

Coal Section

Prospecting Short Form

*This application form is for prospecting that is not conducted in an area designated unsuitable for coal mining pursuant to 82-4-227 or 82-4-228 Montana Code Annotated (MCA) that is conducted for the purpose of determining location, quality, or quantity of a mineral deposit, and that does not remove more than 250 tons of coal and does not substantially disturb the natural land surface.*

**The applicant agrees to:**

1. Submit monthly progress reports as required for each successive 30-day period no later than the 15th of the following month. *(Note: monthly reports do not need to be submitted for 30-day periods of inactivity)*
2. Submit annual progress reports as required in accordance with 82-4-226 and 82-4-237, MCA, for all activities conducted during the report year.
3. Promptly reclaim the disturbed acreage as outlined in the prospecting reclamation plan.
4. Submit the Affidavit of Publication following the publication of the Public Notice.

**Attach any support documents that are referenced in this application and check the appropriate boxes below to indicate those attached.**

1. [ ]  Designation of Agent Permit Coordinator (*only required if new applicant of information has changed)*
2. [ ]  Copies of documents upon which the applicant bases its legal right to prospect
3. [ ]  Documentation that the owners of the land affected have been notified and understand that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) must make investigation and inspections necessary to ensure compliance with the Act as well as the current mailing address and phone number of each affected landowner
4. [ ]  Proposed Public Notice per ARM 17.24.401(3)
5. [ ]  Maps *See ARM 17.24.1001(2)(h)*
6. [ ]  Bond *(see rules and regulations)*
7. [ ]  Other *(Please describe)*:

**SECTION A – APPLICANT INFORMATION**

## A1.

1. Indicate which of the following is being requested *(check one)*: **[ ]  Permit [ ]  Amendment**If for an **Amendment**, provide current Permit ID Number:  and Amendment Number:Mineral to be prospected: **Coal**Site Name:
2. Name of Applicant:
Address:
City:  State:  Zip Code:
Office Phone: Fax:
3. Name of Resident Agent:
Address:
City: State: Zip Code:
Office Phone: Cell: Fax:  Email:
4. Legal Description of Prospecting Area:
County(s):

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Acreage to be Permitted** | **Permit Acreage Mineral** | **Permit Acreage Surface** |
|  **Federal:** | **0** | **0** |
| **Tribal:** | **0** | **0** |
| **State:** | **0** | **0** |
| **Private:** | **0** | **0** |
| **County:** | **0** | **0** |
| **Total:** | **0** | **0** |

*\*use whole numbers-no decimal points*

|  |
| --- |
| **Prospecting Data** |
|  **Sites:** | **0** |
| **Holes Permitted:** | **0** |
| **Mud/Disposal Pits:** | **0** |

1. Expected date of commencement:
2. Expected date of completion:

**SECTION B – METHOD OF PROSPECTING**

## B1.

Description of the method of prospecting to be used and the practices that will be followed to protect the environment and reclaim disturbed areas, including plugging of prospecting holes in accordance with rules adopted by the board.

1. Method of prospecting:
2. Method of drilling:
3. Type of equipment to be used:
4. Method of reclamation:
5. Method of plugging holes:
6. Surface acres to be disturbed (one acre per drill site):

## B2. Narrative

1. Narrative describing the proposed prospecting area.
	1. The general location of drill holes and trenches:
	2. Existing and proposed road(s):
	3. Occupied dwellings:
	4. Topographic features:
	5. Bodies of water:
	6. Pipelines:
2. A map of the area at the scale of 1:24,000 or greater illustrating the items in #1.

**SECTION C – PROSPECTING BONDING**

C1. Bond Requirements

Bond requirements are based upon the cost to DEQ of reclaiming disturbances, should the operator fail to meet the obligations of the permit. The bond requirements for coal and uranium drilling in Montana are determined by the number of drill holes, plus the acres of related disturbance. Bonding for coal projects is generally figured using the following guidelines:

1st hole............................................................................ $4,000.00

Next 4 holes .................................................................... $2,000.00/hole

Next 10 holes .................................................................. $ 1,000.00/hole

Additional holes............................................................... $ 1,000.00/hole

Excavated Mud Pits ........................................................ $ 600.00/pit

Artesian Conditions......................................................... $8,000.00/hole

Disposal Pits ................................................................... $2,000.00/pit

DEQ requires the standard bond amount for the drill hole plus an additional $105.00 per linear foot in excess of 400 feet. Drilling disturbance is estimated to be equivalent to 1.0 acre disturbance at the surface, and is based upon the cost of reclaiming a single hole located within a 100' radius site. **Additional holes within one site are not allowed unless they are permitted and bonded in advance.**

**The minimum amount of bond which must be submitted with a prospecting application and which must be retained by DEQ on an active permit is $200/Acres or $10,000, whichever is greater.**

**SECTION D – CERTIFICATION \*MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH DESIGNATION OF PERMIT COORDINATOR**

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the materials and information contained in this application are complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

**Signature:**

**Title:**

**Date:**

Subscribed and sworn to before me, the under­signed, a Notary Public for the State of this day of , \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Notary Public for the State of: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Residing at: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My Commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(SEAL)