

DIVISION OF MINERAL & GEOLOGIC RESOURCES MINING SECTION

Public Participation Opportunities Request for Public Comments Draft Permit Actions

February 13, 2024

Public Notice: MA2024-02 Last Day to Comment: March 15, 2024

The purpose of this notice is to advise the public of the following draft environmental permits and to solicit comments and information necessary to evaluate the potential impact of the proposed activities on human health and the environment. The draft permits are available on the Department's Data Viewer by entering the permit number for each action in this notice at the following web address: <u>https://dataviewers.tdec.tn.gov/dataviewers/f?p=2005</u>. The Data Viewer may also be accessed by scanning the QR code to the right with your smartphone.



The Division has made the determination that the following ARAP permit applications are complete as required by *Rule* 0400-40-03-.06(1)(c) and *Rule* 0400-40-07-.04.

Individual ARAP Permits

Stream and Wetlands Alterations

Permit Number:	NR23MS.009	Permit Writer/Division Cont	act Initials:	DRM	
Applicant:	Brian Chronowski, Environmental Manager				
Address:	115 East Park Drive, Suite 100				
Phone:	(602) 377-8310				
Facility	Parsons Quarry				
Division Contact:	Dan Murray				
Address:	Knoxville Environmental Field Office 3711 Middlebrook Pike Knoxville, TN 37921-6538				
Phone:	(865) 770-9473				
Email:	Dan.Murray@tn.gov				
Project:	Parsons Quarry Stream & Wetland Alterations				
Description of Activity:	Stream & Wetland Alter	ations for Quarry Expansion			
Receiving Stream:	Unnamed Tributary to Collins Branch				
Facility Location:	Latitude:	35.70157	Longitude:	-88.107313	
Street Address:	150 Rock Crusher Lane, Parsons, TN				
County:	Decatur		EFO Name:	Jackson	

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List of Permit Writers-Mining Section

DKC DPL	Dennis Conger Daniel Lawrence	865-606-1746 865-803-1206	Dennis.Conger@tn.gov Daniel.Lawrence@tn.gov
BC	Bonnie Craighead	865-223-4083	Bonnie.Craighead@TN.gov
DRM	Dan Murray	865-770-9473	Dan.Murray@tn.gov
EB	Emily Bonts	865-306-1868	Emily.Bonts@tn.gov
GEK	Geoff Klein	865-441-4773	Geoff.Klein@tn.gov
LCK	Logan Kennedy	865-771-9102	Logan.Kennedy@tn.gov

Environmental Field Offices

Chattanooga Environmental Field Office 1301 Riverfront Parkway Suite 206 Chattanooga, TN 37402-2233 (423) 634-5745 or 1-888-891-8332

Cookeville Environmental Field Office 1221 South Willow Avenue Cookeville, TN 38506-4107 (931) 520-6688 or 1-888-891-8332

Johnson City Environmental Field Office 2305 Silverdale Road Johnson City, TN 37601-4322 (423) 854-5400 or 1-888-891-8332

Nashville Environmental Field Office 711 R. S. Gass Boulevard Nashville, TN 37216-2637 (615) 687-7000 or 1-888-891-8332

How to Comment

Columbia Environmental Field Office 1421 Hampshire Pike Columbia, TN 38401-5611 (931) 380-3371 or 1-888-891-8332

Jackson Environmental Field Office 1625 Hollywood Drive Jackson, TN 38305-4316 (731) 512-1300 or 1-888-891-8332

Knoxville Environmental Field Office 3711 Middlebrook Pike Knoxville, TN 37921-6538 (865) 594-6035 or 1-888-891-8332

Memphis Environmental Field Office 8383 Wolf Lake Drive Bartlett, TN 38133-4119 (901) 371-3000 or 1-888-891-8332

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) is requesting public comments on the permit actions. Obtaining a broad range of facts and opinions on Agency actions is one of the best ways to ensure quality decisions. Persons wishing to comment on the proposed permit actions may submit comments in writing to the Mining Section at the Knoxville Environmental Field Office, Attn: ARAP-Mining Public Notice; by fax to (865) 594-6105; by e-mail to TDEC.Mining@tn.gov, or by e-mail to the permit writer listed for the permit action. The Division must receive your comments before the close of the comment period (see page 1).

How to Request a Public Hearing

Interested persons may request in writing that the Division hold a public hearing on any application. Said request from interested persons must be filed as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the period allowed for public comment, and must indicate the interest of the party filing it, must concisely state the water quality issues being raised, and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. When there is significant public interest for a hearing, the Division will hold a hearing in accordance with *Rule 0400-40-07-.04(4)(f)*. A separate public notice will announce the public hearing.

