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July 14, 2026

Mr. Graham Reid
Director of Operations
Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc.
1949 Highway 49 South
Andersonville, GA 31711

RE: Draft Permit
Universal Understandings Pit #1
NPDES Permit Number AL0084538
Henry County (067)

Dear Mr. Reid:

Transmitted herein is a draft of the above referenced permit. Please review the enclosed draft permit carefully. If previously permitted, the draft may contain additions/revisions to the language in your current permit. Please submit any comments on the draft permit to the Department within 30 days from the date of receipt of this letter.

Since the Department has made a tentative decision to **Issue** the above referenced permit, ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-6-.21 requires a public notice of the draft permit followed by a period of at least 30 days for public comment before the permit can be issued. The United States Environmental Protection Agency will also receive the draft permit for review during the 30-day public comment period.

Any mining, processing, construction, land disturbance, or other regulated activity proposed to be authorized by this draft permit is prohibited prior to the effective date of the formal permit. Any mining or processing activity within the drainage basin associated with each permitted outfall which is conducted prior to Departmental receipt of certification from a professional engineer licensed to practice in the State of Alabama, that the Pollution Abatement/Prevention Plan was implemented according to the design plan, is prohibited.

This permit requires Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMR) to be submitted utilizing the Department's web-based electronic reporting system. Please read Part I.D of the permit carefully and visit <https://aepacs.adem.alabama.gov/nviro/ncore/external/home>.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Steven Sandlin at (334) 274-4238 or steven.sandlin@adem.alabama.gov.

Sincerely,

William D. McClimans, Chief
Mining and Natural Resource Section
Stormwater Management Branch
Water Division

WDM/sos File: DPER/63213

cc: Steven Sandlin, ADEM
Environmental Protection Agency Region IV
Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Alabama Historical Commission
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nashville District
Alabama Department of Workforce



Birmingham Office
110 Vulcan Road
Birmingham, AL 35209-4702
(205) 942-6168
(205) 941-1603 (FAX)

Decatur Office
2715 Sandlin Road, S.W.
Decatur, AL 35603-1333
(256) 353-1713
(256) 340-9359 (FAX)

Coastal Office
1615 South Broad Street
Mobile, AL 36605
(251) 450-3400
(251) 479-2593 (FAX)



NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

PERMITTEE: Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc,
377 Highway 131
Eufaula, AL 36027

FACILITY LOCATION: Universal Understandings Pit #1
County Road 48
Abbeville, AL 36310
Henry County
Township 9 North, Range 29 East, Section 31

PERMIT NUMBER: AL0084538

DSN & RECEIVING STREAM: 001 - 1 Unnamed Tributary to Barnes Mill Creek

In accordance with and subject to the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. §§1251-1388 (the "FWPCA"), the Alabama Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, Code of Alabama 1975, §§ 22-22-1 to 22-22-14 (the "AWPCA"), the Alabama Environmental Management Act, as amended, Code of Alabama 1975, §§22-22A-1 to 22-22A-17, and rules and regulations adopted thereunder, and subject further to the terms and conditions set forth in this permit, the Permittee is hereby authorized to discharge into the above-named receiving waters.

ISSUANCE DATE:

EFFECTIVE DATE:

EXPIRATION DATE:

Draft

Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Water Division Chief

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT

BAUXITIC CLAY AND KAOLIN MINING FACILITY, MINERAL LOADING, MINERAL TRANSPORTATION, MINERAL STORAGE, AND ASSOCIATED AREAS

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PART I DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS, CONDITIONS, AND REQUIREMENTS

A. DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

During the period beginning on the effective date of this Permit and lasting through the expiration date of this Permit, the Permittee is authorized to discharge from each point source identified on Page 1 of this Permit and described more fully in the Permittee's application, if the outfalls have been constructed and certified. Discharges shall be limited and monitored by the Permittee as specified below:

Parameter	Discharge Limitations			Monitoring Requirements	
	Daily Minimum	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Sample Type	Measurement Frequency ¹
pH 00400	6.0 s.u.	-----	8.5 s.u.	Grab	2/Month
Solids, Total Suspended 00530	-----	20.0 mg/L	30.0 mg/L	Grab	2/Month
Iron, Total (as Fe) 01045	-----	0.5 mg/L	1.0 mg/L	Grab	2/Month
Aluminum, Total (as Al) 01105	-----	1.0 mg/L	2.0 mg/L	Grab	2/Month
Flow, In Conduit or Thru Treatment Plant ² 50050	-----	Report MGD	Report MGD	Instantaneous	2/Month

B. REQUIREMENTS TO ACTIVATE A PROPOSED MINING OUTFALL

1. Discharge from any point source identified on Page 1 of this Permit which is a proposed outfall is not authorized by this Permit until the outfall has been constructed and certification received by the Department from a professional engineer, registered in the State of Alabama, certifying that such facility has been constructed according to good engineering practices and in accordance with the Pollution Abatement and/or Prevention (PAP) Plan.
2. Certification required by Part I.B.1. shall be submitted on a completed ADEM Form 432. The certification shall include the latitude and longitude of the constructed and certified outfall.
3. Discharge monitoring and Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) reporting requirements described in Part I.C. of this Permit do not apply to point sources that have not been constructed and certified.
4. Upon submittal of the certification required by Part I.B.1. to the Department, all monitoring and DMR submittal requirements shall apply to the constructed and certified outfall.

C. DISCHARGE MONITORING AND RECORD KEEPING REQUIREMENTS

1. Sampling Schedule and Frequency

- a. The Permittee shall collect at least one grab sample of the discharge to surface waters from each constructed and certified point source identified on Page 1 of this Permit and

¹ See Part I.C.2. for further measurement frequency requirements.

² Flow must be determined at the time of sample collection by direct measurement, calculation, or other method acceptable to the Department.

described more fully in the Permittee's application twice per month at a rate of at least every other week if a discharge occurs at any time during the two week period, but need not collect more than two samples per calendar month. Each sample collected shall be analyzed for each parameter specified in Part I.A. of this Permit.

- b. If the final effluent is pumped in order to discharge (e.g. from incised ponds, old highwall cuts, old pit areas or depressions, etc.), the Permittee shall collect at least one grab sample of the discharge from each point source identified on Page 1 of this Permit and described more fully in the Permittee's application each quarterly (three month) monitoring period if a discharge occurs at any time during the quarterly monitoring period which results from direct pumped drainage. Each sample collected shall be analyzed for each parameter specified in Part I.A. of this Permit.
- c. The Permittee may increase the frequency of sampling listed in Parts I.C.1.a and I.C.1.b; however, all sampling results must be reported to the Department and included in any calculated results submitted to the Department in accordance with this Permit.

2. Measurement Frequency

Measurement frequency requirements found in Part I.A. shall mean:

- a. A measurement frequency of one day per week shall mean sample collection on any day of discharge which occurs every calendar week.
- b. A measurement frequency of two days per month shall mean sample collection on any day of discharge which occurs every other week, but need not exceed two sample days per month.
- c. A measurement frequency of one day per month shall mean sample collection on any day of discharge which occurs during each calendar month.
- d. A measurement frequency of one day per quarter shall mean sample collection on any day of discharge which occurs during each calendar quarter.
- e. A measurement frequency of one day per six months shall mean sample collection on any day of discharge which occurs during the period of January through June and during the period of July through December.
- f. A measurement frequency of one day per year shall mean sample collection on any day of discharge which occurs during each calendar year.

3. Monitoring Schedule

The Permittee shall conduct the monitoring required by Part I.A. in accordance with the following schedule:

- a. MONITORING REQUIRED MORE FREQUENTLY THAN MONTHLY AND MONTHLY shall be conducted during the first full month following the effective date of coverage under this Permit and every month thereafter. More frequently than monthly and monthly monitoring may be done anytime during the month, unless restricted elsewhere in this Permit, but the results should be reported on the last Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) due for the quarter (i.e., with the March, June, September, and December DMRs).
- b. QUARTERLY MONITORING shall be conducted at least once during each calendar quarter. Calendar quarters are the periods of January through March, April through June,

July through September, and October through December. The Permittee shall conduct the quarterly monitoring during the first complete calendar quarter following the effective date of this Permit and is then required to monitor once during each quarter thereafter. Quarterly monitoring may be done anytime during the quarter, unless restricted elsewhere in this Permit, but the results should be reported on the last DMR due for the quarter (i.e., with the March, June, September, and December DMRs).

- c. SEMIANNUAL MONITORING shall be conducted at least once during the period of January through June and at least once during the period of July through December. The Permittee shall conduct the semiannual monitoring during the first complete semiannual calendar period following the effective date of this Permit and is then required to monitor once during each semiannual period thereafter. Semiannual monitoring may be done anytime during the semiannual period, unless restricted elsewhere in this Permit, but it should be reported on the last DMR due for the month of the semiannual period (i.e., with the June and December DMRs).
- d. ANNUAL MONITORING shall be conducted at least once during the period of January through December. The Permittee shall conduct the annual monitoring during the first complete calendar annual period following the effective date of this Permit and is then required to monitor once during each annual period thereafter. Annual monitoring may be done anytime during the year, unless restricted elsewhere in this Permit, but it should be reported on the December DMR.

4. Sampling Location

Unless restricted elsewhere in this Permit, samples collected to comply with the monitoring requirements specified in Part I.A. shall be collected at the nearest accessible location just prior to discharge and after final treatment, or at an alternate location approved in writing by the Department.

5. Representative Sampling

Sample collection and measurement actions taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge and shall be in accordance with the provisions of this Permit.

6. Test Procedures

For the purpose of reporting and compliance, Permittees shall use one of the following procedures:

- a. For parameters with an EPA established Minimum Level (ML), report the measured value if the analytical result is at or above the ML and report "0" for values below the ML. Test procedures for the analysis of pollutants shall conform to 40 CFR Part 136, guidelines published pursuant to Section 304(h) of the FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. Section 1314(h), and ADEM Standard Operating Procedures. If more than one method for analysis of a substance is approved for use, a method having a minimum level lower than the permit limit shall be used. If the minimum level of all methods is higher than the permit limit, the method having the lowest minimum level shall be used and a report of less than the minimum level shall be reported as zero and will constitute compliance, however should EPA approve a method with a lower minimum level during the term of this Permit the Permittee shall use the newly approved method.
- b. For pollutant parameters without an established ML, an interim ML may be utilized. The interim ML shall be calculated as 3.18 times the Method Detection Level (MDL) calculated pursuant to 40 CFR Part 136, Appendix B.

Permittees may develop an effluent matrix-specific ML, where an effluent matrix prevents attainment of the established ML. However, a matrix specific ML shall be based upon proper laboratory method and technique. Matrix-specific MLs must be approved by the Department, and may be developed by the Permittee during permit issuance, reissuance, modification, or during compliance schedule.

In either case the measured value should be reported if the analytical result is at or above the ML and "0" reported for values below the ML.

- c. For parameters without an EPA established ML, interim ML, or matrix-specific ML, a report of less than the detection limit shall constitute compliance if the detection limit of all analytical methods is higher than the permit limit using the most sensitive EPA approved method. For the purpose of calculating a monthly average, "0" shall be used for values reported less than the detection limit.

The Minimum Level utilized for procedures identified in Parts I.C.6.a. and b. shall be reported on the Permittee's DMR. When an EPA approved test procedure for analysis of a pollutant does not exist, the Director shall approve the procedure to be used.

7. Recording of Results

For each measurement or sample taken pursuant to the requirements of this Permit, the Permittee shall record the following information:

- a. The facility name and location, point source number, date, time, and exact place of sampling or measurements;
- b. The name(s) of person(s) who obtained the samples or measurements;
- c. The dates and times the analyses were performed;
- d. The name(s) of the person(s) who performed the analyses;
- e. The analytical techniques or methods used including source of method and method number; and
- f. The results of all required analyses.

8. Routine Inspection by Permittee

- a. The Permittee shall inspect all point sources identified on Page 1 of this Permit and described more fully in the Permittee's application and all treatment or control facilities or systems used by the Permittee to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this Permit at least as often as the applicable sampling frequency specified in Part I.C.1 of this Permit.
- b. The Permittee shall maintain a written log for each point source identified on Page 1 of this Permit and described more fully in the Permittee's application in which the Permittee shall record the following information:
 - (1) The date and time the point source and any associated treatment or control facilities or systems were inspected by the Permittee;
 - (2) Whether there was a discharge from the point source at the time of inspection by the Permittee;

- (3) Whether a sample of the discharge from the point source was collected at the time of inspection by the Permittee;
- (4) Whether all associated treatment or control facilities or systems appeared to be in good working order and operating as efficiently as possible, and if not, a description of the problems or deficiencies; and
- (5) The name and signature of the person performing the inspection of the point source and associated treatment or control facilities or systems.

9. Records Retention and Production

- a. The Permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this Permit, and records of all data used to complete the above reports or the application for this Permit, for a period of at least three (3) years from the date of the sample collection, measurement, report, or application. This period may be extended by request of the Director at any time. If litigation or other enforcement action, under the AWPCA, AEMA, and/or the FWPCA, is ongoing which involves any of the above records, the records shall be kept until the litigation is resolved. Upon the written request of the Director, the Permittee shall provide the Director with a copy of any record required to be retained by this paragraph. Copies of these records should not be submitted unless requested.
- b. All records required to be kept for a period of three (3) years shall be kept at the permitted facility or an alternate location approved by the Department in writing and shall be available for inspection.

10. Monitoring Equipment and Instrumentation

All equipment and instrumentation used to determine compliance with the requirements of this Permit shall be installed, maintained, and calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions or, in the absence of manufacturer's instructions, in accordance with accepted practices. The Permittee shall develop and maintain quality assurance procedures to ensure proper operation and maintenance of all equipment and instrumentation. The quality assurance procedures shall include the proper use, maintenance, and installation, when appropriate, of monitoring equipment at the plant site.

D. DISCHARGE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Requirements for Reporting of Monitoring

- a. Monitoring results obtained during the previous three (3) months shall be summarized for each month on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Form approved by the Department, and submitted to the Department so that it is received by the Director no later than the 28th day of the month following the quarterly reporting period (i.e., on the 28th day of January, April, July, and October of each year).
- b. The Department utilizes a web-based electronic reporting system for submittal of DMRs. **Except as allowed by Part I.D.1.c. or d., the Permittee shall submit all DMRs required by Part I.D.1.a. by utilizing the Department's current electronic reporting system.** The Department's current reporting system, Alabama Environmental Permitting and Compliance System (AEPACS), can be found online at <https://aepacs.adem.alabama.gov/nviro/ncore/external/home>.

- c. If the electronic reporting system is down (i.e. electronic submittal of DMR data is unable to be completed due to technical problems originating with the Department's system; this could include entry/submittal issues with an entire set of DMRs or individual parameters), permittees are not relieved of their obligation to submit DMR data to the Department by the required submittal date. However, if the electronic reporting system is down on the 28th day of the month or is down for an extended period of time as determined by the Department when a DMR is required to be submitted, the facility may submit the data in an alternate manner and format acceptable to the Department. Preapproved alternate acceptable methods include faxing, e-mailing, mailing, or hand-delivery of data such that they are received by the required reporting date. Within five calendar days of the electronic reporting system resuming operation, the Permittee shall enter the data into the reporting system unless an alternate timeframe is approved by the Department. An attachment should be included with the electronic DMR submittal verifying the original submittal date (date of the fax, copy of dated e-mail, or hand-delivery stamped date).
- d. The permittee may submit a request to the Department for a temporary electronic reporting waiver for DMR submittals. The waiver request should include the permit number; permittee name; facility/site name; facility address; name, address, and contact information for the responsible official or duly authorized representative; a detailed statement regarding the basis for requesting such a waiver; and the duration for which the waiver is requested. Approved electronic reporting waivers are not transferrable. Permittees with an approved electronic reporting waiver for DMRs may submit hard copy DMRs for the period that the approved electronic reporting waiver request is effective. The Permittee shall submit the Department-approved DMR forms to the address listed in Part I.D.1.i.
- e. If the Permittee, using approved analytical methods as specified in Part I.C.6., monitors any discharge from a point source identified on Page 1 of this Permit and describe more fully in the Permittee's application more frequently than required by this Permit; the results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of values on the DMR Form, and the increased frequency shall be indicated on the DMR Form.
- f. In the event no discharge from a point source identified on Page 1 of this Permit and described more fully in the Permittee's application occurs during a monitoring period, the Permittee shall report "No Discharge" for such period on the appropriate DMR Form.
- g. Each DMR Form submitted by the Permittee to the Department in accordance with Part I.D.1. must be legible and bear an original signature or electronic signature. Photo and electronic copies of the signature are not acceptable and shall not satisfy the reporting requirements of this Permit.
- h. All reports and forms required to be submitted by this Permit, the AWPCA, and the Department's rules and regulations, shall be signed by a "responsible official" of the Permittee as defined in ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-6-.09 or a "duly authorized representative" of such official as defined in ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-6-.09 and shall bear the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

- i. All DMRs, reports, and forms required to be submitted by this Permit, the AWPCA and the Department's rules and regulations, shall be submitted through the Department's electronic reporting system, AEPACS, or, if in hardcopy, shall be addressed to:

Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Water Division, Mining and Natural Resource Section
Post Office Box 301463
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1463

Certified and Registered Mail shall be addressed to:

Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Water Division, Mining and Natural Resource Section
1400 Coliseum Boulevard
Montgomery, Alabama 36110-2059

- j. Unless authorized in writing by the Department, approved reporting forms required by this Permit or the Department are not to be altered, and if copied or reproduced, must be consistent in format and identical in content to the ADEM approved form. Unauthorized alteration, falsification, or use of incorrectly reproduced forms constitutes noncompliance with the requirements of this Permit and may significantly delay processing of any request, result in denial of the request, result in permit termination, revocation, suspension, modification, or denial of a permit renewal application, or result in other enforcement action.
- k. If this Permit is a reissuance, then the Permittee shall continue to submit DMRs in accordance with the requirements of their previous permit until such time as DMRs are due as discussed in Part I.D.1.

2. Noncompliance Notification

- a. The Permittee must notify the Department if, for any reason, the Permittee's discharge:
- (1) Potentially threatens human health or welfare;
 - (2) Potentially threatens fish or aquatic life;
 - (3) Causes an in-stream water quality criterion to be exceeded;
 - (4) Does not comply with an applicable toxic pollutant effluent standard or prohibition established under Section 307(a) of the FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. §1317(a);
 - (5) Contains a quantity of a hazardous substance which has been determined may be harmful to the public health or welfare under Section 311(b)(4) of the FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. §1321(b)(4); or
 - (6) Exceeds any discharge limitation for an effluent parameter as a result of an unanticipated bypass or upset.

The Permittee shall orally or electronically report any of the above occurrences, describing the circumstances and potential effects of such discharge to the Director within 24-hours after the Permittee becomes aware of the occurrence of such discharge. In addition to the oral or electronic report, the Permittee shall submit to the Director a written report as

provided in Part I.D.2.c., no later than five (5) days after becoming aware of the occurrence of such discharge.

- b. If for any reason, the Permittee's discharge does not comply with any limitation of this Permit, the Permittee shall submit a written report to the Director as provided in Part I.D.2.c. This report must be submitted with the next Discharge Monitoring Report required to be submitted by Part I.D.1. of this Permit after becoming aware of the occurrence of such noncompliance.
- c. An electronic Noncompliance Notification Form in a Department-approved format must be submitted to the Director in accordance with Parts I.D.2.a. and b. The completed form must document the following information:
 - (1) A description of the discharge and cause of noncompliance;
 - (2) The period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, or if not corrected, the anticipated time the noncompliance is expected to continue; and
 - (3) A description of the steps taken and/or being taken to reduce or eliminate the noncomplying discharge and to prevent its recurrence.

