refuse; and

(5) The method of restoring or establishing stream channels and stream banks to a condition minimizing erosion, siltation, and other pollution. [All permits required by all State and local regulatory agencies with regard to air and water pollution and sediment control shall be a prerequisite to issuance of the permit.]

(d) The plan shall provide that reclamation activities, particularly those relating to control of erosion, shall be conducted to the extent feasible simultaneously with mining operations and be initiated at the earliest feasible time after completion or termination of mining on any segment of the permit area. The plan shall provide that reclamation activities be completed promptly and not later than two years after completion of mining on each segment of the area for which a permit is requested unless the Department specifically permits a longer period.

(e) The Department may approve, approve subject to stated modifications, or reject the plan which is proposed. The Department shall approve a reclamation plan, as submitted or as modified, if it finds that the plan adequately provides for timely completion of those actions necessary to achieve the purposes and requirements of this subtitle and that, in addition, the plan meets the following minimum standards:

(1) The final slopes in all excavations in soil, sand, gravel, and other unconsolidated materials shall be at an angle to minimize the possibility of slides and be consistent with the future use of the land;

(2) Provisions for safety to persons and to adjoining property shall be provided in all excavations [in rock];

(3) In open pit mining operations, all overburden and spoil shall be left in a configuration which is in accordance with accepted conservation practices and suitable for the proposed subsequent use of the land;

(4) Suitable drainage ditches or conduits shall be constructed or installed or grading completed to avoid the collection or existence of small pools of water that are, or likely to become, noxious, odious, or foul on the mined area; AND