How the Department Will Proceed

The Director of the Division of Mineral & Geologic Resources will determine the final permit action after considering comments submitted during the comment period, the hearing record, if any, and the requirements of Federal and State acts and regulations.

To Obtain Permit Details

Draft permits contain Antidegradation Determinations and Rationales that address information concerning the foundation for the Division's decisions. Copies of the applications, draft permits, and supporting documentation are in the permit files maintained at the Knoxville Environmental Field Office, Mining Section. This information is available on the Division's Data Viewer by entering the permit number for each action that you interested in into the search box at the following web address: <u>https://dataviewers.tdec.tn.gov/dataviewers/f?p=2005</u>. The Data Viewer may also be accessed by scanning the QR code to the right with your smartphone. Files are also available for in-person public inspection during normal visiting hours. Please email <u>Kara.Blevins(a)</u>



available for in-person public inspection during normal visiting hours. Please email <u>Kara.Blevins@tn.gov</u> or call (865) 594-5460 to schedule an appointment for the review. There is a nominal fee for copying.

State of Tennessee Antidegradation Policy

Tennessee's Antidegradation Statement is in Rule 0400-40-03-.06 of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. It is the purpose of Tennessee's standards to fully protect existing uses of all surface waters as established under the Act. Where the quality of Tennessee waters is better than the level necessary to support propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, or recreation in and on the water, that quality will be maintained and protected unless the Department finds, after intergovernmental coordination and public participation, that lowering water quality is necessary to accommodate important economic or social development in the area in which the waters are located.

Generally, there are two types of high quality waters. Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRWs) receive the greatest level of protection. The Board of Water Quality, Oil and Gas designate these waters. New or expanded water withdrawals in ONRWs must result in no measurable degradation. New or expanded habitat alterations in ONRWs can result in no more than de minimis degradation.

The Department identifies other high quality waters known as Exceptional Tennessee Waters (ETWs) and protects against their degradation. New or increased water withdrawals that would cause degradation of any available parameter above the level of de minimis will only be authorized if the applicant has demonstrated to the Department that there are no practicable alternatives to prevent or lessen degradation associated with the proposed activity and the degradation is necessary to accommodate important economic or social development in the area and will not violate the water quality criteria for uses existing in the receiving waters. Activities that would cause degradation of habitat above the level of de minimis will only be authorized if the applicant has demonstrated to the Department that there are no practicable alternatives to prevent or lessen degradation associated with the proposed activity, and the degradation is necessary to accommodate important economic or social development that there are no practicable alternatives to prevent or lessen degradation associated with the proposed activity, and the degradation is necessary to accommodate important economic or social development in the area and will not violate the water quality criteria for uses existing in the receiving waters.

All Tennessee waters even when not designated as high quality are classified as having unavailable parameters or available parameters. In waters with unavailable parameters no new or increased water withdrawals that will cause additional measurable degradation of the unavailable parameter shall be authorized. In waters with unavailable parameters habitat alterations that cause significant degradation shall not be authorized. In waters with available parameters an activity that would cause degradation above the level of de minimis will only be authorized if the applicant has demonstrated to the Department that there are no practicable alternatives to prevent or lessen degradation associated with the proposed activity and the degradation is necessary to accommodate important economic or social development in the area and will not violate the water quality criteria for uses existing in the receiving waters. These waters must achieve and maintain Tennessee's Water Quality Standards.

State of Tennessee Policy of Non-Discrimination

Pursuant to the State of Tennessee's policy of non-discrimination, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, or military service in its policies, or in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs, services or activities. You may direct any Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action inquiries or complaints to the EEO/AA Coordinator, Office of General Counsel, William R. Snodgrass - TN Tower, 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, Nashville, TN 37243-1102 or telephone 1-888-867-7455. Direct any Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) inquiries or complaints to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources Public Notice MA2024-02 February 13, 2024 Page 4 of 5

Division, William R. Snodgrass - TN Tower, 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 2nd Floor, Nashville, TN 37243-1102 or telephone 1-888-867-7455. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service (1-800-848-0298).

If it is hard for you to read, speak, or understand English, TDEC can provide translation or interpretation services free of charge by contacting Brian Canada at 615-532-0660 or <u>Brian.Canada@tn.gov</u>.

Si le resulta difícil leer, hablar o comprender inglés, TDEC puede proporcionarle servicios de traducción o interpretación sin cargo comunicándose con Brian Canada al 615-532-0660 o <u>Brian.Canada@tn.gov</u>.