3. Reduction, Suspension, or Termination of Monitoring and/or Reporting

- a. The Director may, with respect to any point source identified on Page 1 of this Permit and described more fully in the Permittee's application, authorize the Permittee to reduce, suspend, or terminate the monitoring and/or reporting required by this Permit upon the submission of a written request for such reduction, suspension, or termination by the Permittee provided:
 - (1) All mining, processing, or disturbance in the drainage basin(s) associated with the discharge has ceased and site access is adequately restricted or controlled to preclude unpermitted and unauthorized mining, processing, transportation, or associated operations/activity;
 - (2) Permanent, perennial vegetation has been re-established on all areas mined or disturbed for at least one year since mining has ceased in the drainage basin(s) associated with the surface discharge, or all areas have been permanently graded such that all drainage is directed back into the mined pit to preclude all surface discharges;
 - (3) Unless waived in writing by the Department, the Permittee has been granted, in writing, a 100% Bond Release, if applicable, by the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations and, if applicable, by the Surface Mining Commission for all areas mined or disturbed in the drainage basin(s) associated with the discharge;
 - (4) Unless waived in writing by the Department, the Permittee has submitted inspection reports prepared and certified by a Professional Engineer (PE) registered in the State of Alabama or a qualified professional under the PE's direction which certify that the facility has been fully reclaimed or that water quality remediation has been achieved. The first inspection must be conducted approximately one year prior to and the second inspection must be conducted within thirty days of the Permittee's request for termination of monitoring and reporting requirements;

- (5) All surface effects of the mining activity such as fuel or chemical tanks, preparation plants or equipment, old tools or equipment, junk or debris, etc., must be removed and disposed of according to applicable state and federal regulations;
 - (6) The Permittee's request for termination of monitoring and reporting requirements contained in this Permit has been supported by monitoring data covering a period of at least six consecutive months or such longer period as is necessary to assure that the data reflect discharges occurring during varying seasonal climatological conditions;
 - (7) The Permittee has stated in its request that the samples collected and reported in the monitoring data submitted in support of the Permittee's request for monitoring termination or suspension are representative of the discharge and were collected in accordance with all Permit terms and conditions respecting sampling times (e.g., rainfall events) and methods and were analyzed in accordance with all Permit terms and conditions respecting analytical methods and procedures;
 - (8) The Permittee has certified that during the entire period covered by the monitoring data submitted, no chemical treatment of the discharge was provided;
 - (9) The Permittee's request has included the certification required by Part I.D.1.e. of this Permit; and
 - (10) The Permittee has certified to the Director in writing as part of the request, its compliance with (1) through (9) above.
- b. It remains the responsibility of the Permittee to comply with the monitoring and reporting requirements of this Permit until written authorization to reduce, suspend, or terminate such monitoring and/or reporting is received by the Permittee from the Director.

E. OTHER REPORTING AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Anticipated Noncompliance

The Permittee shall give the Director written advance notice of any planned changes or other circumstances regarding a facility which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.

2. Termination of Discharge

The Permittee shall notify the Director, in writing, when all discharges from any point source(s) identified on Page 1 of this Permit and described more fully in the Permittee's application have permanently ceased.

3. Updating Information

- a. The Permittee shall inform the Director of any change in the Permittee's mailing address or telephone number or in the Permittee's designation of a facility contact or officer(s) having the authority and responsibility to prevent and abate violations of the AWPCA, the AEMA, the Department's rules and regulations, and the terms and conditions of this Permit, in writing, no later than ten (10) days after such change. Upon request of the Director, the Permittee shall furnish the Director with an update of any information provided in the permit application.

- b. If the Permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Director, it shall promptly submit such facts or information with a written explanation for the mistake and/or omission.

4. Duty to Provide Information

- a. The Permittee shall furnish to the Director, within a reasonable time, any information which the Director may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, suspending, terminating, or revoking and reissuing this Permit, in whole or in part, or to determine compliance with this Permit. The Permittee shall also furnish to the Director upon request, copies of records required to be maintained by this Permit.
- b. The Permittee shall furnish to the Director upon request, within a reasonable time, available information (name, phone number, address, and site location) which identifies offsite sources of material or natural resources (mineral, ore, or other material such as iron, coal, coke, dirt, chert, shale, clay, sand, gravel, bauxite, rock, stone, etc.) used in its operation or stored at the facility.

F. SCHEDULE OF COMPLIANCE

The Permittee shall achieve compliance with the discharge limitations specified in Part I.A. of this Permit in accordance with the following schedule:

Compliance must be achieved by the effective date of this Permit.

PART II OTHER REQUIREMENTS, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND DUTIES

A. OPERATIONAL AND MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. Facilities Operation and Management

The Permittee shall at all times operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the Permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Permit. Proper operation and maintenance includes effective performance, adequate funding, adequate operator staffing and training, and adequate laboratory and process controls, including appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Permit.

2. Pollution Abatement and/or Prevention Plan

- a. The Pollution Abatement and/or Prevention (PAP) Plan shall be prepared and certified by a registered Professional Engineer (PE), licensed to practice in the State of Alabama, and shall include at a minimum:
 - (1) The information indicated in ADEM Admin Code r. 335-6-9-.03 and ADEM Admin. Code ch. 335-6-9 and its Appendices A and B;
 - (2) A description of methods which will be implemented to prevent offsite vehicle tracking onto roadways and/or into ditches at the entrances and/or exits of the Permittee's operations;
 - (3) A description of setbacks from waters of the State in units of linear feet on the horizontal plane; a description of the methods taken to visibly delineate setbacks from waters of the State; and a description of any other actions taken to prevent encroachment upon setbacks;
 - (4) A description of the methods used to delineate the boundaries of coverage under this Permit such that the boundaries are readily visible during the life of the operation;
 - (5) A description of any other Best Management Practices (BMPs) which will be implemented to provide control of all nonpoint source pollution that is or may be associated with the Permittee's operations;
- b. The PAP Plan shall become a part of this Permit and all requirements of the PAP Plan shall become requirements of this Permit pursuant to ADEM Admin Code r. 335-6-9-.05(2). The PAP Plan shall be amended if the Department determines that the existing sediment control measures, erosion control measures, or other site management practices are ineffective or do not meet the requirements of this Permit.
- c. For existing sources, the PAP Plan shall be updated to include all requirements of this section within 180 days of the effective date of this permit. New sources shall submit the PAP plan with the NPDES Individual Permit application prior to coverage under this Permit.

3. Best Management Practices (BMPs)

- a. Unless otherwise authorized in writing by the Director, the Permittee shall provide a means of subsurface withdrawal for any discharge from each point source identified on Page 1 of this Permit and described more fully in the Permittee's application. Notwithstanding the above provision, a means of subsurface withdrawal need not be provided for any discharge caused by a 24-hour precipitation event greater than a 10-year, 24-hour precipitation event.
- b. Dilution water shall not be added to achieve compliance with discharge limitations except when the Director has granted prior written authorization for dilution to meet water quality requirements.
- c. The Permittee shall minimize the contact of water with overburden, including but not limited to stabilizing disturbed areas through grading, diverting runoff, achieving quick growing stands of temporary vegetation, sealing acid-forming and toxic-forming materials, and maximizing placement of waste materials in back-fill areas.
- d. The Permittee shall prepare, submit to the Department for approval, and implement a Best Management Practices (BMPs) Plan for containment of any or all process liquids or solids, in a manner such that these materials do not present a potential for discharge, if so required by the Director. When submitted and approved, the BMP Plan shall become a part of this Permit and all requirements of the BMP Plan shall become requirements of this Permit.
- e. Spill Prevention, Control, and Management

The Permittee shall prepare, implement, and maintain a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan acceptable to the Department that is prepared and certified by a Professional Engineer (PE), registered in the State of Alabama, for all onsite petroleum product or other pollutant storage tanks or containers as provided by ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-6-.08(j)5. The Plan shall describe and the Permittee shall implement appropriate structural and/or non-structural spill prevention, control, and/or management pursuant to ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-6-.12 (r) sufficient to prevent any spills of pollutants from entering a ground or surface water of the State or a publicly or privately owned treatment works. The Plan shall include at a minimum, the engineering requirements provided in 40 C.F.R. §§112.1. Any containment system used to implement this requirement shall be constructed of materials compatible with the substance(s) contained and shall prevent the contamination of groundwater. Such containment systems shall be capable of retaining a volume equal to 110 percent of the capacity of the largest tank for which containment is provided. The Plan shall list any materials which the Permittee may utilize to contain and to absorb fuel and chemical spills and leaks. The Permittee shall maintain sufficient amounts of such materials onsite or have sufficient amounts of such materials readily available to contain and/or absorb fuel and chemical spills and leaks. Soil contaminated by chemical spills, oil spills, etc., must be immediately cleaned up or be removed and disposed of in a manner consistent with all State and federal regulations.

- f. All surface drainage and storm water runoff which originate within or enters the Permittee's premises and which contains any pollutants or other wastes shall be discharged, if at all, from a point source identified on Page 1 of this Permit and described more fully in the Permittee's application.
- g. The Permittee shall take all reasonable precautions to prevent any surface drainage or storm water runoff which originates outside the Permittee's premises and which contains any pollutants or other wastes from entering the Permittee's premises. At no time shall the Permittee discharge any such surface drainage or storm water runoff which enters the Permittee's premises if, either alone or in combination with the Permittee's effluent, the

discharge would exceed any applicable discharge limitation specified in Part I.A. of this Permit.

4. Biocide Additives

- a. The Permittee shall notify the Director in writing not later than sixty (60) days prior to instituting the use of any biocide corrosion inhibitor or chemical additive in any cooling or boiler system(s) regulated by this Permit. Notification is not required for additives that should not reasonably be expected to cause the cooling water or boiler water to exhibit toxicity as determined by analysis of manufacturer's data or testing by the Permittee. Such notification shall include:
 - (a) Name and general composition of biocide or chemical;
 - (b) 96-hour median tolerance limit data for organisms representative of the biota of the water(s) which the discharge(s) enter(s);
 - (c) Quantities to be used;
 - (d) Frequencies of use;
 - (e) Proposed discharge concentrations; and
 - (f) EPA registration number, if applicable.
- b. The use of any biocide or chemical additive containing tributyl tin, tributyl tin oxide, zinc, chromium, or related compounds in any cooling or boiler system(s) regulated by the Permit is prohibited except as exempted below. The use of a biocide or additive containing zinc, chromium or related compounds may be used in special circumstances if (1) the permit contains limits for these substances, or (2) the applicant demonstrates during the application process that the use of zinc, chromium or related compounds as a biocide or additive will not pose a reasonable potential to violate the applicable State water quality standards for these substances. The use of any additive, not identified in this Permit or in the application for this Permit or not exempted from notification under this Permit is prohibited, prior to a determination by the Department that permit modification to control discharge of the additive is not required or prior to issuance of a permit modification controlling discharge of the additive.

5. Facility Identification

The Permittee shall clearly display prior to commencement of any regulated activity and until permit coverage is properly terminated, the name of the Permittee, entire NPDES permit number, facility or site name, and other descriptive information deemed appropriate by the Permittee at an easily accessible location(s) to adequately identify the site, unless approved otherwise in writing by the Department. The Permittee shall repair or replace the sign(s) as necessary upon becoming aware that the identification is missing or is unreadable due to age, vandalism, theft, weather, or other reason.

6. Removed Substances

Solids, sludges, filter backwash, or any other pollutants or other wastes removed in the course of treatment or control of wastewaters shall be disposed of in a manner that complies with all applicable Department rules and regulations.

7. Loss or Failure of Treatment Facilities

Upon the loss or failure of any treatment facility, including but not limited to the loss or failure of the primary source of power of the treatment facility, the Permittee shall, where necessary to maintain compliance with the discharge limitations specified in Part I.A. of this Permit or any other terms or conditions of this Permit, cease, reduce, or otherwise control production and/or discharges until treatment is restored.

8. Duty to Mitigate

The Permittee shall promptly take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any violation of this Permit or to mitigate and minimize any adverse impact to waters resulting from noncompliance with any discharge limitation specified in Part I.A. of this Permit, including such accelerated or additional monitoring of the discharge and/or the receiving waterbody as is necessary to determine the nature and impact of the noncomplying discharge.

B. BYPASS AND UPSET

1. Bypass

- a. Any bypass is prohibited except as provided in Parts II.B.1.b. and c.
- b. A bypass is not prohibited if:
 - (1) It does not cause any applicable discharge limitation specified in Part I.A. of this Permit to be exceeded;
 - (2) The discharge resulting from such bypass enters the same receiving water as the discharge from the permitted outfall;
 - (3) It is necessary for essential maintenance of a treatment or control facility or system to assure efficient operation of such facility or system; and
 - (4) The Permittee monitors the discharge resulting from such bypass at a frequency, at least daily, sufficient to prove compliance with the discharge limitations specified in Part I.A. of this Permit.
- c. A bypass is not prohibited and need not meet the discharge limitations specified in Part I.A. of this Permit if:
 - (1) It is unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;
 - (2) There are no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if the Permittee could have installed adequate backup equipment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance; and
 - (3) The Permittee submits a written request for authorization to bypass to the Director at least ten (10) days, if possible, prior to the anticipated bypass or within 24 hours of an unanticipated bypass, the Permittee is granted such authorization, and

Permittee complies with any conditions imposed by the Director to minimize any adverse impact to waters resulting from the bypass.

- d. The Permittee has the burden of establishing that each of the conditions of Parts II.B.1.b. or c. have been met to qualify for an exception to the general prohibition against bypassing contained in Part II.B.1.a. and an exemption, where applicable, from the discharge limitations specified in Part I.A. of this Permit.

2. Upset

- a. The Permittee may seek to demonstrate that noncompliance with technology-based effluent limits occurred as a result of an upset if the conditions of Part II.B.2.b are met and if the Permittee complies with the conditions provided in Part II.B.2.c.
- b. If the Permittee wishes to establish the affirmative defense of an upset for technology-based effluent limit noncompliance, the Permittee must demonstrate through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:
 - (1) An upset occurred and that the Permittee can identify the specific cause(s) of the upset;
 - (2) The wastewater treatment facility was at the time being properly operated in accordance with Part II.B.d.
 - (3) The Permittee submitted notice of the noncompliance during the upset as required by Part II.B.2.c; and
 - (4) The Permittee complied with any remedial measures required under Part II.A.7. of this Permit.
- c. If the Permittee wishes to establish the affirmative defense of an upset for technology-based effluent limit noncompliance, the Permittee shall:
 - (1) No later than 24-hours after becoming aware of the occurrence of the upset, orally report the occurrence and circumstances of the upset to the Director in accordance with Part I.G.2.; and
 - (2) No later than five (5) days after becoming aware of the occurrence of the upset, furnish the Director with evidence, including properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, design drawings, construction certification, maintenance records, weir flow measurements, dated photographs, rain gauge measurements, or other relevant evidence, demonstrating that:
 - (i) An upset occurred;
 - (ii) The Permittee can identify the specific cause(s) of the upset;
 - (iii) The Permittee's treatment facility was being properly operated at the time of the upset; and
 - (iv) The Permittee promptly took all reasonable steps to minimize any adverse impact to waters resulting from the upset.
- d. A discharge which is an overflow from a treatment facility or system, or an excess discharge from a point source associated with a treatment facility or system and which

results from a 24-hour precipitation event larger than a 10-year, 24-hour precipitation event is not eligible to be considered as a result of an upset unless:

- (1) The treatment facility or system is designed, constructed, and maintained to contain the maximum volume of wastewater which would be generated by the facility during a 24-hour period without an increase in volume from precipitation and the maximum volume of wastewater resulting from a 10-year, 24-hour precipitation event or to treat the maximum flow associated with these volumes. In computing the maximum volume of wastewater which would result from a 10-year, 24-hour precipitation event, the volume which would result from all areas contributing runoff to the individual treatment facility must be included (i.e., all runoff that is not diverted from the mining area and runoff which is not diverted from the preparation plant area); and
 - (2) The Permittee takes all reasonable steps to maintain treatment of the wastewater and minimize the amount of overflow or excess discharge.
- e. The Permittee has the burden of proof in defense of any enforcement action as a result of noncompliance with technology-based effluent limits the Permittee proposes to attribute to an upset.

C. PERMIT CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

1. Prohibition against Discharge from Facilities Not Certified

- a. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Permit, if the permitted facility has not obtained or is not required to obtain a permit from the Alabama Surface Mining Commission, any discharge(s) from any point or nonpoint source(s) from the permitted facility which was not certified to the Department on a form approved by the Department by a professional engineer, registered in the State of Alabama, as being designed, constructed, and in accordance with plans and specifications reviewed by the Department is prohibited; or
- b. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Permit, if the permitted facility has obtained or is required to obtain a permit from the Alabama Surface Mining Commission, any discharge(s) from any point or nonpoint source(s) from the permitted facility which is associated with a treatment facility which was not constructed and certified to the Alabama Surface Mining Commission pursuant to applicable provisions of said Commission's regulations, is prohibited until the Permittee submits to the Alabama Surface Mining Commission, certification by a professional engineer, registered in the State of Alabama, certifying that such facility has been constructed in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the Alabama Surface Mining Commission. This requirement shall not apply to pumped discharges from the underground works of underground coal mines where no surface structure is required by the Alabama Surface Mining Commission, provided the Department is notified in writing of the completion or installation of such facilities, and the pumped discharges will meet permit effluent limits without treatment.

2. Permit Modification, Suspension, Termination, and Revocation

- a. This Permit may be modified, suspended, terminated, or revoked and reissued, in whole or in part, during its term for cause, including but not limited to, the following:
 - (1) The violation of any term or condition of this Permit;

- (2) The obtaining of this Permit by misrepresentation or the failure to disclose fully all relevant facts;
 - (3) The submission of materially false or inaccurate statements or information in the permit application or reports required by the Permit;
 - (4) The need for a change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the permitted discharge;
 - (5) The existence of any typographical or clerical errors or of any errors in the calculation of discharge limitations;
 - (6) The existence of material and substantial alterations or additions to the facility or activity generating wastewater which occurred after permit issuance which justify the application of permit conditions that are different or absent in the existing permit;
 - (7) The threat of the Permittee's discharge on human health or welfare; or
 - (8) Any other cause allowed by ADEM Admin. Code ch. 335-6-6.
- b. The filing of a request by the Permittee for modification, suspension, termination, or revocation and reissuance of this Permit, in whole or in part, does not stay any Permit term or condition of this Permit.

3. Requirements for Metals, Cyanide, and Phenols Monitoring and Reporting

- a. For all outfalls, the Permittee shall collect a sample of the discharge to be analyzed for antimony, arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, selenium, silver, thallium, zinc, cyanide, and phenols no later six months following the effective date of the Permit. The analyses shall be submitted on EPA Form 2C and received by the Department no later than 28 days following six months after the effective date of the Permit.
- b. For all outfalls, should a discharge not occur within the first six months following the effective date of this Permit, the Permittee shall collect a sample of the discharge to be analyzed for antimony, arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, selenium, silver, thallium, zinc, cyanide, and phenols no later than six months following the date of the first discharge. The analyses shall be submitted on EPA Form 2C and received by the Department no later than 28 days following six months after the first discharge.
- c. Parts II.C.3.a. and b. do not apply for any outfall that is represented by analyses conducted at a substantially similar outfall as indicated on EPA Form 2C or 2D.
- d. The Permit shall be reopened, if required, to address any new information resulting from the completion and submittal of the data referenced in Parts II.C.3.a. and b.

4. Automatic Expiration of Permits for New or Increased Discharges

- a. Except as provided by ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-6-.02(h) and 335-6-6-.05, if this Permit was issued for a new discharger or new source, it shall expire eighteen months after the issuance date if construction has not begun during that eighteen month period.

- b. Except as provided by ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-6-.02(h) and 335-6-6-.05, if any portion of this Permit was issued or modified to authorize the discharge of increased quantities of pollutants to accommodate the modification of an existing facility, that portion of this Permit shall expire eighteen months after this Permit's issuance if construction of the modification has not begun within eighteen month period.
- c. Construction has begun when the owner or operator has:
 - (1) Begun, or caused to begin as part of a continuous on-site construction program:
 - (i) Any placement, assembly, or installation of facilities or equipment; or
 - (ii) Significant site preparation work including clearing, excavation, or removal of existing buildings, structures, or facilities which is necessary for the placement, assembly, or installation of new source facilities or equipment; or
 - (2) Entered into a binding contractual obligation for the purpose of placement, assembly, or installation of facilities or equipment which are intended to be used in its operation within a reasonable time. Options to purchase or contracts which can be terminated or modified without substantial loss, and contracts for feasibility, engineering, and design studies do not constitute a contractual obligation under the paragraph. The entering into a lease with the State of Alabama for exploration and production of hydrocarbons shall also be considered beginning construction.
- d. The automatic expiration of this Permit for new or increased discharges if construction has not begun within the eighteen month period after the issuance of this Permit may be tolled by administrative or judicial stay.

5. Transfer of Permit

This Permit may not be transferred or the name of the Permittee changed without notice to the Director and subsequent modification or revocation and reissuance of this Permit to identify the new Permittee and to incorporate any other changes as may be required under the FWPCA or AWPCA. In the case of a change in name, ownership, or control of the Permittee's premises only, a request for permit modification in a format acceptable to the Director is required at least 30 days prior to the change. In the case of a change in name, ownership, or control of the Permittee's premises accompanied by a change or proposed change in effluent characteristics, a complete permit application is required to be submitted to the Director at least 180 days prior to the change. Whenever the Director is notified of a change in name, ownership, or control, he may decide not to modify the existing Permit and require the submission of a new permit application.

6. Groundwater

Unless authorized on page 1 of this Permit, this Permit does not authorize any discharge to groundwater. Should a threat of groundwater contamination occur, the Director may require groundwater monitoring to properly assess the degree of the problem, and the Director may require that the Permittee undertake measures to abate any such discharge and/or contamination.

7. Property and Other Rights

This Permit does not convey any property rights in either real or personal property, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, trespass, or any infringement of Federal, State, or local laws or regulations, nor does it authorize or

approve the construction of any physical structures or facilities or the undertaking of any work in any waters of the State or of the United States.

D. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Duty to Comply

- a. The Permittee must comply with all terms and conditions of this Permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the AWPCA, AEMA, and the FWPCA and is grounds for enforcement action, for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, suspension, modification, or denial of a permit renewal application.
- b. The Permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the FWPCA for toxic pollutants within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if this Permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the effluent standard, prohibition or requirement.
- c. For any violation(s) of this Permit, the Permittee is subject to a civil penalty as authorized by the AWPCA, the AEMA, the FWPCA, and Code of Alabama 1975, §§22-22A-1 et. seq., as amended, and/or a criminal penalty as authorized by Code of Alabama 1975, §22-22-1 et. seq., as amended.
- d. The necessity to halt or reduce production or other activities in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this Permit shall not be a defense for a Permittee in an enforcement action.
- e. Nothing in this Permit shall be construed to preclude or negate the Permittee's responsibility or liability to apply for, obtain, or comply with other ADEM, federal, state, or local government permits, certifications, licenses, or other approvals.
- f. The discharge of a pollutant from a source not specifically identified in the permit application for this Permit and not specifically included in the description of an outfall in this Permit is not authorized and shall constitute noncompliance with this Permit.
- g. The Permittee shall take all reasonable steps, including cessation of production or other activities, to minimize or prevent any violation of this Permit or to minimize or prevent any adverse impact of any permit violation.

2. Change in Discharge

- a. The Permittee shall apply for a permit modification at least 180 days in advance of any facility expansion, production increase, process change, or other action that could result in the discharge of additional pollutants, increase the quantity of a discharged pollutant, or that could result in an additional discharge point. This requirement also applies to pollutants that are not subject to discharge limitations in this Permit. No new or increased discharge may begin until the Director has authorized it by issuance of a permit modification or a reissued permit.
- b. The Permittee shall notify the Director as soon as it knows or has reason to believe that it has begun or expects to begin to discharge any pollutant listed as a toxic pollutant pursuant to Section 307(a) of the FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. §1317(a), any substance designated as a hazardous substance pursuant to Section 311(b)(2) of the FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. §1321(b)(2), any waste listed as a hazardous waste pursuant to Code of Alabama 1975, §22-30-10, or any other pollutants or other wastes which is not subject to any discharge limitations

specified in Part I.A. of this Permit and was not reported in the Permittee's application, was reported in the Permittee's application in concentrations or mass rates lower than that which the Permittee expects to begin to be discharged, or has reason to believe has begun to be discharged.

3. Compliance with Toxic or Other Pollutant Effluent Standard or Prohibition

If any applicable effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is established under Sections 301(b)(2)(C),(D),(E) and (F) of the FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. §1311(b)(2)(C),(D),(E), and (F); 304(b)(2) of the FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. §1314(b)(2); or 307(a) of the FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. §1317(a), for a toxic or other pollutant discharged by the Permittee, and such standard or prohibition is more stringent than any discharge limitation on the pollutant specified in Part I.A. of this Permit or controls a pollutant not limited in Part I.A. of this Permit, this Permit shall be modified to conform to the toxic or other pollutant effluent standard or prohibition and the Permittee shall be notified of such modification. If this Permit has not been modified to conform to the toxic or other pollutant effluent standard or prohibition before the effective date of such standard or prohibition, the authorization to discharge in this Permit shall be void to the extent that any discharge limitation on such pollutant in Part I.A. of this Permit exceeds or is inconsistent with the established toxic or other pollutant effluent standard or prohibition.

4. Compliance with Water Quality Standards and Other Provisions

- a. On the basis of the Permittee's application, plans, or other available information, the Department has determined that compliance with the terms and conditions of this Permit will assure compliance with applicable water quality standards. However, this Permit does not relieve the Permittee from compliance with applicable State water quality standards established in ADEM Admin. Code ch. 335-6-10, and does not preclude the Department from taking action as appropriate to address the potential for contravention of applicable State water quality standards which could result from discharges of pollutants from the permitted facility.
- b. Compliance with Permit terms and conditions notwithstanding, if the Permittee's discharge(s) from point source(s) identified on Page 1 of this Permit cause(s) or contribute(s) to a condition in contravention of State water quality standards, the Department may require abatement action to be taken by the Permittee, modify the Permit pursuant to the Department's rules and regulations, or both.
- c. If the Department determines, on the basis of a notice provided pursuant to Part II.C.2. of this Permit or any investigation, inspection, or sampling, that a modification of this Permit is necessary to assure maintenance of water quality standards or compliance with other provisions of the AWPCA or FWPCA, the Department may require such modification and, in cases of emergency, the Director may prohibit the noticed act until the Permit has been modified.

5. Compliance with Statutes and Rules

- a. This Permit has been issued under ADEM Admin. Code div. 335-6. All provisions of this division, that are applicable to this Permit, are hereby made a part of this Permit. A copy of this division may be obtained for a small charge from the Office of General Counsel, Alabama Department of Environmental Management, 1400 Coliseum Blvd., Montgomery, AL 36110-2059.
- b. This Permit does not authorize the noncompliance with or violation of any Laws of the State of Alabama or the United States of America or any regulations or rules implementing

such laws. FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. Section 1319, and Code of Alabama 1975, Section 22-22-14.

6. Right of Entry and Inspection

The Permittee shall allow the Director, or an authorized representative, upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law to:

- a. Enter upon the Permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of the Permit;
- b. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Permit;
- c. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Permit; and
- d. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring Permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the AWPCA, any substances or parameters at any location.

7. Duty to Reapply or Notify of Intent to Cease Discharge

- a. If the Permittee intends to continue to discharge beyond the expiration date of this Permit, the Permittee shall file with the Department a complete permit application for reissuance of this Permit at least 180 days prior to its expiration. **Applications must be submitted electronically via the Department's current electronic permitting system. The Department's current online permitting system, Alabama Environmental Permitting and Compliance System (AEPACS), can be found online at <https://aepacs.adem.alabama.gov/nviro/ncore/external/home>.**
- b. If the Permittee does not desire to continue the discharge(s) allowed by this Permit, the Permittee shall notify the Department at least 180 days prior to expiration of this Permit of the Permittee's intention not to request reissuance of this Permit. This notification must include the information required in Part I.D.4.a. and be signed by an individual meeting the signatory requirements for a permit application as set forth in ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-6-.09.
- c. Failure of the Permittee to submit to the Department a complete application for reissuance of this Permit at least 180 days prior to the expiration date of this Permit will void the automatic continuation of this Permit provided by ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-6-.06; and should this Permit not be reissued for any reason, any discharge after the expiration of this Permit will be an unpermitted discharge.

PART III ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS, CONDITIONS, AND LIMITATIONS

A. CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LIABILITY

1. Tampering

Any person who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained or performed under this Permit shall, upon conviction, be subject to penalties and/or imprisonment as provided by the AWPCA and/or the AEMA.

2. False Statements

Any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this Permit, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or noncompliance shall, upon conviction, be punished as provided by applicable State and Federal law.

3. Permit Enforcement

This NPDES Permit is a Permit for the purpose of the AWPCA, the AEMA, and the FWPCA, and as such all terms, conditions, or limitations of this Permit are enforceable under State and Federal law.

4. Relief From Liability

Except as provided in Part II.B.1. (Bypass) and Part II.B.2. (Upset), nothing in this Permit shall be construed to relieve the Permittee of civil or criminal liability under the AWPCA, AEMA, or FWPCA for noncompliance with any term or condition of this Permit.

B. OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE LIABILITY

Nothing in this Permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the Permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the Permittee is or may be subject to under Section 311 of the FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. §1321.

C. AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS

Except for data determined to be confidential under Code of Alabama 1975, §22-22-9(c), all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this Permit shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Department. Effluent data shall not be considered confidential. Knowingly making any false statement in any such report may result in the imposition of criminal penalties as provided for in Section 309 of the FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. §1319, and Code of Alabama 1975, §22-22-14.

D. DEFINITIONS

1. Alabama Environmental Management Act (AEMA) - means Code of Alabama 1975, §§22-22A-1 et. seq., as amended.
2. Alabama Water Pollution Control Act (AWPCA) - means Code of Alabama 1975, §§22-22-1 et. seq., as amended.
3. Average monthly discharge limitation - means the highest allowable average of "daily discharges" over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all "daily discharges" measured during a calendar

month divided by the number of "daily discharges" measured during that month (zero discharge days shall not be included in the number of "daily discharges" measured and a less than detectable test result shall be treated as a concentration of zero if the most sensitive EPA approved method was used).

4. Arithmetic Mean - means the summation of the individual values of any set of values divided by the number of individual values.
5. BOD - means the five-day measure of the pollutant parameter biochemical oxygen demand
6. Bypass - means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility.
7. CBOD - means the five-day measure of the pollutant parameter carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand.
8. Controlled Surface Mine Drainage – means any surface mine drainage that is pumped or siphoned from the active mining area.
9. Daily discharge - means the discharge of a pollutant measured during any consecutive 24-hour period in accordance with the sample type and analytical methodology specified by the discharge permit.
10. Daily maximum - means the highest value of any individual sample result obtained during a day.
11. Daily minimum - means the lowest value of any individual sample result obtained during a day.
12. Day - means any consecutive 24-hour period.
13. Department - means the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.
14. Director - means the Director of the Department or his authorized representative or designee.
15. Discharge - means "[t]he addition, introduction, leaking, spilling or emitting of any sewage, industrial waste, pollutant or other waste into waters of the state." Code of Alabama 1975, §22-22-1(b)(8).
16. Discharge monitoring report (DMR) - means the form approved by the Director to accomplish monitoring report requirements of an NPDES Permit.
17. DO - means dissolved oxygen.
18. E. coli – means the pollutant parameter Escherichia coli.
19. 8HC - means 8-hour composite sample, including any of the following:
 - a. The mixing of at least 5 equal volume samples collected at constant time intervals of not more than 2 hours over a period of not less than 8 hours between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. If the sampling period exceeds 8 hours, sampling may be conducted beyond the 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. period.
 - b. A sample continuously collected at a constant rate over period of not less than 8 hours between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. If the sampling period exceeds 8 hours, sampling may be conducted beyond the 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. period.
20. EPA - means the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

21. Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA) - means 33 U.S.C. §§1251 et. seq., as amended.
22. Flow – means the total volume of discharge in a 24-hour period.
23. Geometric Mean - means the Nth root of the product of the individual values of any set of values where N is equal to the number of individual values. The geometric mean is equivalent to the antilog of the arithmetic mean of the logarithms of the individual values. For purposes of calculating the geometric mean, values of zero (0) shall be considered one (1).
24. Grab Sample - means a single influent or effluent portion which is not a composite sample. The sample(s) shall be collected at the period(s) most representative of the discharge.
25. Indirect Discharger - means a nondomestic discharger who discharges pollutants to a publicly owned treatment works or a privately owned treatment facility operated by another person.
26. Industrial User - means those industries identified in the Standard Industrial Classification manual, Bureau of the Budget 1967, as amended and supplemented, under the category "Division D – Manufacturing" and such other classes of significant waste producers as, by regulation, the Director deems appropriate.
27. mg/L - means milligrams per liter of discharge.
28. MGD - means million gallons per day.
29. Monthly Average - means, other than for E. coli bacteria, the arithmetic mean of all the composite or grab samples taken for the daily discharges collected in one month period. The monthly average for E. coli bacteria is the geometric mean of daily discharge samples collected in a one month period. The monthly average for flow is the arithmetic mean of all flow measurements taken in a one month period. (Zero discharges shall not be included in the calculation of monthly averages.)
30. New Discharger - means a person owning or operating any building, structure, facility or installation:
 - a. From which there is or may be a discharge of pollutants;
 - b. From which the discharge of pollutants did not commence prior to August 13, 1979, and which is not a new source; and
 - c. Which has never received a final effective NPDES Permit for dischargers at that site.
31. New Source - means:
 - a. A new source as defined for coal mines by 40 CFR Part 434.11 (1994); and
 - b. Any building, structure, facility, or installation from which there is or may be a discharge of pollutants, the construction of which commenced:
 - (1) After promulgation of standards of performance under Section 306 of FWPCA which are applicable to such source; or
 - (2) After proposal of standards of performance in accordance with Section 306 of the FWPCA which are applicable to such source, but only if the standards are promulgated in accordance with Section 206 within 120 days of their proposal.
32. NH3-N - means the pollutant parameter ammonia, measured as nitrogen.

33. 1-year, 24-hour precipitation event - means the maximum 24-hour precipitation event with a probable recurrence interval of once in one year as defined by the National Weather Service and Technical Paper No. 40, "Rainfall Frequency Atlas of the U.S.," May 1961, or equivalent regional or rainfall probability information developed therefrom.
34. Permit application - means forms and additional information that are required by ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-6-.08 and applicable permit fees.
35. Point Source - means "any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to any pipe, channel, ditch, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, or vessel or other floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged." Section 502(14) of the FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. §1362(14).
36. Pollutant - includes for purposes of this Permit, but is not limited to, those pollutants specified in Code of Alabama 1975, §22-22-1(b)(3) and those effluent characteristics, excluding flow, specified in Part I.A. of this Permit.
37. Pollutant of Concern - means those pollutants for which a water body is listed as impaired or which contribute to the listed impairment.
38. Pollution Abatement and/or Prevention Plan (PAP Plan) – mining operations plan developed to minimize impacts on water quality to avoid a contravention of the applicable water quality standards as defined in ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-9-.03
39. Preparation, Dry - means a dry preparation facility within which the mineral/material is cleaned, separated, or otherwise processed without use of water or chemical additives before it is shipped to the customer or otherwise utilized. A dry preparation plant includes all ancillary operations and structures necessary to clean, separate, or otherwise process the mineral/material, such as storage areas and loading facilities. Dry preparation also includes minor water spray(s) used solely for dust suppression on equipment and roads to minimize dust emissions.
40. Preparation, Wet - means a wet preparation facility within which the mineral/material is cleaned, separated, or otherwise processed using water or chemical additives before it is shipped to the customer or otherwise utilized. A wet preparation plant includes all ancillary operations and structures necessary to clean, separate, or otherwise process the mineral/material, such as storage areas and loading facilities. Wet preparation also includes mineral extraction/processing by dredging, slurry pumping, etc.
41. Privately Owned Treatment Works - means any devices or system which is used to treat wastes from any facility whose operator is not the operator of the treatment works, and which is not a "POTW".
42. Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) - means a wastewater collection and treatment facility owned by the State, municipality, regional entity composed of two or more municipalities, or another entity created by the State or local authority for the purpose of collecting and treating municipal wastewater.
43. Receiving Stream - means the "waters" receiving a "discharge" from a "point source".
44. Severe property damage - means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production.
45. 10-year, 24-hour precipitation event - means that amount of precipitation which occurs during the maximum 24-hour precipitation event with a probable recurrence interval of once in ten years as

defined by the National Weather Service and Technical Paper No. 40, "Rainfall Frequency Atlas of the U.S.," May 1961, or equivalent regional or rainfall probability information developed therefrom.

46. TKN - means the pollutant parameter Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen.
47. TON - means the pollutant parameter Total Organic Nitrogen.
48. TRC - means Total Residual Chlorine.
49. TSS - means the pollutant parameter Total Suspended Solids
50. Treatment facility and treatment system - means all structures which contain, convey, and as necessary, chemically or physically treat mine and/or associated preparation plant drainage, which remove pollutants limited by this Permit from such drainage or wastewater. This includes all pipes, channels, ponds, tanks, and all other equipment serving such structures.
51. 24HC - means 24-hour composite sample, including any of the following:
 - a. The mixing of at least 12 equal volume samples collected at constant time intervals of not more than 2 hours over a period of 24 hours;
 - b. A sample collected over a consecutive 24-hour period using an automatic sampler composite to one sample. As a minimum, samples shall be collected hourly and each shall be no more than one twenty-fourth (1/24) of the total sample volume collected; or
 - c. A sample collected over a consecutive 24-hour period using an automatic composite sampler composited proportional to flow.
52. 24-hour precipitation event - means that amount of precipitation which occurs within any 24-hour period.
53. 2-year, 24-hour precipitation event - means the maximum 24-hour precipitation event with a probable recurrence interval of once in two years as defined by the National Weather Service and Technical Paper No. 40, "Rainfall Frequency Atlas of the U.S.," May 1961, or equivalent regional or rainfall probability information developed therefrom.
54. Upset - means an exceptional incident in which there is an unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology-based permit discharge limitations because of factors beyond the control of the Permittee. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation.
55. Waters - means "[a]ll waters of any river, stream, watercourse, pond, lake, coastal, ground or surface water, wholly or partially within the State, natural or artificial. This does not include waters which are entirely confined and retained completely upon the property of a single individual, partnership, or corporation unless such waters are used in interstate commerce." Code of Alabama 1975, §22-22-1(b)(2). "Waters" include all "navigable waters" as defined in §502(7) of the FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. §1362(7), which are within the State of Alabama.
56. Week - means the period beginning at twelve midnight Saturday and ending at twelve midnight the following Saturday.
57. Weekly (7-day and calendar week) Average - is the arithmetic mean of all samples collected during a consecutive 7-day period or calendar week, whichever is applicable. The calendar week is defined as beginning on Sunday and ending on Saturday. Weekly averages shall be calculated for all calendar weeks with Saturdays in the month. If a calendar week overlaps two months (i.e., the

Sunday is in one month and the Saturday in the following month), the weekly average calculated for the calendar week shall be included in the data for the month that contains the Saturday.

E. SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Permit are severable, and if any provision of this Permit or the application of any provision of this Permit to any circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this Permit, shall not be affected thereby.

F. PROHIBITIONS AND ACTIVITIES NOT AUTHORIZED

1. Discharges from disposal or landfill activities as described in ADEM Admin. Code div. 335-13 are not authorized by this Permit unless specifically approved by the Department.
2. Relocation, diversion, or other alteration of a water of the State is not authorized by this Permit unless specifically approved by the Department.
3. Lime or cement manufacturing or production and discharge of process waters from such manufacturing or production is not authorized by this Permit unless specifically approved by the Department.
4. Concrete or asphalt manufacturing or production and discharge of process waters from such manufacturing or production is not authorized by this Permit unless specifically approved by the Department.
5. The discharge of wastewater, generated by any process, facility, or by any other means not under the operational control of the Permittee or not identified in the application for this Permit or not identified specifically in the description of an outfall in this Permit is not authorized by this Permit.

G. DISCHARGES TO IMPAIRED WATERS

1. This Permit does not authorize new sources or new discharges of pollutants of concern to impaired waters unless consistent with an EPA-approved or EPA-established Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and applicable State law, or unless compliance with the limitations and requirements of the Permit ensure that the discharge will not contribute to further degradation of the receiving stream. Impaired waters are those that do not meet applicable water quality standards and are identified on the State of Alabama's §303(d) list or on an EPA-approved or EPA-established TMDL. Pollutants of concern are those pollutants for which the receiving water is listed as impaired or contribute to the listed impairment.
2. Facilities that discharge into a receiving stream which is listed on the State of Alabama's §303(d) list of impaired waters, and with discharges that contain the pollutant(s) for which the waters are impaired, must within six (6) months of the Final §303(d) list approval, document in its BMP plan how the BMPs will control the discharge of the pollutant(s) of concern, and must ensure that there will be no increase of the pollutants of concern. A monitoring plan to assess the effectiveness of the BMPs in achieving the allocations must also be included in the BMP plan.
3. If the facility discharges to impaired waters as described above, it must determine whether a TMDL has been developed and approved or established by EPA for the listed waters. If a TMDL is approved or established during this Permit cycle by EPA for any waters into which the facility discharges, the facility must review the applicable TMDL to see if it includes requirements for control of any water discharged by the Permittee. Within six (6) months of the date of TMDL approval or establishment, the facility must notify the Department on how it will modify its BMP plan to include best management practices specifically targeted to achieve the allocations prescribed

by the TMDL, if necessary. Any revised BMP plans must be submitted to the Department for review. The facility must include in the BMP plan a monitoring component to assess the effectiveness of the BMPs in achieving the allocations.

**ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
WATER DIVISION**

NPDES INDIVIDUAL PERMIT RATIONALE

Company Name: Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc.

Facility Name: Universal Understandings Pit #1

County: Henry

Permit Number: AL0084538

Prepared by: Steven Sandlin

Date: June 11, 2026

Receiving Waters: Unnamed Tributary to Barnes Mill Creek

Permit Coverage: This proposed permit covers a bauxitic clay and kaolin mining facility, mineral loading, mineral transportation, mineral storage, and associated areas which discharge to surface waters.

SIC Code: 1455 and 1459

The Department has made a tentative determination that the available information is adequate to support **Initial Issuance** of this permit.

This proposed permit covers a bauxitic clay and kaolin mining facility, mineral loading, mineral transportation, mineral storage, and associated areas which discharges to surface waters of the state.

The proposed permit authorizes treated discharges into an unnamed tributary to Barnes Mill Creek classified as Fish and Wildlife (F&W) per ADEM Admin. Code ch. 335-6-11. If the requirements of the proposed permit are fully implemented, the facility will not discharge pollutants at levels that will cause or contribute to a violation of the F&W classification.

