

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

[41 Pa.B. 1257] [Saturday,  
March 5, 2011]

*Per-Acre Rates-Applicable to Disturbed (Not Reclaimed) area*

\$3,500 per acre for mining area (This rate includes select grading and revegetation)

*originally \$3,000. \$3,500 rounded (\$1,700 select grading + \$1,900 revegetation).*

\$1,900 per acre for support areas (This rate includes revegetation)

*originally \$1,500*

*Spoil Storage/Earthmoving*

The rate of \$1.20 (cost per cubic yard) for grading applies to spoil stored or other additional earthmoving (for example, backfilling for contour mines or subsoil replacement where more than 12 inches of soil is needed to meet post-mining land use).

*Average of \$.90 for moving spoil 500 ft and \$1.50 for moving spoil greater than 500 ft. Originally \$.90*

*Blasting to Achieve the Reclamation Slope*

The following rates apply to highwalls where blasting is necessary to achieve the final slope. Blaster's estimates may be used in lieu of these rates.

**Table 1**

**Highwall/Bench Height (feet) Cost per linear foot of Highwall/Bench**

*Need to consult with industry representatives (mining and explosives) for current cost estimates.*

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

*Large Noncoal—Unconsolidated material*

Mining of unconsolidated material includes sites where the mining is above and below groundwater. The cost of reclamation for these two types of mining include selective grading to achieve the reclamation slopes and the safety bench around the water impoundment to meet the requirements of 25 Pa. Code § 77.594 (relating to final slopes).

The cost to grade the highwall to the approved reclamation slope above the groundwater table will be calculated based on the area of the highwall (determined by the length of highwall to be reclaimed multiplied by the horizontal width of the reclamation slope) to be reclaimed and the height of the highwall. The Department will use the following rates for bonding permits mining unconsolidated material:

\$1,700 per acre for mining up to 35 feet  
*originally \$1,600*

\$2,400 per acre for 35 to 65 feet  
*originally \$2,000*

\$5,000 per acre over 65 feet  
*originally \$3,500*

The cost to establish the safety bench on water impoundments will be calculated based on the area around the perimeter of the impoundment multiplied by the width of the safety bench. The Department will use \$1,700 per acre for bonding the safety bench.

*Originally \$1,600*

The Department will use the Bond Rate Schedule for spoil, storage, and earthmoving (cost per cubic yard) for sites that will use unmarketable material to achieve the reclamation contours on unconsolidated material mine sites.

#### *Small Noncoal Sites*

For small noncoal sites that comply with 25 Pa. Code § 77.108(e)(4) (relating to permit for small noncoal operations) and the permit is one acre or less, the bond amount is \$1,500 per acre and an additional \$2,500 for mobilization/demobilization

*Originally \$1,500 per acre.*

For small noncoal sites that comply with 25 Pa. Code § 77.108(e)(4) (relating to permit for small noncoal operations) and the permit is over 1 acre, the following rates apply:

*Originally \$1,500 per acre.*

\$1,500 per acre for support

\$3,000 per acre for mining up to 35 feet

\$4,000 per acre for 35 to 65 feet

\$5,000 per acre over 65 feet

#### *Small Noncoal—Consolidated Material*

The Department will use the following rates for bonding permits mining consolidated material that need to exceed the 1-acre limit imposed by 25 Pa. Code § 77.108(e)(4). These are the rates that also apply to the General Permit for Bluestone (GP-105).

\$1,500 per acre for support

\$3,000 per acre for mining up to 35 feet

\$4,000 per acre for 35 to 65 feet

\$5,000 per acre over 65 feet

Additional \$2,500 for mobilization/demobilization

*Small Noncoal—Unconsolidated Material*

A flat rate of \$3,500 per acre should be used for small sand and gravel pits that exceed the 1-acre limitation of 25 Pa. Code § 77.108(e)(4).

***Originally \$3,000***

*Effective Date:* This schedule will become effective , 2017.

Secretary

---

<sup>1</sup> Mine sealing costs are minimum costs. Additional costs per mine seal will be assessed based on specific design criteria, such as the thickness of the seal and the volume of backfill material required, using appropriate material, equipment and labor costs from BAMR bid abstracts or from an industry-standard cost estimation publications, for example, *Means Estimating Handbook* or *Walker's Building Estimator's Reference Book*.

---

DRAFT