



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Bureau of Mining Programs

Bond Schedule for the Calculation of Bond Amounts on Noncoal Mining Operations

Aggregate Advisory Board Meeting

February 18, 2016

Noncoal Bond Schedule

- Bond Schedule was published on March 5, 2011 in *Pennsylvania Bulletin*
- Can be found on DEP website (www.dep.pa.gov) at: DEP>Business>Land>Mining>Bureau of Mining Programs>Programs and Services>Bonding
- Rates were based on 2010 coal bond rates and industry estimates.
- Rates are in effect until they are revised through a subsequent notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*

General Methodology

- Large noncoal sites use a flat per-acre rate to cover minor grading and revegetation.
- Supplement that to account for spoil storage, backfilling, highwall blasting, demolition or other site-specific costs.
- Mining of consolidated materials below the water table to include reclamation slopes to a depth 50 ft below post-mining water level.

Lateral Phase Mine Sites

- Operator can choose to bond the permit area by phase
- Bond Liability is based on the maximum portion of the permitted area that the permittee is authorized to disturb at any specific time.

Per-Acre Rates

- \$3,000 per acre for mining area (this includes select grading and revegetation)
- Coal 2010 rate for select grading was \$1,150 and revegetation was \$1,615.
- \$1,500 per acre for support areas (this rate includes revegetation)

Spoil Storage/Earthmoving

- \$0.90 (per cubic yard) for grading applies to stored spoil or other additional earthmoving (such as backfilling contour mines).
- Rate is based on 2010 coal grading average of \$0.80 for less than 500 ft and \$1.00 for over 500 ft.

Blasting to Achieve Reclamation Slope Highwall Height per Linear Ft of Highwall

Up to 20	\$10.00
>20 <30	\$20.00
>30 <40	\$35.00
>40 <50	\$45.00
>50	\$60.00

- Based on 2010 industry estimates

Additional Items

- \$3,800 per pond requiring reclamation
- \$300 per junk large equipment tire
- 4% of amount up to \$40,000 for mobilization costs
- Structure demolition costs calculated using *Means Building Construction Cost Data* or *Walker's Building Estimator's Reference Book*.
- Structures with reasonable post-mining land use are not required to be bonded.
- Rates based on 2010 coal amounts

Large Noncoal – Unconsolidated

- Includes sites mining above and below groundwater table
- Selective grading to achieve reclamation slopes and safety bench around water impoundment
- Use 2010 coal selective grading of \$1,600 per acre

Large Noncoal – Unconsolidated

- Highwall grading cost above groundwater table is based on the area of the highwall (length of highwall x horizontal width of slope)
- \$1,600 per acre for highwall up to 35 ft
- \$2,000 per acre highwall 35 to 65 ft
- \$3,500 per acre over 65 ft

Large Noncoal – Unconsolidated

- Safety bench on water impoundments cost based on area around perimeter of impoundment x width of safety bench
- \$1,600 per acre for safety bench
- Sites using unmarketable material for reclamation use the \$0.90 per cubic yard rate

Small Noncoal that Comply with 25 Pa. Code § 77.108(e)(4)

- Reclamation conducted on a one for one basis – 1 acre reclaimed for 1 acre effected, with no more than 1 acre of mineral extraction unreclaimed.
- \$1,500 per acre the permittee is authorized to disturb at any specific time.

Small Noncoal that Exceed 25 Pa. Code § 77.108(e)(4) 1-Acre Limit

- Consolidated Material including GP-105 (Bluestone)
 - \$1,500 per acre for support
 - \$3,000 per acre for mining up to 35 feet
 - \$4,000 per acre for mining 35 to 65 feet
 - \$5,000 per acre for mining over 65 feet
- Unconsolidated Material
 - \$3,000 per acre flat rate

2015 Coal Bond Rate Summary

- Grading (<500 Ft push) \$.90 per Cu Yd
- Grading (\geq 500 Ft push/haul) \$1.50 per Cu Yd
- Selective Grading \$1,700 per Acre
- Revegetation \$1,900 per Acre



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