Full compliance with the proposed permit terms and conditions is expected to be protective of instream water quality and ensure consistency with applicable instream State water quality standards (WQS) for the receiving stream.

Technology Based Effluent Limits (TBELs) for bauxitic clay and kaolin mining facilities have not yet been promulgated by the EPA. Discharges from a facility of this type, however, are expected to be similar to discharges from facilities mining and processing bauxitic ore. Therefore, the limits for Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Total Iron (as Fe), and Total Aluminum (as Al) were selected with best professional judgement considering the TBELs in 40 CFR 440 Subpart B.

The instream WQS for pH, for streams classified as F&W, are 6.0 - 8.5 s.u per ADEM Admin Code r. 335-6-10-.09; however, because discharges from Outfall 001-1 are expected only in response to rain events, it is the opinion of the Department that discharges with an allowable pH daily maximum of 9.0 will not adversely affect the instream pH based on the low discharge/stream flow ratio. The discharge limitations for pH of 6.0 - 9.0 s.u. for Outfall 001-1 are identical to the existing point source TBELs found in 40 CFR 440 Subpart B.

The applicant has requested, in accordance with 40 CFR Part 122.21 and their National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit application, a waiver from testing for the Part A, B, and C pollutants listed in the EPA Form 2C and 2D that are not addressed in their application. Part II.C.3. of the Permit requires submittal of metals, arsenic, cyanide, and phenols data within six months of the effective date of the Permit or within six months of the first discharge from each outfall. The Permit shall be reopened, if required, to address any new information resulting from the submittal of the new effluent data.

The Pollution Abatement/Prevention (PAP) plan for this facility has been prepared by a professional engineer (PE) registered in the State of Alabama and is designed to ensure reduction of pollutants in the waste stream to a level that, if operated properly, the discharge will not contribute to or cause a violation of applicable State WQS. The proposed permit terms and conditions are predicated on the basis of ensuring a reduction of pollutants in the discharge to a level that reduces the potential of contributing to or causing a violation of applicable State WQS.

In accordance with ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-3-.07 the design PE, as evidenced by their seal and/or signature on the application, has accepted full responsibility for the effectiveness of the waste treatment facility to treat the Permittee's effluent to meet NPDES permit limitations and requirements, and to fully comply with Alabama's WQS, when such treatment facilities are properly operated.

If there is a reasonable potential that a pollutant present in the treated discharges from a facility could cause or contribute to a contravention of applicable State WQS above numeric or narrative criteria, 40 CFR Part 122 requires the Department to establish effluent limits using calculated water quality criterion, establish effluent limits on a case-by-case basis using criteria established by EPA, or establish effluent limits based on an indicator parameter. Based on available information, potential pollutants discharged from this facility, if discharged within the concentrations allowed by this permit, would not have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a contravention of applicable State WQS.

Pursuant to ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-6-.12(r) this permit requires the Permittee to design and implement a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) plan for all stored chemicals, fuels and/or stored pollutants that have the potential to discharge to a water of the State. This plan must meet the minimum engineering requirements as defined in 40 CFR Part 112 and must provide for secondary containment adequate to control a potential spill.

The applicant is not proposing discharges of pollutants to a water of the State with an approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).

The applicant is not proposing discharges into a stream segment or other State water that is included on Alabama's current CWA §303(d) list. However, Burns Mill Creek flows into Thomas Mill Creek (Walter F. George Reservoir) that is included on Alabama's Current §303(d) list as impaired for mercury. Mercury is not expected to be discharged, if at all, in sufficient quantities to cause or contribute to the impairment.

The proposed permit action authorizes new discharges of pollutants to receiving waters determined by the Department to be waters where the quality exceeds levels necessary to support propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife and recreation in and on the water (Tier II). Pursuant to ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-10 (Antidegradation Policy and Implementation of the Antidegradation Policy), the applicant has submitted and the Department has reviewed and considered information regarding (1) demonstration of necessity/importance, (2) alternatives analysis, and (3) calculations of total annualized costs for technically feasible treatment alternatives regarding the proposed new discharges to Tier II waters. The Department has determined, based on the applicant's demonstration, that the proposed new discharges to the Tier II waters are necessary for important economic or social development in the area in which the waters are located.

**ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
WATER DIVISION**

ANTIDEGRADATION RATIONALE

Company Name: Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc,
Facility Name: Universal Understandings Pit #1
County: Henry
Permit Number: AL0084538
Prepared by: Steven Sandlin
Date: June 11, 2026
Receiving Waters: Unnamed Tributary to Barnes Mill Creek
Stream Category: Tier II as defined by ADEM Admin. Code 335-6-10-.12
Discharge Description: This proposed permit covers a bauxitic clay and kaolin mining facility, mineral loading, mineral transportation, mineral storage, and associated areas which discharge to surface waters.

The following preliminary determination was prepared in accordance with ADEM Admin. Code 335-6-10-.12 (7) (c):

The Department has reviewed the information submitted by applicant in accordance with ADEM Admin. Code 335-6-10-.12(9). The applicant has demonstrated that there are no technically or economically viable treatment options in its alternatives analysis that would completely eliminate a direct discharge.

The permit applicant has indicated that the following economic and social benefits will result from this project:

1. If, the application is not approved, mining could not proceed. Therefore, the company would have to layoff eight equipment operators. The support personnel: (two administrative, three clerical, three maintenance and thirty-four Truck Drivers) are responsible for the entire operation. Their activities are not site specific, but they are dependent on the continued availability of permitted mine sites.
2. An estimate of the taxes that will be paid by the contractor for this facility are as follows: *Taxes paid on an estimated \$196,000.00 to local contractors; Payroll taxes \$250,000.00, State and Federal Corporation taxes \$200,000.00 Federal Income taxes \$100,000.00, FICA \$125,000.00, Fuel taxes \$50,000.00. *Note: These numbers are estimated and were generated for ADEM permitting. Actual values will be determined as the project is completed.
3. The company will help provide bauxite clay materials to industries worldwide. The material mined is mainly kaolin, bauxitic kaolin, and bauxite. The products created from these materials are refractory products. These products are used in investment castings, furnace liners and kiln bricks. Kaolin is also used to make proppants to improve oil well recovery. The location of the operation will also be convenient for local residents providing job opportunities for people in the area. The

payrolls cycle through the local economy. Charitable contributions include Chamber of Commerce and United Way.

4. The employment of the local contractors who mine and haul the ores will be maintained. The continued employment of the workforce at various processing plants is dependent on the uninterrupted ore supply from the mining operations associated with the discharge point. The payrolls cycle through the local economy.

The Department has determined that the discharge proposed by the permit applicant is necessary for important economic and social development in the area of the outfall location in the receiving water.

Reviewed By: William McClimans

Date: June 11, 2026

NPDES Individual Application - Mining (Form 315)

version 3.4

(Submission #: HQM-9P2M-NHKM1, version 2)

Details

Submission ID HQM-9P2M-NHKM1

Status In Process

Fees

\$7,430.00

Payments/Adjustments (\$7,430.00)

Balance Due \$0.00 (Paid)

Form Input

Processing Information

Is this a coalbed methane operation?

No

Please indicate the purpose of this application:

Initial Permit Application for New Facility

General Instructions

Permittee Information

Permittee**Permittee Name**

Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc,

Mailing Address

377 Highway 131

Eufaula, AL 36027

Responsible Official**Prefix**

Mr.

First Name

Graham

Last Name

Reid

Title

Director of Operations

Organization Name

Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc.

Phone Type

Business

Number

334-687-6846

Extension**Email**

graham.reid@imerys.com

Mailing Address

1949 Highway 49 South

Andersonville, GA 31711

Facility/Operations Information**Facility/Operations Name**

Universal Understandings Pit #1

Permittee Organization Type

Corporation

Parent Corporation and Subsidiary Corporations of Applicant, if any:

NONE PROVIDED

Landowner(s) Name, Address and Phone Number:

Universal Understandings LLC, C/O Donald Hill

14352 79 Court North

Loxahatchee, FL 33470

Ada Mae Jones C/O Sandra Green

847 County Road 48

Abbeville, Alabama 36310

Sub-contractor(s)/Operator(s), if known:

Simmons & Sons

Is the "Company/Permittee" properly registered and in good standing with the Alabama Secretary of State's office?

Yes

Facility/Operations Address or Location Description

County Road 48

Site surrounds parcel at 469 County Road 48, Abbeville, AL 36310

Abbeville, AL 36310

Facility/Operations County (Front Gate)

Henry

Do the operations span multiple counties?

No

Detailed Directions to the Facility/Operations

From Union Springs, Alabama, take US-82 East. Continue on US-82 East until you reach Eufaula. Turn right onto N Eufaula Ave. Turn left onto AL-95 S. Turn left onto Henry County Road 48. After 0.4 miles, onto existing gravel road used to access 469 County Road 48, Abbeville, AL 36310.

Facility/Operations Front Gate Latitude and Longitude

31.71646,-85.17437

Township(s), Range(s), Section(s) (Note: If you are submitting multiple TRSs, please separate each TRS by a semicolon. Example: T19S,R1E,S15; T20S,R2E,S16)

T9N, R29E, S31

SIC Code(s) [Please select your primary SIC code first]:

1455-Kaolin and Ball Clay

1459-Clay Ceramic and Refractory Minerals

NAICS Code(s) [Please select your primary NAICS code first]:

212323-Kaolin, Clay, And Ceramic And Refractory Minerals Mining

Facility/Operations Contact

Prefix

Mrs.

First Name

Kallie

Last Name

Turner

Title

Eufaula Mine Superintendent

Organization Name

Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc.

Phone Type

Mobile

Number

229-938-2918

Extension**Email**

kallie.turner@imerys.com

Member Information

Identify the name, title/position, and unless waived in writing by the Department, the resident address of every officer (a PO Box is not acceptable), general partner, LLP partner, LLC member, investor, director, or person performing a function similar to a director, of the applicant, and each person who is the record or beneficial owner of 10 percent or more of any class of voting stock of the applicant, or any other responsible official(s) of the applicant with legal or decision making responsibility or authority for the facility/operations:

List of Names/Titles/Addresses, as described in the instructions above, will be entered by:

Providing as an Attachment

Provide a list of names with titles and addresses as an attachment.

SECTION II MEMBER INFORMATION ATTACHMENT 2024.pdf - 03/24/2026 03:44 PM

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Other than the "Company/Permittee", identify the name of each corporation, partnership, association, and single proprietorship for which any individual identified above is or was an officer, general partner, LLP partner, LLC member, investor, director, or individual performing a function similar to a director, or principal (10% or more) stockholder, that had an Alabama NPDES permit at any time during the five year (60 month) period immediately preceding the date on which this form is signed (if this does not apply, then enter N/A after selecting "Manually Enter in Table"):

List of Corporations/Partnerships/etc, Names and Titles, as described in the instructions above, will be entered by:

Manually Entering in Table

Name of Corporation, Partnership, Association, or Single Proprietorship	Name of Individual	Title/Position in Corporation, Partnership, Association, or Single Proprietorship
N/A	N/A	N/A

Additional Contacts (1 of 1)

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS: DMR Contact

Contact Type
DMR Contact

Contact

First Name Last Name

Kallie Turner

Title

Eufaula Mine Superintendent

Organization Name

Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc.

Phone Type Number Extension

Mobile 229-938-2918

Email

kallie.turner@imerys.com

Address

377 Highway 131

Eufaula, AL 36072

Compliance History

Has the applicant ever had any of the following:

Event	Apply?
An Alabama NPDES, SID, or UIC permit suspended or terminated	No
An Alabama or federal environmental permit suspended/terminated	No
An Alabama State Oil Gas Board permit or other approval suspended or terminated	No
An Alabama or federal performance/environmental bond, or similar security deposited in lieu of a bond, or portion thereof, forfeited	No

Has the applicant, parent corporation, subsidiary, general partner, LLP partner, or LLC Member had any Warning Letters, Notice of Violations (NOVs), Administrative Actions, or litigation filed by ADEM or EPA during the three year (36 month) period preceding the date on which this form is signed?

Yes

Identify every Warning Letter, Notice of Violation (NOV), Administrative Action, or litigation issued to the applicant, parent corporation, subsidiary, general partner, LLP partner, or LLC Member and filed by ADEM or EPA during the three year (36 month) period preceding the date on which this form is signed.

Date of Issuance	Type of Action	Briefly describe alleged violations:	Date of Final Resolution
07/21/2025	Warning Letter	BMP improvements needed at R. Turner Pit 2 facility (AL0083925)	08/14/2025

For this facility, list any other NPDES or other environmental permits (including permit numbers), authorizations, or certifications that have been applied for or issued within the State by ADEM, EPA, Alabama Department of Labor (ADOL), US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE), or other agency, to the applicant, parent corporation, subsidiary, or LLC member whether presently effective, expired, suspended, revoked, or terminated:
See Attached

For other facilities, list any other NPDES or other ADEM permits (including permit numbers), authorizations, or certifications that have been applied for or issued within the State by ADEM, EPA, ASMC, ADOL, or USACE, to the applicant, parent corporation, subsidiary, or LLC member whether presently effective, expired, suspended, revoked, or terminated:
See Attached

Anti-Degradation Evaluation

Pursuant to ADEM Admin. Code ch. 335-6-10-.12(9), responses to the following questions must be provided by the applicant requesting NPDES permit coverage for new or expanded discharges of pollutant(s) to Tier 2 waters (except discharges eligible for coverage under general permits). As part of the permit application review process, the Department is required to consider, based on the applicant's demonstration, whether the proposed new or increased discharge to Tier 2 waters is necessary for important economic or social development in the area in which the waters are located. Do you have new or increased discharges?

Yes

NOTE

If the discharge is to a Tier II waterbody as defined in ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-10-.12(4), complete questions below, ADEM Form 311-Alternatives Analysis, and either ADEM Form 312 or ADEM Form 313- Calculation of Total Annualized Project Costs (Public-Sector or Private-Sector Projects, whichever is applicable). ADEM Form 312 or ADEM Form 313, whichever is

applicable, must be provided for each treatment discharge alternative considered technically viable.

ADEM forms can be found on the Department's website here.

What environmental or public health problem will the discharger be correcting?

None.

How much will the discharger be increasing employment (at its existing facility or as the result of locating a new facility)?

There will be no new hires to work this facility. Contractors will be transferred from a current site to this site to work.

How much reduction in employment will the discharger be avoiding?

If, the application is not approved, mining could not proceed. Therefore, the company would have to layoff eight equipment operators. The support personnel: (two administrative, three clerical, three maintenance and thirty-four Truck Drivers) are responsible for the entire operation. Their activities are not site specific, but they are dependent on the continued availability of permitted mine sites.

How much additional state or local taxes will the discharger be paying?

An estimate of the taxes that will be paid by the contractor for this facility are as follows:

*Taxes paid on an estimated \$196,000.00 to local contractors; Payroll taxes \$250,000.00, State and Federal Corporation taxes \$200,000.00 Federal Income taxes \$100,000.00, FICA \$125,000.00, Fuel taxes \$50,000.00. *Note: These numbers are estimated and were generated for ADEM permitting. Actual values will be determined as the project is completed.

What public service to the community will the discharger be providing?

The company will help provide bauxite clay materials to industries worldwide. The material mined is mainly kaolin, bauxitic kaolin, and bauxite. The products created from these materials are refractory products. Refractory products are materials that can withstand high temperature cycles without deterioration. These products are used in investment castings, furnace liners and kiln bricks. Kaolin is also used to make proppants, which are small, spherical beads that are used by the petroleum industry to seal fractures in oil-bearing rock formations to improve well recovery. The location of the operation will also be convenient for local residents providing job opportunities for people in the Edgefield area. The payrolls cycle through the local economy. Charitable contributions include Chamber of Commerce and United Way.

What economic or social benefit will the discharger be providing to the community?

The employment of the local contractors who mine and haul the ores will be maintained. The continued employment of the workforce at various processing plants is dependent on the uninterrupted ore supply from the mining operations associated with the discharge point. The payrolls cycle through the local economy.

Attach Form 311 (Alternative Analysis)

20978 - Form 311 - Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf - 03/27/2026 09:04 AM

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Please attach Form 312 (Public Sector Projects) or Form 313 (Private Sector Projects).

Form 313 3.2026 - Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf - 03/26/2026 05:01 PM

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Activity Description & Information

Narrative description of activity(s):

Clay is mined from the mining area with excavators and trucks. The mined clay is stockpiled and/or hauled to the processing plant located in Andersonville, GA.

Total Facility/Operations Area (acres)

38.10

Total Disturbed Area (acres)

11.80

Anticipated Commencement Date

09/30/2026

Anticipated Completion Date

09/30/2031

Please identify which of the following apply to this operation:

Activity/Condition	Apply?
An existing facility/operation which currently results in discharges to State waters?	No
A proposed facility/operation which will result in a discharge to State waters?	Yes
Be located within any 100-year flood plain?	No
Discharge to Municipal Separate Storm Sewer?	No
Discharge to waters of or be located in the Coastal Zone?	No
Need/have ADEM UIC permit coverage?	No
Be located on Indian/historically significant lands?	No
Need/have ADEM SID permit coverage?	No
Need/have ASMC permit coverage?	No
Need/have State Oil & Gas Board permit coverage?	No
Need/have ADOL permit coverage?	Yes
Generate, treat, store, or dispose of hazardous or toxic waste?	No
Be located in or discharge to a Public Water Supply (PWS) watershed or be located within ½ mile of any PWS well?	No
Incised pit	No

Does your facility/operation use cooling water?

No

Material to be Removed, Processed, or Transloaded

Material To Be Removed, Processed, Or Transloaded (Note: Sum must equal 100.)

Mineral(s)/Mineral product(s)	%
Bauxitic Clay	80
Kaolin	20
	Sum: 100

Proposed Activity To Be Conducted

Type(s) of activity presently conducted at applicant's existing facility or proposed to be conducted at facility (Select Yes or No):

Activity	Apply?
Adjacent/associated asphalt/concrete plant(s)	No
Alternative fuels operation	No
Auger mining	No
Cement production	No
Chemical processing or leaching	No
Chemicals used in process or wastewater treatment (coagulant, biocide, etc.)	No
Construction related temporary borrow pits/areas	Yes
Creek/stream crossings	No
Dredging	No
Excavation	Yes
Grading, clearing, grubbing, etc.	Yes
Hydraulic mining	No
Hydraulic mining, dredging, instream or between stream-bank mining	No
Lime production	No
Low volume sewage treatment package plant	No
Mineral dry processing (crushing & screening)	No
Mineral loading	Yes
Mineral storing	Yes
Mineral transportation	Yes
Mineral wet preparation	No
Onsite construction debris or equipment storage/disposal	Yes
Onsite mining debris or equipment storage/disposal	Yes
Other beneficiation & manufacturing operations	No
Pre-construction ponded water removal	No
Pre-mining logging or land clearing	Yes
Preparation plant waste recovery	No

Activity	Apply?
Quarrying	No
Reclamation of disturbed areas	Yes
Solution mining	No
Surface mining	Yes
Synthetic fuel production	No
Underground mining	No
Waterbody relocation or other alteration	No
Within-bank mining	No

If the operation will include activities other than those listed above, please describe them below:

NONE PROVIDED

If the type of activity presently conducted or proposed is Mineral Transportation, please indicate which of the following apply:

Method	Apply?
Barge	No
Rail	No
Truck	Yes

Fuel - Chemical Handling, Storage, & Spill Prevention Control & Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan

Will fuels, chemicals, compounds, or liquid waste be used or stored onsite?

Yes

Please identify the fuel, chemicals, compounds, or liquid waste and indicate the volume of each:

Volume (gallons)	Contents
3,000.0	Diesel

SPCC Plan

20978 - SPCC rev. 7.1.2026 - Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf - 07/01/2026 01:40 PM

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

ASMC Regulated Entities

Is this a coal mining operation regulated by ASMC?

No

Topographic Map Submittal

Topographic Map

Attach to this application a 7.5 minute series U.S.G.S. topographic map(s) or equivalent map(s) no larger than, or folded to a size of 8.5 by 11 inches (several pages may be necessary), of the area extending to at least one mile beyond property boundaries. The topographic or equivalent map(s) must include a caption indicating the name of the topographic map, name of the applicant, facility name, county, and township, range, & section(s) where the facility are located. Unless approved in advance by the Department, the topographic or equivalent map(s), at a minimum, must show: a) An accurate outline of the area to be covered by the permit (b) An outline of the facility (c) All existing and proposed disturbed areas (d) Location of intake and discharge areas (e) Proposed and existing discharge points (f) Perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams (g) Lakes, springs, water wells, wetlands (h) All known facility dirt/improved access/haul roads (i) All surrounding unimproved/improved roads (j) High-tension power lines and railroad tracks (k) Contour lines, township-range-section lines (l) Drainage patterns, swales, washes (m) All drainage conveyance/treatment structures (ditches, berms, etc.) (n) Any other pertinent or significant feature.

