



Catherine B. Templeton, Director

*Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment*

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control  
Division 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-2013-005

Date of Issuance: December 3, 2013

Expiration Date: December 3, 2018

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 bond is not required for these activities.

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

The intent of a General Coastal Zone Consistency Certification (GCZC) is to provide a means by which certain activities that have minimal impacts can be authorized with minimal delay. The activities covered by this General Certification have been determined to be consistent with South Carolina's Coastal Zone Management Program (SCCZMP) after a thorough review of the policies, guidelines, and Geographic Areas of Particular Concern (GAPC) priority of uses of the SCCZMP. Furthermore, the Stormwater Management Guidelines of the SCCZMP may also be applicable at the time of NPDES permit submittal (and associated CZC review) for land disturbance activities if impacts rise above the minimum thresholds specified in the 2013 NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activities.

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 (*Mining*)

XII. Activities in Areas of Special Resource Significance (*Barrier Islands, Dune Areas, Navigational Channels, Public Open Spaces, and Wetlands*)

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, Mines, and Landfills*)
- XIV. Beach and Shoreline Access

This GCZC is issued under the provisions of Act 123 of the 1977 South Carolina General Assembly and the SCCZMP of the Department of Health and Environmental Control Ocean and Coastal Resource Management Division. This GCZC serves as the final staff coastal zone consistency certification associated with the activities covered under the Bureau of Land and Waste Management Mining Permitting Program unless DHEC staff determines that an individual certification will be required, or unless otherwise specified.

For more information regarding the Bureau of Land and Waste Management's Mining Permitting Program, please visit [www.scdhec.gov/environment/lwm/html/mining.htm](http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/lwm/html/mining.htm).

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

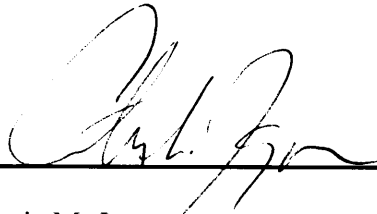
Conditions for Small Mining Operations

1. The Division of OCRM must be notified in writing of coverage claimed under this GCZC prior to project initiation. The communication should include a description of the work including the area impacted and the location.
2. This GCZC does not relieve the applicant from the requirement of obtaining all other necessary approvals prior to initiating work.

3. The applicant must implement proper best management practices during activities covered by this general certification, as appropriate.
4. Ditching through wetlands for mine explorations is not covered by this general certification and will require an individual certification.
5. Direct stormwater discharge from upland mines into adjacent wetlands is not covered by this general certification and will require an individual certification
6. Negative effects to groundwater resources by a mining operation are not allowed by this general certification.
7. Small mining operations that would result in the filling or other permanent alteration of Waters of the State, including wetlands, are not covered by this general certification, unless feasible alternatives are considered such that these resources are avoided to the maximum extent practicable and resultant impacts are minimized. A maximum non-jurisdictional wetland impact of .10 acres is allowed under this provision without the requirement of mitigation. Impacts to wetlands over this maximum threshold will require an individual certification. To the extent feasible, structures must be directed away from ecologically sensitive areas such as marshes, forested wetlands, pocosins, etc.
8. The Bureau of Land and Waste Management's regulatory programs in issuing these permits will ensure standards are met and adhered to as required by law. However, the following conditions are specific to coastal resources and also must be adhered to:
  - a. None of the proposed activity is 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 include: (1) Barrier Islands, (2) Dune Areas (outside of the critical area), (3) Navigation Channels, (4) Public Open Spaces, and (5) Wetlands are not covered by this general certification. Barrier Islands identified in this condition include undeveloped areas of barrier islands only. Public Open Spaces identified in this condition include recreationally open areas such as local parks. State Parks are currently identified as Geographic Areas of Particular Concern (GAPC) and are covered therein. CZC Staff will determine effects to these at the time of review
  - b. None of the proposed activity is 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. CZC Staff will determine affects to GAPC's at the time of review.

**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 THE DHEC MAY CONSIDER APPROPRIATE.**



December 3, 2013

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Curtis M. Joyner  
Manager, Coastal Zone Consistency Section

Date