

**ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
NON-FUEL SURFACE MINING FACT SHEET**

- 355 active permits currently.
- 2 new permits (average) issued each month.
- 10,500 acres bonded on active sites, with an additional 8,000 acres not bonded.
- 450 total permitted sites (active, abandoned, pending release).
- 500[±] sites exempt by mineral category or illegally operated.
- 1,000[±] sites operated by state, county, and city road departments are exempt.
- Less than 50% of all surface mining activity is inspected while mining is in progress.
- Additional funding needed for inspections.
- \$2,500/acre bond is inadequate. Current cost to reclaim is \$4,000-\$5,000/acre.

SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION FUND

- 325 forfeited bonds to date.
- \$268,259.00 forfeited bond fund total to date.
- \$ 13 million - estimated cost to reclaim 325 forfeited bond sites.
- Estimated 2,900 acres disturbed on forfeited sites.
- Estimated 102,000⁺ acres abandoned from all forms of non-fuel surface mining (pre-law, permitted, illegal, exempt sites).
- \$420 million cost to reclaim all abandoned non-coal sites in state (at \$4,000/acre).

Note: Regulation of surface coal mining is responsibility of Alabama Surface Mining Commission.