Topographic Map

20978 - NOI Map - Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf - 03/24/2026 02:29 PM

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Detailed Facility Map Submittal

Detailed Facility Map

20978 - Imerys - UU Pit #1-PAP Facility Map.pdf - 03/26/2026 02:02 PM

20978 - Imerys - UU Pit #1-Basin Details.pdf - 03/26/2026 02:02 PM

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Outfalls (1 of 1)

Outfall Identifier: 001

Feature Type

Outfall (External)

Outfall Identifier

001

Outfall Status

Proposed

Please be aware that you should only mark an outfall status as existing if (1) the Department has been previously notified that it was constructed as proposed or (2) it began discharge prior to this application. A proposed outfall is one that is being newly added to the permit OR one that has never discharged or has never been authorized by the Department to discharge. Should you have any questions about which status to select, please contact the Department's permit engineer for this site.

Receiving Water
Barnes Mill Creek

Check below if the discharge enters the receiving water via an unnamed tributary.
Unnamed Tributary

Location of Outfall
31.71501,-85.17201

303(d) Segment?
No

TMDL Segment?
No

Discharge Characterization

EPA Form 2C, EPA Form 2D, and/or ADEM Form 567 Submittal

Yes, pursuant to 40 CFR 122.21, the applicant requests a waiver for completion of EPA Form 2C, EPA Form 2D, and ADEM Form 567 and certifies that the operating facility will discharge treated stormwater only; that chemical/compound additives are not used (unless waived in writing by the Department on a programmatic, categorical, or individual compound/chemical basis); that there are no process, manufacturing, or other industrial operations or wastewaters, including but not limited to lime or cement production and synfuel operations; and that coal and coal products are not mined nor stored onsite.

Required attachment:

Form315 Table B- Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf - 03/27/2026 11:28 AM

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Required attachment:

Form315 Table C- Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf - 03/26/2026 02:15 PM

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Discharge Structure Description & Pollutant Source

Required attachment:

Form315 Discharge Structures - Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf - 03/26/2026 02:07 PM

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Variance Request

Do you intend to request or renew one or more of the CWA technology variances authorized at 40 CFR 122.21(m)?

No

Pollution Abatement & Prevention (PAP) Plan Summary (1 of 1)

Outfall(s):

001P

Outfall Questions:	Please select one:
Runoff from all areas of disturbance is controlled	Yes
Drainage from pit area, stockpiles, and spoil areas directed to a sedimentation pond	Yes
Sedimentation basin at least 0.25 acre/feet for every acre of disturbed drainage	Yes
Sedimentation basin cleaned out when sediment accumulation is 60% of design capacity	Yes
Trees, boulders, and other obstructions removed from pond during initial construction	Yes
Width of top of dam greater than 12'	Yes
Side slopes of dam no steeper than 3:1	Yes
Cutoff trench at least 8' wide	Yes
Side slopes of cutoff trench no less than 1:1	Yes
Cutoff trench located along the centerline of the dam	Yes
Cutoff trench extends at least 2' into bedrock or impervious soil	Yes
Cutoff trench filled with impervious material	Yes
Embankments and cutoff trench 95% compaction standard proctor ASTM	Yes
Embankment free of roots, tree debris, stones >6" diameter, etc.	Yes
Embankment constructed in lifts no greater than 12"	Yes
Spillpipe sized to carry peak flow from a one year storm event	Yes
Spillpipe will not chemically react with effluent	Yes
Subsurface withdrawal	Yes
Anti-seep collars extend radially at least 2' from each joint in spillpipe	Yes
Splashpad at the end of the spillpipe	Yes

Outfall Questions:	Please select one:
Emergency Spillway sized for peak flow from 25-yr 24-hr event if discharge not into PWS classified stream	Yes
Emergency spillway sized for peak flow from 50-yr 24-hr event if discharge is into PWS classified stream	N/A
Emergency overflow at least 20' long	Yes
Side slopes of emergency spillway no steeper than 2:1	Yes
Emergency spillway lined with riprap or concrete	No
Minimum of 1.5' of freeboard between normal overflow and emergency overflow	Yes
Minimum of 1.5' of freeboard between max. design flow of emergency spillway and top of dam	Yes
All emergency overflows are sized to handle entire drainage area for ponds in series	Yes
Dam stabilized with permanent vegetation	Yes
Sustained grade of haul road <10%	Yes
Maximum grade of haul road <15% for no more than 300'	Yes
Outer slopes of haul road no steeper than 2:1	Yes
Outer slopes of haul road vegetated or otherwise stabilized	Yes
Detail drawings supplied for all stream crossings	N/A
Short-Term Stabilization/Grading And Temporary Vegetative Cover Plans	Yes
Long-Term Stabilization/Grading And Permanent Reclamation or Water Quality Remediation Plans	Yes

Identify and provide detailed explanation for any "N" or "N/A" response(s):

No: Spillway stabilized with heavy natural vegetation is a valid alternative.

N/A: Receiving waters are not PWS. No stream crossings are proposed for this site.

Pollution Abatement & Prevention (PAP) Plan Review Checklist

General Information:	Please select one:
PE Seal with License #	Yes
Name and Address of Operator	Yes
Legal Description of Facility	Yes
Name of Company	Yes
Number of Employees	Yes
Products to be Mined	Yes
Hours of Operation	Yes

General Information:	Please select one:
Water Supply and Disposition	Yes

Maps:	Please select one:
Topographic Map including Information from Part XIII (a) – (o) of this Application	Yes
1" – 500' or Equivalent Facility Map including Information from Part XIV of this Application	Yes

Detailed Design Diagrams:	Please select one:
Plan Views	Yes
Cross-section Views	Yes
Method of Diverting Runoff to Treatment Basins	Yes
Line Drawing of Water Flow through Facility with Water Balance or Pictorial Description of Water Flow	Yes

Narrative of Operations:	Please select one:
Raw Materials Defined	Yes
Processes Defined	Yes
Products Defined	Yes

Schematic Diagram:	Please select one:
Points of Waste Origin	Yes
Collection System	Yes
Disposal System	Yes

Post Treatment Quantity and Quality of Effluent:	Please select one:
Flow	Yes
Suspended Solids	Yes
Iron Concentration	Yes
pH	Yes

Description of Waste Treatment Facility:	Please select one:
Pre-Treatment Measures	Yes
Recovery System	Yes
Expected Life of Treatment Basin	Yes

Description of Waste Treatment Facility:	Please select one:
Measures for Ensuring Access to All Treatment Structures and Related Appurtenances including Outfall Locations	Yes
Schedule of Cleaning and/or Abandonment	Yes

Other:	Please select one:
Precipitation/Volume Calculations/Diagram Attached	Yes
BMP Plan for Haul Roads	No
Measures for Minimizing Impacts to Adjacent Stream (e.g., Buffer Strips, Berms)	Yes
Measures for Ensuring Appropriate Setbacks are Maintained at All Times	Yes
Methods for Minimizing Nonpoint Source Discharges	Yes
If Chemical Treatment Used, Methods for Ensuring Appropriate Dosage	N/A
Facility Closure Plans	Yes
PE Rationale(s) For Alternate Standards, Designs or Plans	Yes

Identify and provide detailed explanation for any "N" or "N/A" response(s):

No: Haul roads drain to pits or ponds.

N/A: No chemicals are proposed to be used on site.

Pollution Abatement & Prevention (PAP) Plan

Is this a coal mining operation regulated by ASMC?

No

For non-coal mining facilities, has a PAP Plan in accordance with ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-9-.03 been completed?

Yes

PAP Plan (non-coal mining facilities)

20978 - PAP 3.2026 - Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf - 03/30/2026 01:05 PM

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Professional Engineer (PE)

Registration License Number

20897

Professional Engineer

Prefix

Mr.

First Name

Steven

Last Name

Speaks

Title

President

Organization Name

Larry E. Speaks & Associates, Inc.

Phone Type**Number****Extension**

Business

334-262-1091

Email

sspeaks@lespeaks.com

Address

535 HERRON ST

MONTGOMERY, AL 36104-3321

Information for the Applicant

Please read the following information and acknowledge below:

Contact the Department prior to submittal with any questions or to request acceptable alternate content/format.

Be advised that you are not authorized to commence regulated activity until this application can be processed, publicly noticed, and approval to proceed is received in writing from the Department.

EPA Form(s) 1 and 2F need not be submitted unless specifically required by the Department. EPA Form(s) 2C and/or 2D are required to be submitted unless the applicant is eligible for a waiver and the Department grants a waiver, or unless the relevant information required by EPA Form(s) 2C and/or 2D are submitted to the Department in an alternative format acceptable to the Department.

Planned/proposed mining sites that are greater than 5 acres, that mine/process coal or metallic mineral/ore, or that have wet or chemical processing, must apply for and obtain coverage under an Individual or General NPDES Permit prior to commencement of any land disturbance. Such Individual NPDES Permit coverage may be requested via this ADEM Form 315.

The applicant is advised to contact:

- (1) The Alabama Surface Mining Commission (ASMC) if coal, coal fines, coal refuse, or other coal related materials are mined, transloaded, processed, etc.;
- (2) The Alabama Department of Labor (ADOL) if conducting non-coal mining operations;
- (3) The Alabama Historical Commission for requirements related to any potential historic or

culturally significant sites;

(4) The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) for requirements related to potential presence of threatened/endangered species;

(5) The US Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile or Nashville Districts, if this project could cause fill to be placed in federal waters or could interfere with navigation.

The Department must be in receipt of a completed version of this form, including any supporting documentation, and the appropriate processing fee [including Greenfield Fee and Biomonitoring & Toxicity Limits fee(s), if applicable], prior to development of a draft NPDES permit.

Acknowledgement

I acknowledge I have read and understand the information above.

Additional Attachments

Additional Attachments

Other Permits 12.2025 - UU Pit #1.pdf - 03/27/2026 11:32 AM

Comment

NONE PROVIDED

Application Preparer

Application Preparer

Prefix

Ms.

First Name

Hannah

Last Name

Grissett

Title

Environmental Engineering Intern

Organization Name

Larry E. Speaks & Associates, Inc.

Phone Type

Business

Number

334-262-1091

Extension

Email

hgrissett@lespeaks.com

Address

535 HERRON ST

MONTGOMERY, AL 36104-3321

Fees Assessed

The following itemized fees have been assessed in accordance with Fee Schedule D and 335-1-6-.04(a) of ADEM Admin. Code Division 1 regulations based on the information provided in this application.

Mineral/Resource Extraction Mining, Storage Transloading, Dry Processing:
5820

Greenfield Site Fee:
1610

Fee

Fee
7430

Attachments

Date	Attachment Name	Context	Confidential?	User
7/1/2026 1:40 PM	20978 - SPCC rev. 7.1.2026 - Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf	Attachment	No	Hannah Grissett
3/30/2026 1:05 PM	20978 - PAP 3.2026 - Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf	Attachment	No	Hannah Grissett
3/27/2026 11:32 AM	Other Permits 12.2025 - UU Pit #1.pdf	Attachment	No	Hannah Grissett
3/27/2026 11:28 AM	Form315 Table B- Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf	Attachment	No	Hannah Grissett
3/27/2026 9:04 AM	20978 - Form 311 - Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf	Attachment	No	Hannah Grissett
3/26/2026 5:01 PM	Form 313 3.2026 - Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf	Attachment	No	Hannah Grissett
3/26/2026 2:15 PM	Form315 Table C- Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf	Attachment	No	Hannah Grissett
3/26/2026 2:07 PM	Form315 Discharge Structures - Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf	Attachment	No	Hannah Grissett
3/26/2026 2:02 PM	20978 - Imerys - UU Pit #1- Basin Details.pdf	Attachment	No	Hannah Grissett
3/26/2026 2:02 PM	20978 - Imerys - UU Pit #1-PAP Facility Map.pdf	Attachment	No	Hannah Grissett
3/24/2026 3:44 PM	SECTION II MEMBER INFORMATION ATTACHMENT 2024.pdf	Attachment	No	Hannah Grissett

Date	Attachment Name	Context	Confidential?	User
3/24/2026 2:29 PM	20978 - NOI Map - Imerys - UU Pit #1.pdf	Attachment	No	Hannah Grissett

Agreements and Signature(s)

SUBMISSION AGREEMENTS

- ☒ I am the owner of the account used to perform the electronic submission and signature.
- ☒ I have the authority to submit the data on behalf of the facility I am representing.
- ☒ I agree that providing the account credentials to sign the submission document constitutes an electronic signature equivalent to my written signature.
- ☒ I have reviewed the electronic form being submitted in its entirety, and agree to the validity and accuracy of the information contained within it to the best of my knowledge.

Professional Engineer

A detailed, comprehensive Pollution Abatement & Prevention (PAP) Plan must be prepared, signed, and certified by a professional engineer (PE), registered in the State of Alabama, and the PE must certify as follows: I certify on behalf of the applicant, that I have completed an evaluation of discharge alternatives for any proposed new or increased discharges of pollutant(s) to Tier 2 waters and reached the conclusions indicated. I certify under penalty of law that technical information and data contained in this application, and a comprehensive PAP Plan including any attached SPCC plan, maps, engineering designs, etc. acceptable to ADEM, for the prevention and minimization of all sources of pollution in stormwater and authorized related process wastewater runoff has been prepared under my supervision for this facility utilizing effective, good engineering and pollution control practices and in accordance with the provisions of ADEM Admin. Code Division 335-6, including Chapter 335-6-9 and Appendices A & B. If the PAP Plan is properly implemented and maintained by the Permittee, discharges of pollutants can reasonably be expected to be effectively minimized to the maximum extent practicable and according to permit discharge limitations and other permit requirements. The applicant has been advised that appropriate pollution abatement/prevention facilities and structural & nonstructural management practices or Department approved equivalent management practices as detailed in the PAP Plan must be fully implemented and regularly maintained as needed at the facility in accordance with good sediment, erosion, and other pollution control practices, permit requirements, and other ADEM requirements to ensure protection of groundwater and surface water quality.

Signed By Steven Speaks on 07/01/2026 at 1:56 PM

Responsible Official

This application must be signed and initialed by a Responsible Official of the applicant pursuant to ADEM Admin. Code Rule 335-6-6-.09 who has overall responsibility for the operation of the facility. I certify under penalty of law that this document, including technical information and data, the PAP Plan, including any SPCC plan, maps, engineering designs, and all other attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the PE and other person or persons under my supervision who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information including the possibility of fine or imprisonment for knowing violations. A comprehensive PAP Plan to prevent and minimize discharges of pollution to the maximum extent practicable has been prepared at my direction by a PE for this facility utilizing effective, good engineering and pollution control practices and in accordance with the provisions of ADEM Admin. Code Division 335-6, including Chapter 335-6-9 and Appendices A & B, and information contained in this application, including any attachments. I understand that regular inspections must be performed by, or under the direct supervision of, a PE and all appropriate pollution abatement/prevention facilities and structural & nonstructural management practices or Department approved equivalent management practices identified by the PE must be fully implemented prior to and concurrent with commencement of regulated activities and regularly maintained as needed at the facility in accordance with good sediment, erosion, and other pollution control practices and ADEM requirements. I understand that the PAP Plan must be fully implemented and regularly maintained so that discharges of pollutants can reasonably be expected to be effectively minimized to the maximum extent practicable and according to permit discharge limitations and other requirements to ensure protection of groundwater and surface water quality. I understand that failure to fully implement and regularly maintain required management practices for the protection of groundwater and surface water quality may subject the Permittee to appropriate enforcement action. I certify that this form has not been altered, and if copied or reproduced, is consistent in format and identical in content to the ADEM approved form. I further certify that the discharges described in this application have been tested or evaluated for the presence of non-stormwater discharges and any non-mining associated beneficiation/process pollutants and wastewaters have been fully identified. I acknowledge my understanding that if coal, coal fines, coal refuse, or other coal related materials are mined, transloaded, processed, etc., that I may be required to obtain a permit from the ASMC. I acknowledge my understanding that if non-coal, non-limestone materials are mined, transloaded, processed, etc., that I may be required to obtain a permit from the ADOL. I acknowledge my understanding that if the proposed activities will be conducted in or potentially impact waters of the state or waters of the US (including wetlands), that I may be required to obtain a permit from the USACE.

Signed By Graham Reid on 07/02/2026 at 11:48 AM

OTHER PERMITS / AUTHORIZATIONS (ADEM Form 315 Section V.B.)

ADIR/ADOL

6899	7960	8995	9427	10584	11684	12307	12845
7271	7974	8996	9449	10586	11685	12308	12851
7316	8017	8997	9450	10587	11688	12309	12876
7440	8017	8998	9451	10588	11712	12310	12877
7441	8131	9036	9452	10589	11713	12311	12878
7450	8239	9037	9453	10590	11714	12312	12879
7639	8309	9064	9478	10591	11715	12362	12941
7640	8309	9065	9479	10593	11753	12367	12946
7641	8322	9066	9496	10628	11811	12368	12947
7680	8324	9067	9497	10629	11812	12369	12984
7681	8329	9068	9498	10630	11813	12370	12988
7708	8354	9117	9499	10728	11814	12395	12989
7709	8356	9118	9500	10732	11823	12396	12996
7710	8357	9119	9768	10750	11824	12404	13031
7712	8438	9120	10153	10757	11825	12405	13032
7725	8672	9139	10222	10758	11826	12429	13034
7726	8753	9141	10223	10760	11827	12430	13035
7727	8754	9230	10249	10761	11828	12496	13036
7762	8755	9231	10250	10799	11848	12517	13039
7769	8756	9233	10259	10800	11849	12518	13218
7770	8757	9273	10260	10835	11850	12535	15286
7771	8771	9274	10261	10837	11851	12536	15367
7828	8795	9275	10262	10858	11852	12540	15660
7829	8798	9276	10263	10872	11878	12541	15680
7830	8799	9278	10264	10873	11879	12542	15681
7850	8823	9279	10295	10883	11880	12543	15682
7851	8845	9292	10312	10885	11881	12595	15683
7855	8847	9293	10313	10928	11882	12596	15684
7861	8848	9294	10352	10929	11883	12597	15917
7862	8849	9295	10353	10961	11948	12598	15918
7863	8876	9296	10354	10962	11949	12608	15919
7906	8877	9297	10377	10970	11950	12654	15920
7915	8878	9298	10378	11001	11951	12686	15921
7916	8879	9299	10379	11002	11959	12687	15960
7917	8880	9302	10419	11020	11960	12731	15961
7918	8881	9376	10420	11021	11991	12732	15963
7919	8882	9377	10474	11022	11992	12733	15984
7933	8914	9378	10476	11023	12011	12734	15985
7934	8915	9395	10477	11576	12012	12741	15986
7935	8953	9396	10478	11577	12064	12773	15987
7936	8954	9397	10503	11583	12090	12774	16015
7939	8955	9421	10504	11584	12091	12775	16016
7955	8958	9422	10505	11625	12236	12776	16017
7957	8973	9424	10506	11626	12250	12777	16018
7958	8974	9425	10549	11627	12251	12825	16042
7959	8977	9426	10550	11628	12252	12826	16050

OTHER PERMITS / AUTHORIZATIONS (ADEM Form 315 Section V.B.)

ADEM			
AL0042331	AL0071099	AL0079243	AL0083852
AL0048500	AL0071145	AL0079260	AL0083801
AL0050067	AL0071196	AL0079367	AL0083780
AL0050539	AL0071668	AL0079839	AL0083984
AL0055930	AL0071765	AL0080187	AL0083925
AL0055948	AL0071838	AL0080314	
AL0056227	AL0071960	AL0080349	
AL0056405	AL0072001	AL0080594	
AL0056821	AL0072061	AL0080845	
AL0057894	AL0072079	AL0080861	
AL0058114	AL0072087	AL0080969	
AL0058131	AL0072133	AL0080977	
AL0058149	AL0072885	AL0081094	
AL0058157	AL0072893	AL0081108	
AL0058271	AL0073288	AL0081132	
AL0059111	AL0073628	AL0081159	
AL0059838	AL0073733	AL0081183	
AL0060666	AL0073849	AL0081701	
AL0061841	AL0073857	AL0081736	
AL0062031	AL0073881	AL0082007	
AL0062065	AL0074306	AL0082031	
AL0062294	AL0074403	AL0082163	
AL0063959	AL0074462	AL0082180	
AL0063967	AL0074624	AL0082198	
AL0064009	AL0074683	AL0082511	
AL0064017	AL0075451	AL0082520	
AL0064548	AL0076201	AL0082678	
AL0064564	AL0076210	AL0082686	
AL0065871	AL0076228	AL0082821	
AL0067261	AL0076406	AL0082881	
AL0067521	AL0076805	AL0082899	
AL0068128	AL0077062	AL0083038	
AL0068284	AL0077178	AL0083062	
AL0068292	AL0077488	AL0083119	
AL0069213	AL0077844	AL0083178	
AL0069256	AL0077852	AL0083216	
AL0069353	AL0077879	AL0083331	
AL0069400	AL0077887	AL0083453	
AL0069426	AL0078077	AL0083429	
AL0069566	AL0078255	AL0083445	
AL0069914	AL0078417	AL0083747	
AL0070688	AL0078590	AL0083739	

The applicant is required to supply the following information separately for every proposed (P) or existing (E) outfall. List expected average daily discharge flow rate in cfs and gpd; frequency of discharge in hours per day and days per month; average summer and winter temperature of discharge(s) in degrees centigrade; average pH in standard units; and average daily discharges in pounds per day of BOD5, Total Suspended Solids, Total Iron, Total Manganese, and Total Aluminum (if bauxite or bauxitic clay or if otherwise believed present):

[illegible]

Attachment 1 to Supplementary Form ADEM Form 311

Alternatives Analysis

Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc. -
Applicant/Project: Universal Understanding Pit #1

All new or expanded discharges (except discharges eligible for coverage under general permits) covered by the NPDES permitting program are subject to the provisions of ADEM's antidegradation policy. Applicants for such discharges to Tier 2 waters are required to demonstrate "... that the proposed discharge is necessary for important economic or social development." As a part of this demonstration, the applicant must complete an evaluation of the discharge alternatives listed below, including a calculation of the total annualized project costs for each technically feasible alternative (using ADEM Form 312 for public-sector projects and ADEM Form 313 for private-sector projects). Alternatives with total annualized project costs that are less than 110% of the total annualized project costs for the Tier 2 discharge proposal are considered viable alternatives.

