

Article - Natural Resources

7-505.

(c) The application for a permit or permit revision shall be submitted in a manner satisfactory to the Department and shall contain at a minimum:

(4) A determination of the probable hydrologic consequences of the mining and reclamation operations upon surface and ground waters both on and off the permit area. [The cost of analysis of test borings or core samplings and the determination of probable hydrologic consequences may be assumed by the Department upon the request of an operator if the Department determines that the projected total annual production by the operator at all permits is less than 300,000 tons.] Information pertaining to the coal seam, test borings, core samples and soil samples shall be available to the public except that information as to the chemical and physical properties of the coal seam other than its potential toxicity shall be confidential.

[7-515.

(a) An open-pit mining operation that does not exceed 2 acres of land affected may obtain a permit under this section in lieu of other permit application requirements of this subtitle. However, a permit issued under this section shall be subject to all provisions of this subtitle not expressly exempted by this section.

(b) The Department may not issue a permit to an operator under this section for any area which is adjacent or in close proximity to an area already employed for open-pit mining operations. An operator may hold only 1 permit under this section at any given time.

(c) In lieu of § 7-505(c) of this subtitle, an application for a permit under this section shall include, but is not limited to:

- (1) The name of the owner of the surface of the land to be mined;
- (2) The name of the owner of the coal to be mined;
- (3) The legal right of the applicant to enter and conduct the operation of the land;

(4) A plan, prepared and certified by a person approved by the Department, showing the tract of land on which the applicant proposes to conduct the operation, the boundaries and the number of acres of the land to be affected by the operation, the intended use of the land after removal of the coal, and such other information as may be required by the Department to demonstrate that the mining operation is conducted, and the area affected is restored, in a manner that minimizes the impact of the operation on the environment and the surrounding area;

(5) A certificate of insurance certifying that the applicant has in force a comprehensive liability insurance policy issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in the State affording adequate personal injury protection; and

(6) Such other information as required on forms to be provided by the Department.