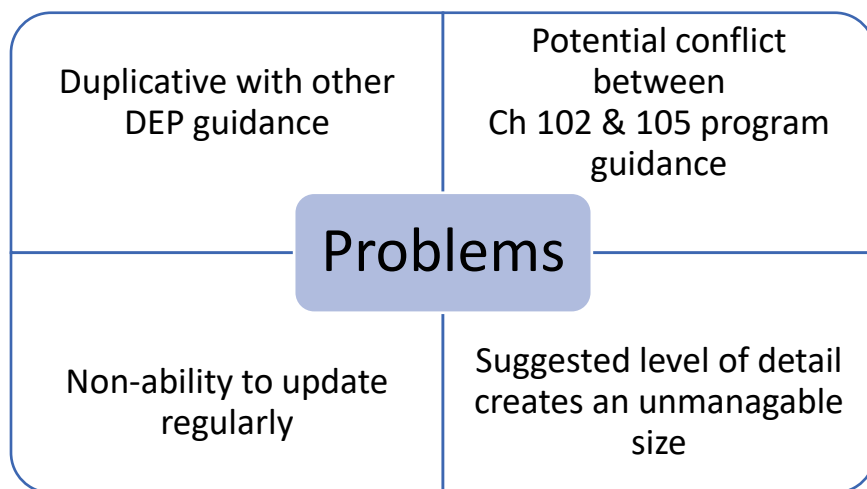


# Retooling the Engineering Manual for Mining Operations

TGD no. 563-0300-101

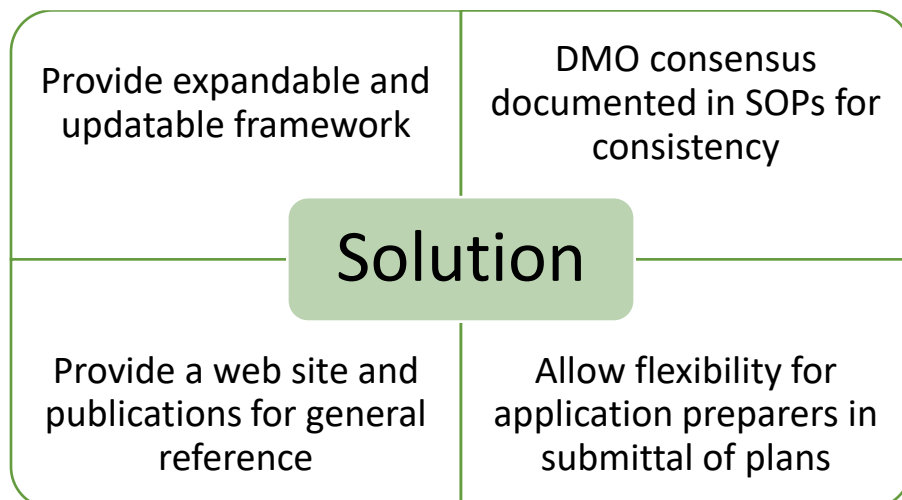
## Status

- The process of updating the 1999 engineering manual began around 2014 (August)
- The revised Engineering Manual was published for public comment in October 2020 (ended January 2021)
- Nearly 200 comments submitted including many internal comments
- Comments reflected an expectation for addition of details and specificity (i.e., suggestion to expand the document even more)
- BMP does not have a staff engineer but relies on DMO P.E. staff for engineering decisions



## Procedure

- DMO staff continue to use existing regulations, established standards and references, and site-specific justifications to approve engineered plans on mining permits regardless of the existing TGD. Consideration of plans includes addressing the unique issues on mine sites.



## Options/Draft Plan

- ☆ A. Split apart the existing Engineering Manual content into more manageable, workable pieces that can be more easily updated
- ☆ B. Eliminate unnecessary, duplicative, and conflicting information
- C. Provide users with updated references and considerations to use to prepare and revise permit applications
- ☆ D. Department utilizes SOPs to document specific review processes across the DMOs as needed; available online
- E. BMP maintain an Engineering for Mining Permits public web page to gather all the links in one place and note additions and changes (new SOPs, TGD changes, form changes, etc.)
- F. Sample drawings made available to share with applicants as part of correction letters/design suggestions
- ☆ G. Applicants and consultants can submit questions or comments that will be addressed by a collective group of DEP mining staff

## Public Documentation and References

- The existing Engineering Manual can be converted to a publication/reference guide that provides basic recommendations about engineering on mine sites
- Permit applications will include a new item for preparers to describe the references used for the plans in each applicable section: operations, E&S controls, streams, wetlands, treatment, etc.
- Examples of references that can be used:
  - DEP program manuals
  - DEP technical guidance
  - National engineering handbooks
  - AMD Treat software