Alternative	Viable	Non-Viable	Comment
1 Land Application		X	See Attached
2 Pretreatment/Discharge to POTW		X	See Attached
3 Relocation of Discharge		X	See Attached
4 Reuse/Recycle		X	See Attached
5 Process/Treatment Alternatives		X	See Attached
6 On-site/Sub-surface Disposal	X		
<i>(other project-specific alternatives considered by the applicant; attach additional sheets if necessary)</i>			
7			
8			
9			

Pursuant to ADEM Administrative Code Rule 335-6-3-.04, I certify on behalf of the applicant that I have completed an evaluation of the discharge alternatives identified above, and reached the conclusions indicated.

Signature: _____
(Professional Engineer)

Date: _____

(Supporting documentation to be attached, referenced, or otherwise handled as appropriate.)

ALTERNATIVE ANALYSIS ATTACHMENT
ADEM Form 311

1) Land Application Non-Viable

Stormwater runoff's best method of collection is settling basins. Runoff water will be from the affected areas around the mining site during rain events. The basin is designed to have a capacity of 0.25 acre-feet/per acre of disturbed area. The basin would only discharge if rainwater accumulation exceeded this amount. It is not feasible to irrigate or to pump water out of a sediment basin. Silt is the main pollutant and the best water quality is obtained by using settling basins.

2) Pretreatment/Discharge to POTW by SID Non-Viable

It is not feasible to pump to a POTW since there is not one in the area. Also, the treatment would be to remove silt from the stormwater runoff and the Public Treatment system is not applicable for this particular treatment.

3) Relocation of Discharge Non-Viable

Sediment basins are designed and placed in hollows in order to catch stormwater runoff from the uphill areas. Relocation is not feasible due to terrain.

4) Reuse/Recycle-Pollution Prevention Non-Viable

Re-cycling of stormwater runoff is not applicable for this type of operation. Relocating or bypassing a discharge in a natural state during storm events will destroy biological systems that are dependent on stormwater surges down stream from the facility.

5) Process/Treatment Alternatives Non-Viable

Other processes or treatments are not feasible to collect silt and fine clays. Surface water directed to settling ponds is the best management. Groundwater seepage from an open pit mine will be pumped into a settling basin until it reaches full capacity.

6) On-site/Sub-surface Viable

**Calculation of Total Annualized Project Costs
for Private-Sector Projects**

Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc. -
Universal Understanding Pit #1

Capital Costs to be Financed (Supplied by applicant)	<u>\$ 120,000 (1)</u>
Interest rate for Financing (Expressed as a decimal)	<u>N/A (i)</u>
Time Period of Financing (Assume 10 years*)	<u>10 years (n)</u>
Annualization Factor = $\frac{i}{(1+i)^{10} - 1} + i$	<u>N/A (2)</u>
Annualized Capital Cost [Calculate: (1) x (2)]	<u>\$ 120,000 (3)</u>
Annual Cost of Operation and Maintenance (including but not limited to monitoring, inspection, permitting fees, waste disposal charges, repair, administration and replacement)**	<u>\$ 8,000 (4)</u>
Total Annual Cost of Pollution Control Project [(3) + (4)]	\$ 128,000 (5)

* While actual payback schedules may differ across projects and companies, assume equal annual payments over a 10-year period for consistency in comparing projects.

** For recurring costs that occur less frequently than once a year, pro rate the cost over the relevant number of years (e.g., for pumps replaced once every three years, include one-third of the cost in each year).

The applicant is required to supply the following information separately for every proposed or existing outfall. Identify and list expected average daily discharge of any other pollutant(s) listed in EPA Form 2C Tables A, B, C, D, and E that are not referenced in Part XVI.B. or otherwise submitted elsewhere, that you know is present or have reason to believe could be present in the discharge(s) at levels of concern:

[illegible]

SECTION II – MEMBER INFORMATION ATTACHMENT

[Graham Reid](#)

President

100 Mansell Court East, Suite 300,
Roswell, GA 30076

[John Carroll](#)

Treasurer

100 Mansell Court East, Suite 300,
Roswell, GA 30076

[Ryan J. Van Meter](#)

Secretary

100 Mansell Court East, Suite 300,
Roswell, GA 30076

[Philippe Bourg](#)

Director

100 Mansell Court East, Suite 300,
Roswell, GA 30076

[Pierre Lebreuil](#)

Director

100 Mansell Court East, Suite 300,
Roswell, GA 30076

POLLUTION ABATEMENT PLAN

For:

Universal Understanding Pit #1
County Road 48
Abbeville, Henry County, AL

Prepared for:

Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc.
377 Highway 131
Eufaula, AL 36072

Permittee Contact:

Kallie Turner
Eufaula Mine Superintendent
Kallie.Turner@imerys.com
(229) 938-2918

Prepared by:

Larry E. Speaks & Associates, Inc.
535 Herron Street
Montgomery, AL 36104
SSpeaks@lespeaks.com
(334) 262-1091

Certified by:

Steven E. Speaks
Professional Engineer and Professional Land Surveyor
No. 20897



ISSUANCE: March 2026

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<i>Appendix D</i>	<i>Design Details for Pollution Abatement Structures & Other BMPs</i>

I. INTRODUCTION

This document has been prepared as an initial issuance Pollution Abatement Plan for Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc. The Universal Understandings Pit # 1 facility is located in Section 31, Township 9 North, Range 29 East in Henry County, Alabama. This application has been prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. A thorough field review has been accomplished preceding the approval and submittal of this application. Field checks were made of the entire sedimentation basin system to determine compliance with ADEM rules and regulations.

The pollution abatement plan (PAP) is presented in two parts which includes a brief narrative presented herein and the facility layout plan which is attached hereto. The narrative is intended to address the format as outlined by the ADEM Water Division rules and regulations and present the basis for the designs as further detailed in this plan. Drawings as presented in the Facility Layout Map and the Design Details (Appendix D) were derived from rules and regulations of the ADEM as well as from other generally accepted design data sources primarily from the Natural Resource Conservation Service. Generally, the narrative will follow the outline of Chapter 6 - 9 - .03, Surface Mining Rules and Regulations from the ADEM Rules and Regulations.

II. OPERATOR

The primary operator of this plant is Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc., which has its home office business address as follows:

377 Highway 131
Eufaula, AL 36072

The proposed pit lies within the property boundary as follows:

Legal Description:

That part of Fraction 0 of Section 30 which lies Southeast of the public road which ran from Eufaula, Alabama, to Abbeville, Alabama, on October 5, 1922 (less one acre deeded to Annie Lightner in July of 1982); Fractions R, S and V of Section 30; and Fractions A, B, D and E of Section 31, all in Township 9, Range 29 East, Henry County, Alabama, and containing 406 acres, more or less.

LESS AND EXCEPT: From P.C. Marker designated a 23 + 35.7 on the Easterly right of way of Henry County Road 48 (AS 1582-I) run N 28 degrees 28 minutes W along said Easterly right of way 459.39 to the Center of a graded dirt road; thence N 32 degrees 00 minutes E along said center of a graded dirt road 268.33 feet; thence N 81 degrees 05 minutes E along said center 457.56 feet to the point of beginning; thence S 6 degrees 21 minutes E 151.72 feet; thence N 83 degrees 39 minutes E 210.0 feet; thence N 6 degrees 21 minutes W 210.0 feet; thence S 83 degrees 39 minutes W 210.0 feet; thence S 6 degrees 21 minutes E 58.28 feet to the point of beginning and containing

1.00 acres more or less, and said property being a part of the N 1/2 of Section 31, Township 9 N, Range 29 E, Henry County, Alabama.

ADEM requires the permitted boundaries to be delineated and readily visible during the life of the operation. Boundaries will be clearly demarcated by surveying marks, fence lines, perennial waterways, and other readily visible, semi-permanent features. The permittee and on-site personnel must be knowledgeable of the location of the permitted boundaries and ensure the boundaries are maintained so they remain readily visible at all times.

III. GENERAL INFORMATION

The facility will employ approximately 6-8 individuals from Eufaula and the surrounding area. Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc. is a foreign corporation formed in Delaware.

The Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc., the Universal Understandings Pit # 1 facility will mine bauxite clay and kaolin. These materials will be hauled from the site via trucks to the company's home office where they will be used in a processing operation to make various products. Hours of operation are generally 7:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

All surface water from the stockpile areas and haul road will be diverted back into the proposed sedimentation basins shown on the plan. This allows all solids to settle before discharging into an unnamed tributary (UT) to Barnes Mill Creek. All water which must be removed from any of the pit areas will be pumped to sedimentation basins before discharging from the site thus eliminating the necessity of direct pumped discharges.

IV. TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

Design plans submitted with this document provide maps. The "Facility Layout Map" shows the planned general layout of the mined areas, stockpile areas, sedimentation basins and the runoff locations.

V. METHOD OF DIVERTING SURFACE WATER RUNOFF

The "Facility Layout Map" shows the general contour of the land. All disturbed areas are graded and diverted through the use of berms and/or swales to drain back to a mined pit or a sedimentation basin which are excavated as work progresses. Stockpiles and spoil piles are situated adjacent to the mining pit so any silt carried by runoff will be contained and treated in the previously excavated pond or the mined areas. Detaining the water allows soil particles, including fines, to precipitate to the bottom of the pit. Any discharges must be within the effluent limits required by the ADEM permit to protect water quality. Any discharges must be through permitted and certified outfalls.

VI. NARRATIVE OF OPERATIONS

Bauxitic clay and kaolin are the only raw materials mined. The material is hauled directly from the site or stockpiled onsite and later hauled from the site. A flow schematic has been provided in Appendix C of the Pollution Abatement Plan (PAP). The main waste product that results from the mining is overburden from the mining operation. The overburden is used to construct the dam at the sedimentation pond, the berms proposed, and/or stockpiled and later carried back to the previously mined area.

VII. REQUIRED ROUTINE INSPECTIONS

The permittee is required to inspect each permitted outfall and treatment system(s) / structure(s) at least twice per month. The permittee is required to keep a written log of these inspections documenting the date and time of the inspection, whether or not there was discharge at each permitted outfall at the time of the inspection, whether or not a sample of the discharge was collected at the time of the inspection, and whether the treatment system(s) / structure(s) are working as effectively and efficiently as possible. Any problems or deficiencies must be described in the log. Action must be taken to resolve the problem or deficiency. The log must contain the name and signature of the person performing the inspection.

VIII. QUALITY AND QUANTITY CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WASTE

The only waste product which is a byproduct of this operation is the overburden. Clays and sands will settle into the sediment basin(s). The basin(s) will be cleaned out as needed to provide adequate storage capacity for incoming materials. Regarding pH, the waste effluent is neutral in nature and should be in the range of 6 to 8.5. Iron (Fe) should not exceed 0.5 mg/L (monthly average) and 1.0 mg/L (daily maximum). Aluminum (Al) should not exceed 2.0 mg/l (daily maximum) and 1.0 mg/L (monthly average). Total suspended solids (TSS) will not exceed 30.0 mg/L (daily maximum) and 20.0 mg/L (monthly average). The flow is unknown and depends upon weather conditions, amount of rain, etc. The temperatures should be around 85°F (30°C) summer, 60°F (16°C) winter.

IX. WASTE TREATMENT FACILITIES

As previously discussed, the treatment process for water quality control is to be the constructed sedimentation pond. Details are presented in Appendix D titled "Design Details for Pollution Abatement Structures & Other BMPs". Pollution abatement facilities should be designed and constructed so as to control both spoil runoff and pit drainage. Pumping or pit de-watering activities shall be directed into an existing pit or treatment basin. Discharges as a result of pumping shall be monitored in accordance with the NPDES permit and shall meet the limitations of the NPDES permit.

The sediment basin(s) should have a minimum capacity to store 0.25-acre feet per acre of disturbed area in the drainage area. Removal of solids should be accomplished where the sediment accumulation reaches 60% of the design capacity. Basin cleanout is required to be scheduled by

the permittee and recorded as directed (if required) by the permit issued by ADEM. Solids removed from the sediment basin should be stockpiled on site for later use or spread for ground cover in dormant portions of the site. The fines must be handled and stabilized to minimize reintroduction into runoff. The expected life of the treatment basin is for the life of the permit if properly maintained.

Discharge Structure Calculations:

Rational Method $Q = CIA$

Q =cfs C = runoff coefficient I =rainfall intensity, 2-year (inch/hour) A =Area (acres)

Outfall	C	I (in/hr)	Area	Q	Discharge Structures Required
001P	0.4	3.6	10.5	14.9	18" Concrete Pipe, 15' x 2.5' Spillway

X. SEDIMENT CONTROL FOR HAUL ROADS

Haul roads are designed and should be built using the following as minimum criteria:

- The grade is designed not to exceed 10 percent.
- The maximum grade is designed not to exceed 15 percent for 300 feet.
- The roads are designed not to be more than 300 feet of 15 percent maximum grade for each 1,000 feet of road constructed.
- The haul roads are required to be located so that runoff from the road enters a sediment basin or pit area constructed for the mining operation.
- Outer slopes for haul roads out of the permitted area are designed not to be steeper than 2:1 and should be seeded with annual and perennial grasses with at least 80 percent cover to avoid erosion. Where this is not possible, basins, check dams or diversion ditches should be cut, built or placed to intercept runoff. Details outlining control measures must be included with the abatement plan. Contact Larry E. Speaks & Associates for plan amendments.
- No stream crossings are planned for this site at this time. Should plans change the Engineer must be contacted immediately prior to any crossing construction so detailed drawings can be developed, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers can be contacted for permitting requirements.
- Roads are to be treated or otherwise maintained to control dust in order to minimize fine particles in the air and water on site. The typical method of control is operating a water truck or sprinkler system to lightly wet the roads and suppress the production of dust during dry conditions.

Haul roads will be ditched and stabilized so that runoff will be collected in mined/mining areas, sediment basins, abandoned pits, or other similar site feature(s) and treated by the final sedimentation basin in any series combination. In any instance where the haul roads or other minor disturbed areas do not drain to a basin, then temporary best management practices (BMPs) are

required to prevent sediment loss from the site. The Engineer must be contacted for BMP recommendations, placement instructions, and PAP plan updates for any of these instances.

The permittee is to prevent offsite vehicle-tracking onto roadways and/or into ditches at the entrances and exits of the facility.

- Restrict vehicle use to designated entrances and exits.
- Use appropriate stabilization techniques at all entrances and exits onto paved roads.
- Unpaved entrances and exits and transitions from dirt to pavement are to be covered with a minimum of 1 to 3-inch diameter aggregate, 6-inches thick. The aggregate should extend the full width of the access road and be a minimum of 50-feet in length from the edge of pavement. A geotextile filter fabric is recommended between the aggregate fill and the soil surface to reduce the migration of the underlying soil into the stone and vice versa.
- Topdressing with clean stone will be required to maintain the effectiveness of a stone entrance/exit.
- Use of commercially available rumble grates, plates, and pads is acceptable. The devices must be adequately sized to accommodate the largest vehicle entering and exiting the site. The devices must be maintained per the manufacturer's recommendations to remain effective.
- If the majority of mud is not removed from vehicle tires by stone or other rumble devices, then tires are to be washed prior to the vehicle entering the roadway. Washing is to be strictly limited to tires only. The use of solvents, detergents and/or petroleum products is strictly prohibited. All wash water must be captured on site and directed to catch basins or other control BMPs such as filtration devices, filter bags, or other similar effective controls to remove sediment prior to discharging through a permitted outfall.
- Concrete and asphalt aprons at roadways are to be swept, shoveled, or vacuumed regularly to prevent tracking onto roadways. The removed sediment is to be taken back onto facility property for disposal as clean fill dirt.
- The State prohibits removal by hosing or sweeping tracked out sediment to any stormwater conveyance, storm drain inlet, or water of the State.
- The ditches of the haul road and all surrounding earthen areas near the entrances and exits are to be permanently stabilized with perennial vegetation. Temporary BMPs such as silt fence, check dams, grassed berms etc. are to be used to prevent sediment from entering the roadway until permanent stabilization is achieved.

XI. DAM FOR THE SEDIMENT BASIN

The dam for the sediment basin is designed and is required to be built using the following as minimum criteria:

- a) The dam for the sediment basin top width is required to be no less than 12 feet wide.
- b) The slope on either side of the dam is required to be no steeper than 3:1.
- c) The dam is required to be constructed with a cutoff trench at least 8 feet wide. The side slopes are designed to be no less than 1:1. The cutoff trench shall be located on the dam centerline and be of sufficient depth (not less than 2 feet) to extend into a relatively impervious material from which the core of the dam shall be constructed.
- d) Trees, boulders and other obstructions are to be removed from pond's dam area during initial construction.
- e) The entire embankment and cutoff trench shall be compacted to 95% density.
- f) The material placed in the embankment is required to be free of sod, roots, stones over 6 inches in diameter and other objectionable materials.
- g) The fill material should be placed and spread over the entire fill area, starting at the lowest point of the foundation, in layers not to exceed 08 inches in thickness.
- h) The spill pipe is sized to adequately carry the expected peak flow from a two-year frequency storm or smaller event.
- i) The spill pipes are required to be made of a material capable of withstanding any chemical reactions caused by the quality of water being discharged.
- j) The spill pipe is required to be equipped with a device, or constructed, such to ensure that subsurface withdrawal is accomplished in order to help prevent floating solids from discharging.
- k) The spill pipes are required to be equipped with anti-seep collars at each joint which radiate at least 2 feet from the pipe in all directions. The collars and their connections to the pipe should be watertight.
- l) A splash pad or rip-rap is required to be placed under the discharge of the spill pipe, or the location of the discharge set, so as to ensure that the discharge does not erode the dam or pipe can be constructed to be level with the natural ground.
- m) The emergency spillway has been designed to safely carry the expected peak flow from a 25-year, 24-hour storm or shorter duration. The slope of the entrance and to the exit to the emergency overflow is required to be constructed with a control section at least 20 feet long. The side slopes of the emergency overflow shall not be steeper than 2:1. The emergency overflow should be rip-rapped, vegetated or concreted in order to prevent erosion.
- n) The spillway is required to have a minimum of 1 ½ feet of freeboard between the normal overflow and the emergency overflow. There should be at least 1 ½ feet of freeboard between the maximum design flow elevation in the emergency overflow and the top of the dam.
- o) If ponds are built in a series, then the emergency overflow for each is designed to accommodate the entire drainage area.

- p) The dam shall be sowed with both perennial and annual grasses in order to ensure erosion is minimized. The necessary erosion control measures should be placed at the toe of the dam prior to completion of construction activity.
- q) Areas in which surface mined minerals are stockpiled, and areas in which refuse resulting from any type of mining operation is or has been deposited, should be provided with diversion ditches or other appropriate methods of intercepting surface water in such a way as to minimize the possibility of sediment laden, acidic or toxic waters from such areas, being deposited into a stream.

XII. LOCATION OF ALL STREAMS ADJACENT TO MINING AREA AND MEASURES TO MINIMIZE IMPACTS TO ADJACENT STREAMS

Included with the NPDES application preceding this pollution abatement plan is a drawing which has been reproduced from the USGS quad sheet at a 1" = 1500' scale showing the adjacent streams. Also, included with the application is one (1) 1" = 80± scale facility layout map presenting the information required by the application. The mining operation is required to provide a minimum 50-foot buffer zone around any streams, property boundaries and wetlands that may be identified in the project area. Buffer zones need to be surveyed and clearly identified with bright flagging or paint so areas to avoid are clearly visible. Equipment operators are to be educated as to the reason for the buffers, the location of the buffers, and the identification technique used to demarcate the buffers.

XIII. NON-POINT SOURCE APPLICATION

By virtue of the fact that all disturbed areas are graded such that the drainage will carry yard dust to the excavated basins, non-point sources of pollution do not result from this project. If non-point sources arise due to changes in the mining plan or other reasons not known at the time of the plan and these minor areas of disturbance cannot feasibly be routed to the active pit or sedimentation pond, then the area must be graded and vegetated with annual and perennial grasses and have effective Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the control of non-point source pollution (typically check dams and silt fencing).

XIV. WATER SUPPLY AND DISPOSITION

The facility will not discharge to a stream segment classified as a public water supply (PWS). The eventual receiving waters will be an unnamed tributary to Barnes Mill Creek. All discharges are predicted to meet effluent limitations due to settling time required in the sedimentation pond.

XV. RECLAMATION PROCEDURE

As mining is completed in an area, the area shall be dressed to eliminate any piles of dirt, or low areas which will hold water, with terraces to keep erosion to a minimum, topsoiled and grassed. A sump shall be maintained at the low end of all reclamation work until a satisfactory stand of grass is obtained. Disturbed areas without mining/grading activity for more than 21 days should be temporarily seeded and fertilized.

XVI. DESIGN DATA

Outfall	Disturbed Acres	Drainage Acres	Minimum Pond Size (ac-ft)	Pond Size	Discharge Structures Required
				(cu. Feet)	
001P	10.5	10.5	2.76	120,062	18" Concrete Pipe, 15' x 2.5' Spillway

APPENDIX A

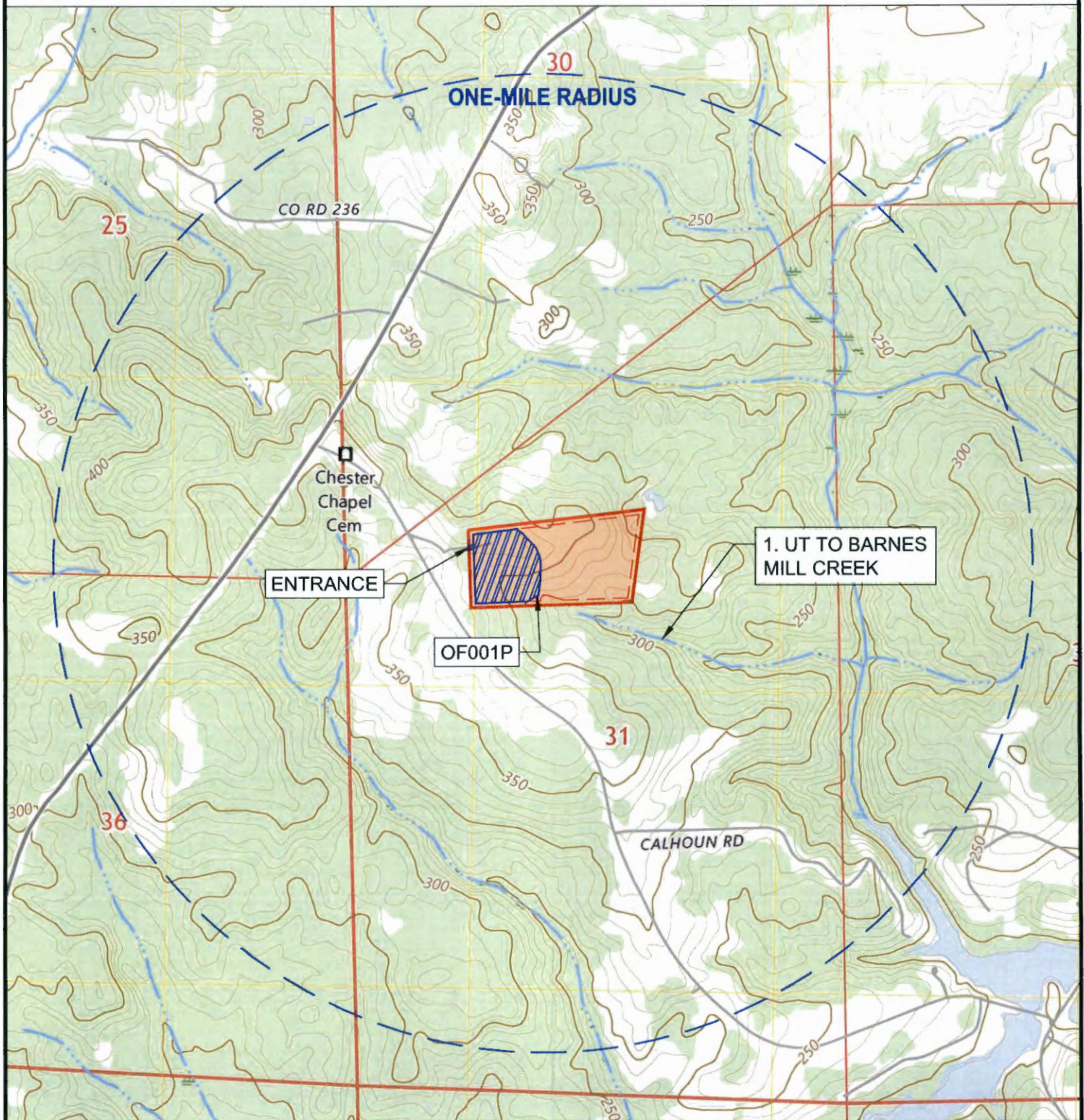
APPENDIX B

NOI MAP:

Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc.
Universal Understanding Pit #1
Located in Section 31, T-9-N, R-29-E
Fort Gaines NW Quadrangle
Henry County, Alabama



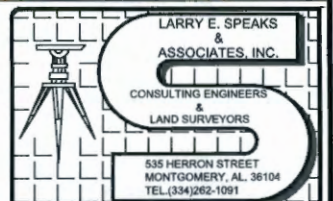
0 1500 3000 Feet



POINT	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
Entrance	31.71646	-85.17437
001P	31.71501	-85.17201

LEGEND

- PROPERTY BOUNDARY / MINE LIMITS
- 50-FOOT BUFFER
- DISTURBED/ACTIVE MINING AREA

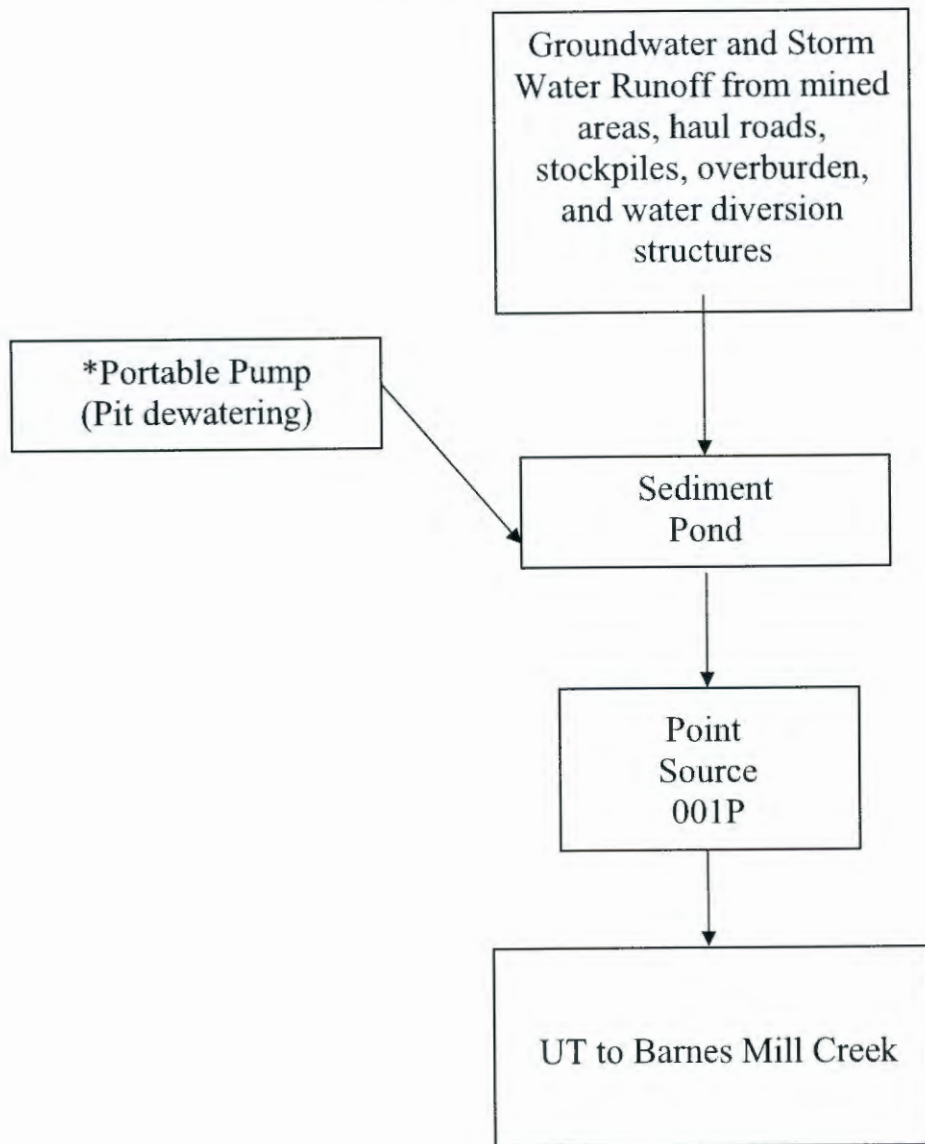


DATE: 03/16/2026

APPENDIX B

APPENDIX C

**SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM FOR THE
UNIVERSAL UNDERSTANDINGS PIT #1
A BAUXITE CLAY MINING OPERATION**

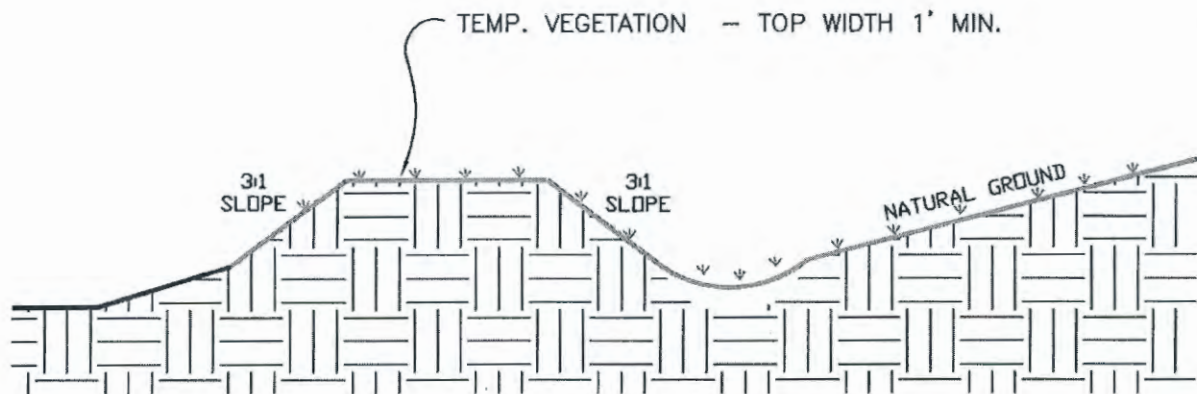


APPENDIX D



HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=30'
VERTICAL SCALE: 1"=15'

EARTHEN BERM



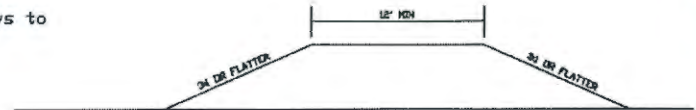
NOTES:

1. TO BE USED TO DIVERT STORMWATER RUNOFF TO PERMITTED DISCHARGE POINTS
2. CONSTRUCT IN 6 INCH TO 9 INCH UNCOMPACTED LIFTS TO FORM THE EMBANKMENT WITH SIDE SLOPES 3:1 OR FLATTER
3. OVERBUILD AT LEAST 10% FOR SETTLEMENT
4. USE MOIST CLAY MATERIAL IN THE CORE OF THE BERM WITH MORE PERMEABLE MATERIALS IN THE SHELL OF THE BERM
5. ONCE CONSTRUCTED, SPREAD TOPSOIL OVER BERM AND ESTABLISH VEGETATION
6. INSPECT AFTER EVERY STORM EVENT
7. MONITOR FOR EROSION, SETTLEMENT, SEEPAGE, OR SLUMPING AND REPAIR AS NEEDED
8. REMOVE ACCUMULATED SEDIMENT WHEN IT REACHES 1/2 THE HEIGHT OF THE BERM

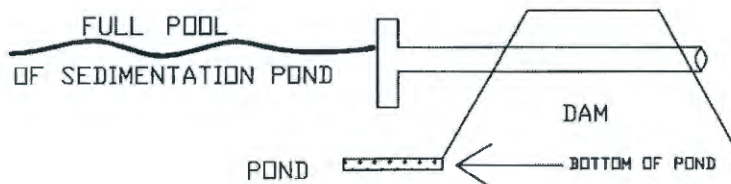
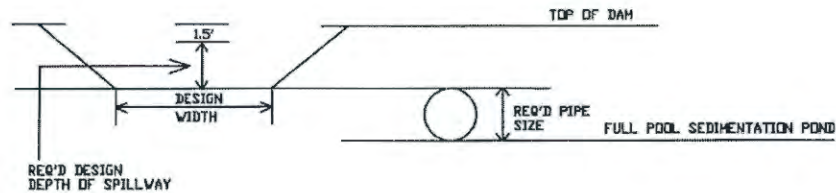
TYPICAL SECTION FOR DAM CONSTRUCTION

CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR DAM

1. All trees, boulders and other obstructions to be removed from proposed pond area.
2. All materials excavated from pond shall be placed up stream from the pond so any silt from the excavated material will go back into the pond.
3. All embankment shall be compacted to 95 percent density.
4. Spillpipe shall be equipped with anti-seep collars at each joint to radiate at least 2 feet from the pipe in all directions. All connections shall be watertight.
5. The spillpipe shall be laid as shown in detail to prevent any floating solids from being discharged.
6. Final elevation of all dams, pipes and emergency spillways to be determined in field, depending upon size of pond.



TYPICAL SECTION FOR SPILLWAY & SUBSURFACE WITHDRAWAL CONSTRUCTION



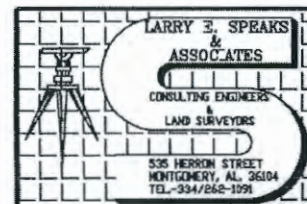
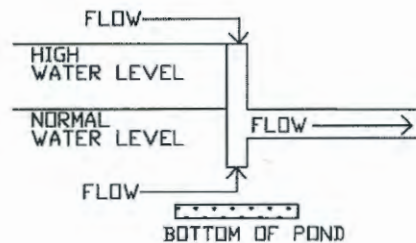
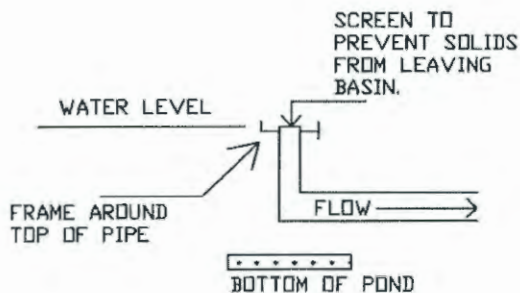
TYPICAL SECTION FOR DITCH AND OR BERM TO DIVERT WATER

EROSION CONTROL AND RECLAMATION PROCEDURE

1. The areas not being used for daily mining or haul roads shall be grassed with both perennial and annual grasses to ensure erosion is kept to a minimum. The grassed areas shall be limed and fertilized as necessary to establish and maintain an adequate stand of grass.
2. As mining is completed in an area, the area shall be dressed to eliminate any piles of dirt, or low areas which will hold water, with terraces to keep erosion to a minimum, and grassed as detailed in Paragraph 1 above. A sump shall be maintained at the low end of all reclamation work until a satisfactory stand of grass is obtained.
3. During construction and reclamation, erosion control measures such as hay bales, riprap, cleared trees, and other acceptable methods will be utilized as needed to minimize erosion.

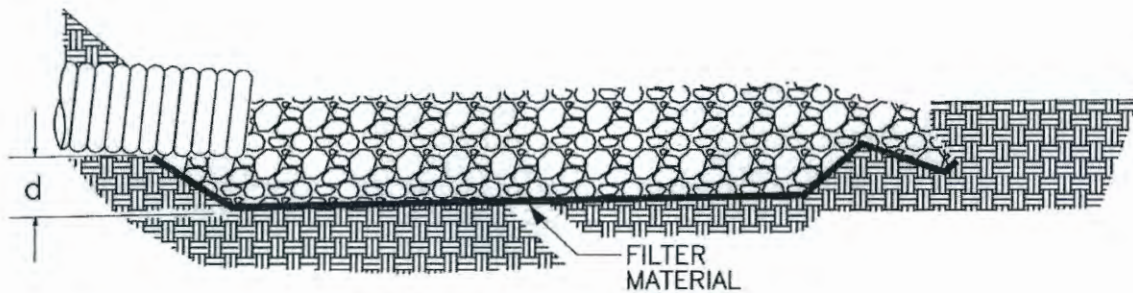


TYPICAL SECTION FOR PIPE/OUTFALL CONSTRUCTION



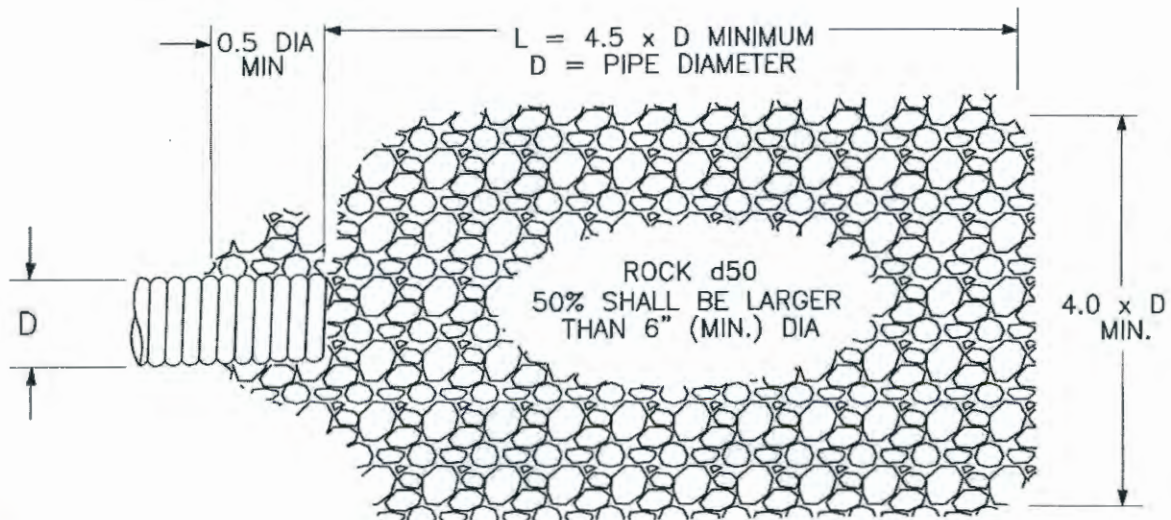
OUTLET PROTECTION

SIDE VIEW



THICKNESS (d) = 1.5 x MAX ROCK DIAMETER (6" MIN.)

OVERHEAD VIEW



NOTES:

1. "L" = LENGTH OF APRON. DISTANCE "L" SHALL BE SUFFICIENT TO DISSIPATE ENERGY AND MINIMIZE EROSION DAMAGE.
2. APRON SHALL BE SET AT A ZERO GRADE WITH NO OVERFALL AND ALIGNED STRAIGHT.
3. FILTER MATERIAL SHALL BE FILTER FABRIC OR MINIMUM 6" THICK GRADED GRAVEL LAYER. AVOID DAMAGE TO THE FABRIC WHEN PLACING ROCK.
4. A CONCRETE SPLASH BLOCK MAY ALSO BE USED.
5. AFTER RAIN EVENTS, CHECK FOR EROSION AROUND OR BENEATH AND FOR ROCK DISPLACEMENT.
6. DETAILS FOR SPECIFICATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS. SPECIFICATIONS LISTED HERE ARE A MINIMUM REQUIRED FOR EROSION CONTROL PURPOSES ONLY.

Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan

For:

Universal Understanding Pit #1
County Road 48
Abbeville, Henry County, AL

Created for:

Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc.
377 Highway 131
Eufaula, AL 36072

Permittee Contact:

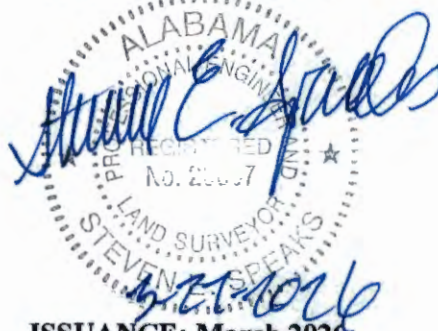
Kallie Turner
Eufaula Mine Superintendent
Kallie.Turner@imerys.com
(229) 938-2918

Created by:

Larry E. Speaks & Associates, Inc.
Steven E. Speaks, President
535 Herron Street
Montgomery, AL 36104
(334) 262-1091
SSpeaks@lespeaks.com

Certified by:

Steven E. Speaks
Professional Engineer & Professional Land Surveyor
PE/PLS Number: 20897



ISSUANCE: March 2026

Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan

Designated person responsible for spill prevention:

Graham Reid – Director of Operations, (334) 687-6846

Kallie Turner – Eufaula Area Mine Superintendent, (229) 938-2918

Emergency Telephone Numbers:

(See **Attachment C** for complete list of numbers)

Notification Contacts:

1. Site Contact: (229) 938-2918 (Kallie Turner – Eufaula Area Mine Superintendent)
2. Responsible Official: (334) 687-6846 (Graham Reid – Director of Operations)
3. Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM): (334) 271-7700
4. Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA): 800-843-0699

Fire, Police or Emergency Medical: 911

Local Hospitals: Medical Center Barbour
820 W Washington Street,
Eufaula, AL 36027
(334) 688-7000
Emergency—911

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Attachment B – SPCC Monthly Inspection Checklist
Attachment C – Notification of Reportable Spill Events
Attachment D – Spill Response Procedures
Attachment E – Secondary Containment Calculations
Attachment F – Annual Employee Training Log

FIGURES

Figure 1 – Site Location/Topo Map
Figure 2 – Facility Layout Map

ACRONYMNS

ADEM	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
AST	Aboveground Storage Tank
BMP	Best Management Practice
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
FRP	Facility Response Plan
IRM	Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc.
MEP	Maximum Extent Practicable
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PE	Professional Engineer
PLS	Professional Land Surveyor
RA	Regional Administrator
RO	Responsible Official
SPCC	Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
UST	Underground Storage Tank

SPILL RESPONSE PROCEDURE

In the event of a spill, the normal course of action is to be as follows:

- 1.) Report the spill to the Site Contact and Responsible Official and if needed Fire and Emergency Services, extension 911, National Response Center 1-800-424-8802. Spills only need to be reported to Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) and Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) if the spill reaches waters of the state, leaves site boundaries, or exceeds 25 gallons. Refer to **Attachment C, Part C** for summary of notifications.
- 2.) Safety and protection of life and limbs take precedence over environmental protection. If there is a threat to personnel safety, evacuate the area.
- 3.) Eliminate potential spark sources to avoid fire and/or explosion.
- 4.) Stop the spill source, if possible, by turning off any valves, pumps, etc. If the spill occurs within a diked or bermed area, ensure the drain valves are closed. Contain the spill with absorbent materials, berms, trenches, sandbags, and other materials. All clean-up activities will use dry sweep or other approaches that do not result in the creation of polluted wastewater or stormwater runoff.
- 5.) Small Spills. The above sequence of initial response action may be altered depending upon spill situations (i.e., type of spill, quantity of spill and/or safety hazards involved). If the spill is small (less than 10 gallons), employees may contain and clean up the spill with absorbent materials prior to reporting it to the Site Contact or Responsible Official. All spills, no matter how small, should be reported to the Site Contact and Responsible Official for documentation and follow-up.

Precautions should always be maintained as polluting discharges may pose serious hazards to personnel health and safety. Spilled fuel always constitutes a hazard of fire and explosion with the threat to human life and destruction to property. Even below explosive levels, petroleum vapors can still be hazardous to personnel due to anesthetic and toxic effects resulting in vertigo, loss of consciousness and death. Volatile fuel may cause skin irritation if allowed to remain on the skin, such as through soaked clothing or gloves. The following health/safety considerations should be taken into account:

- a. NO SMOKING or OPEN FLAME is permitted within the area of a spill.
- b. Equipment with magneto-sparked engines or equipment which produces sparks or static electricity should not be used in potential spill risk areas.
- c. Personal Protective Equipment should be used when handling spills.

MAJOR AND MINOR SPILLS

For the purposes of establishing appropriate response procedures, this SPCC Plan classifies discharges as either “*minor*” or “*major*,” depending on the volume and characteristics of the material released.

Minor Spill = a spill that poses no significant harm (or threat) to human health and safety or to the environment. Minor spills are generally those where:

- Quantity of material spilled is small (**usually 10 gallons or less**).
- Spilled material is easily stopped and controlled at the time of the spill.
- Spill is localized near the source.
- Spill is not likely to reach water.
- There is little risk to human health or safety.
- There is little risk of fire and/or explosion.

Minor discharges can usually be cleaned up by facility personnel. The following guidelines apply:

- Immediately notify the Site Contact.
- Under the direction of the Site Contact, contain the spill with spill response materials and equipment. Place clean-up debris in properly labeled waste containers.
- The Site Contact or Responsible Official will complete the spill notification form (**Attachment C**) and attach a copy to this SPCC Plan.
- If the spill involves **more than 25 gallons**, the Site Contact or Responsible Official will call all required parties (**Attachment C**) to report the spill.

Major Spill = a spill that **cannot** be safely controlled or cleaned up by facility personnel such as when:

- Spill is large enough to spread beyond the immediate area.
- Spilled material enters water.
- Spill requires special equipment or training to clean-up.
- Material spilled poses a hazard to human health or safety.
- There is a danger of fire and/or explosion.

In the event of a major discharge, the following guidelines apply:

- Notify the Site Contact immediately. If the Site Contact is not reachable, the senior on-site person notifies the Responsible Official and initiates notification and spill response procedures.
- All workers must immediately evacuate the spill site and move to a safe distance from the spill.
- Call for medical assistance if workers are injured.
- Notify the Fire Department and Police Department.
- Call the spill response clean-up contractor.
- Notify the appropriate State and Federal Agencies and complete the Discharge Notification Form. (see **Attachment C**)
- The Site Contact or senior on-site person coordinates cleanup and obtains assistance from the clean-up contractor or other response organizations as necessary.

See Attachment C, Part C for "Who to Call, When to Call" to assist with agency notifications.

SPILL RESPONSE CLEANUP CONTRACTOR

Notify: Alabama Petroleum Technology, LLC, (334) 312-6072

**Notify the spill cleanup contractor of the types of fuels and lubricants stored at the site.
Notify the contractor of the sizes of tanks you have on-site.**

A spill clean-up contractor should be consulted and contracted in the event of an emergency. If a spill or large leak is noticed, the appropriate conditions should be in place so that the contractor can deploy a team immediately to minimize the effects on the environment and surrounding properties.

SPILL CLEAN-UP WASTE DISPOSAL

The Site Contact or Responsible Official will be responsible for ensuring that all contaminated debris and recovered waste material is disposed of properly and in a method acceptable to regulatory agencies. This includes all existing oil drips and oil-stained soils/gravels on-site. All drained oil will either be reused/salvaged or disposed of in an acceptable and legal manner. Wastes resulting from spill clean-up will be placed in impervious bags, drums, and or buckets. The Site Contact or Responsible Official will characterize the waste from a minor spill for proper disposal and ensure that it is removed from the facility by a licensed waste hauler within two (2) weeks of spill. Wastes resulting from a major spill will be removed and disposed of by the clean-up contractor.

SPILL CLEANUP SUPPLIES

Spill kits & cleanup supplies need to be located near the Off-Road Diesel Fuel tank on-site. The inventory of on-site response supplies and equipment is provided below (Suggested on-site inventory). The inventory will be verified on a monthly basis and replenished as needed. Special care will be taken to ensure that equipment and supplies used during an emergency response are restocked or returned following use. Any equipment that comes into contact with oil will be cleaned before being placed back into storage. Spill kit items can be found at the following link.
<https://www.newpig.com/pig-oil-only-spill-kit-in-95-gallon-high-visibility-container/p/KIT4053>

☐	Empty 55-gallons drums to hold contaminated material	2
☐	Loose absorbent material (Oil-Dri)	300 pounds
☐	Absorbent pads	60
☐	Absorbent boom socks 3" x 10'	10
☐	Absorbent boom socks 5" x 10'	3
☐	Polyethylene Disposal Bags	10
☐	Tamperproof Seal Labels	6
☐	Non-sparking shovels	2

☐	Brooms	2
☐	Gloves – Nitrile and Neoprene	3
☐	Safety Goggles	3
☐	Dust Masks	3

Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for the use and disposal of all products.

NOTIFICATION AND REPORTING PROCEDURE

Information about any oil or hazardous substance spill on the property should be channeled through the proper personnel to allow rapid response and effective control of the spill. The purpose of this subsection is to provide a specific alerting system for oil and hazardous substance spills and to ensure written follow-up reports are prepared. Contacts to be made in the event of a spill are presented in Table 1.

TABLE 1 - EMERGENCY CONTACTS AND PHONE NUMBERS

Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc. – Universal Understanding Pit #1 Contacts:
Site Contact: Kallie Turner – Eufaula Area Mine Superintendent: (229) 938-2918
Responsible Official: Graham Reid – Director of Operations: (334) 687-6846

Emergency & Medical Response

Fire Department	911
For Emergencies	911
Police Department	911

(ADEM) - Ala. Dept. Environmental Management: (334) 271-7700

Medical Center Barbour: (334) 688-7000

Alabama Department of Public Health: (334) 206-5300

National Response Center: (800) 424-8802

Poison Control Center: (800) 462-0800

(AEMA) - Alabama Emergency Management Agency: (800) 843-0699

Henry County Emergency Management Agency: (334) 585-6702

US EPA, Region 4 Office: (404) 562-8700

See Next Page for what information to report in a spill event.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED TO FIRE, ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCIES (STATE & EPA) AND EMERGENCY SERVICES BY THE PERSON DISCOVERING A SPILL:

1. Name and telephone number of the spill reporter.
2. Name and address of the facility.
3. Time and type of incident.
4. Type and estimated quantity of materials involved.
5. The extent of injuries, if any.
6. Possible effects to human health and/or to the environment.

The following information may be utilized as a guideline for analyzing and maintaining a record of the incident:

1. Name and telephone number of persons making the report.
2. Date and time of incident or time of discovery.
3. Type and estimated amount of material.
4. Location and specific areas affected by spill.
5. Receiving stream or waters.
6. Cause and source of incident.
7. Corrective actions taken
8. Injuries and/or property damage.
9. Duration of discharge.
10. General discussion of the incident.

Important:

Remain on the telephone until you are certain that the agency representative has received all of the information needed!

PURPOSE OF THE SPCC PLAN

This Plan has been prepared based on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA), Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 112 - Oil Pollution Prevention. This Plan will provide guidance to aid in the prevention of the discharge of oil and oil products from this facility into the environment in quantities that may be harmful. This Plan shall use the term "oil", as defined in 40 CFR 112 to mean oil of any type or in any form including but not limited to diesel fuel, gasoline, kerosene, motor oils, mineral spirits, hydraulic oils, industrial oils, greases and gear oil, etc. Any discharge that affects the quality of water, causes an oil film, oil sheen, discoloration of the water surface, discoloration of adjoining shorelines, or causes a sludge or emulsion to be deposited beneath the surface of the water or upon adjoining shorelines is strictly prohibited by law. This plan also sets forth a coordinated plan to properly respond to any oil discharge should it occur in order to minimize impacts to human health, the environment, and employee safety.

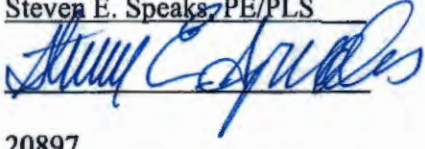
Key elements of this plan that you will need to comply with are as follows:

- The SPCC plan must be amended within six months whenever there is a change in facility design, construction, operation, or maintenance that materially affects the facility's spill potential. The revised plan must be re-certified by a Professional Engineer (PE). The plan should also be reviewed on an annual basis for any "administrative changes" that are applicable, such as personnel changes or revisions to contact information, such as phone numbers. Administrative changes should be documented on the plan review sheet, but they do not have to be certified by a PE.
- The SPCC plan must also be reviewed at least once every five years and amended to include more effective prevention and control technology, if such technology will significantly reduce the likelihood of a spill event and has been proven in the field. Plan amendments must be re-certified by a PE on the certification page of this plan.
- If either of the following occurs, the SPCC plan must be submitted to the USEPA Region IV Regional Administrator (RA), and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) along with other information as detailed on page 13 of this plan:
 1. The facility discharges more than 1,000 gallons of oil into or upon the navigable waters of the U.S. or adjoining shorelines in a single spill event; or,
 2. The facility discharges oil in quantities greater than 42 gallons in each of two spill events within any 12-month period.
- Complete site inspections as outlined in the Inspections, Tests and Records section of this Plan using the inspection forms contained in **Attachment B**.
- Conduct annual employee training as outlined in the Personnel, Training and Spill Prevention Procedures section of this Plan and maintain training records as required in **Attachment F**. Original copies of training documentation will be maintained on-site in the facility files.

40 CFR 112.3(d) – PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER CERTIFICATION

By means of this certification, I attest that I am familiar with the requirements of Part 112 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR Part 112), that I or my designated agent have visited and examined the facility, that this SPCC plan has been prepared in accordance with good engineering practices, including consideration of applicable industry standards, and with the requirements of this Part, that procedures for required inspections and testing have been established and that the Plan is adequate for the facility.

This certification in no way relieves the owner or operator of the facility of his/her duty to prepare and fully implement this SPCC Plan in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR Part 112. This Plan is valid only to the extent that the facility owner or operator maintains, tests, and inspects equipment, containment, and other devices as prescribed in this Plan.

Engineer: Steven E. Speaks, PE/PLS
Signature: 
Registration Number: 20897
State: Alabama
Date: 3-30-2026

40 CFR 112.7 –MANAGEMENT APPROVAL

I certify that this Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan was prepared with my knowledge. I understand that for the SPCC to be valid and effective, the procedures and recommendations in the SPCC must be implemented at my facility. I have read and approved the procedures and practices outlined in this Plan, and I have the authority to implement the changes at my facility required to comply with the Plan. I hereby certify that the necessary resources to implement this Plan have been committed.


Graham Reid, Director of Operations

3/30/2026
Date

A complete copy of the SPCC plan is maintained at the corporate office and the facility office, per 40 CFR 112.3 (e).

40 CFR 112.5(b) – FIVE YEAR SPCC PLAN REVIEW SUMMARY

In accordance with 40 CFR 112.5(b), the owner or operator must complete a review and evaluation of the SPCC plan at least once every five years. Reviews may be conducted by the site contact or an employee designated by the site contact. The five-year review, along with periodic reviews that are completed as a result of physical changes to the facility, oil handling procedures, and/or spill response procedures, must be certified by a PE. Examples of facility changes that may require a review of this SPCC plan and re-certification by a PE, include: (1) the addition or removal of ASTs or USTs; (2) the use of additional oil storage containers (55 gallons or larger); (3) the addition or removal of other equipment with the capacity to store 55 gallons or more of oil products; or (4) revisions or changes to spill response or oil handling procedures. Periodic reviews that include only administrative changes do not need to be certified by a professional engineer. Evidence of all reviews shall be recorded below. Any amendments to the SPCC Plan must be fully implemented no later than six (6) months after the review period or a change occurs. If no amendment is made to the plan as a result of the review, then the statement "no revision deemed necessary" must be recorded below and signed by the Site Contact.

TABLE 2 - TABLE OF REVIEWS OR AMENDMENTS

Signature of Reviewer	Date, Comments/Alterations	PE Recert. Required (Yes or No)

40 CFR 112.7(a) – SPILL EXPERIENCE/HISTORY

All spills of oil and/or oil products are to be recorded within the Plan, regardless of whether or not they are reportable to a regulatory agency. This site will be using one portable 3,000-gallon tank of diesel fuel.

Additional forms for spill recording are included as **Attachment C** and should be used to document future releases, if any.

INTRODUCTION

Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) plans for facilities are prepared and implemented as required by the USEPA regulation contained in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 112, (40 CFR 112). A non-transportation related facility is subject to SPCC regulations if:

- 1) the aggregate aboveground storage capacity of the facility exceeds 1,320 gallons (excluding those tanks and oil-filled equipment with less than 55 gallons storage capacity) or if the aggregate underground storage capacity of the facility exceeds 42,000 gallons (excluding those that are currently subject to all of the technical requirements of 40 CFR Part 280 or all of the technical requirements of state programs approved under 40 CFR Part 281); and
- 2) if, due to its location, the facility could reasonably be expected to discharge oil into or upon the navigable waters or adjoining shorelines of the United States.

It is not necessary to file a SPCC plan with the USEPA, but a copy must be available for onsite review by the Regional Administrator (RA) during normal working hours. Additional information regarding SPCC plan requirements and oil spill response measures are provided on the USEPA website at <https://www.epa.gov/oil-spills-prevention-and-preparedness-regulations>

If either of the following occurs, the SPCC plan must then be submitted to the USEPA Region IV RA and ADEM along with the other information specified in Section 112.4(a):

1. The facility discharges more than 1,000 gallons of oil into or upon the navigable waters of the United States or adjoining shorelines in a single spill event; or
2. The facility discharges oil in quantities greater than 42 gallons in each of two spill events within any 12-month period.

The following spill information must be submitted to the RA within 60 days if either of the above thresholds is reached per paragraph 40 CFR 112.4(a):

1. Name of the facility.
2. Name of the individual submitting the information.
3. Location of the facility.
4. Maximum storage or handling capacity of the facility.

5. The corrective actions and/or countermeasures taken, including adequate description of equipment repairs and/or replacements.
6. Description of the facility including maps, flow diagrams, and a topographical map.
7. The cause(s) of such spill(s), including a failure analysis of system or subsystem in which failure occurred.
8. Additional preventive measures taken or contemplated to minimize the possibility of recurrence.
9. Such other information as the RA may reasonably require that is pertinent to the plan or spill event(s).

If the owners and operators of a facility are required to prepare an SPCC plan and are not required to submit a Facility Response Plan (FRP), the SPCC plan should include a Substantial Harm Determination form, provided in Attachment A (per Appendix C to 40 CFR 112).

TABLE 3 - FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility Name: Universal Understanding Pit #1

Facility Owner: Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc. (IRM)

Facility Location: County Road 48, Abbeville, AL 36310
Township 9 North, Range 29 East, Section 31 on Fort Gaines NW
Quadrangle, Alabama USGS 7 ½ minute topographic map

Primary Contact Names: Kallie Turner, Mine Superintendent (Site Contact): (229) 938-2918
Graham Reid, Director of Operations (RO): (334) 687-6846

Total Oil Storage Capacity: 3,000 gallons

SPCC Plan Filing Locations: Facility Office and Corporate Office Address:
377 Highway 131, Eufaula, AL 36072

40 CFR 112.7 (a)(3) – FACILITY DESCRIPTION

This facility/site is a surface mine for bauxitic clay and kaolin. The 3,000-gallon tank listed in this SPCC is temporarily located near the site entrance when in use. When not in use, the tank is taken to other IRM sites. The facility/site handles and uses the petroleum products listed below. See Figure.1 for facility/site location information.

PETROLEUM PRODUCT STORAGE

The capacities of oil containers present at the facility are listed below in Table 4 and are also indicated in Figure 2. All containers with capacity of 55 gallons or more are included.

TABLE 4 – PETROLEUM PRODUCT STORAGE

ASTs On-Site:

- 1 - 3,000-gallon AST — Off Road Diesel Fuel (Double-Walled Tank)

40 CFR 112.7 – GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

As of the date of this SPCC plan, the facility is in compliance with all General Requirements of 40 CFR 112.7 as outlined below. Should a change occur in facility operations or equipment, this SPCC plan will be reviewed and the necessary revisions completed per 40 CFR 112.5(b).

40 CFR 112.7 (a)(1) – SPCC Plan Conformance

This facility is in compliance with applicable regulations as of the writing of this plan.

40 CFR 112.7 (a)(2) – Compliance with Applicable Requirements

This SPCC Plan conforms to the general plan requirements as stated in 40 CFR 112, Subpart A, Section 112.7, including preparation in accordance with good engineering practices. This Plan also conforms to the specific requirements listed in 40 CFR 112, Subpart B, Section 112.8. A response plan is not required for this facility. A certification of the Applicability of the Substantial Harm Criteria is included as **Attachment A**. In complying with all applicable requirements of the SPCC Regulation, no deviations were employed or claimed in this Plan.

40 CFR 112.7 (a)(3) – Facility Layout Diagram

See Figure 1 for the facility layout.

40 CFR 112.7 (a)(4) – Spill Reporting

The spill reporting form included in **Attachment C** must be completed upon immediate detection of a spill and prior to reporting a spill to the proper notification contacts. Spill response procedures are located in **Attachment D**.

40 CFR 112.7(b) POTENTIAL EQUIPMENT FAILURES RESULTING IN SPILLS

Potential equipment failures that could possibly result in spills are detailed in the following:

- **Potential Event:** AST primary and secondary containment wall rupture or leak.
- **Spill Description:** Potential to discharge Diesel Fuel to surrounding areas.
- **Volume Released:** Up to 3,000 gallons of Diesel Fuel
- **Spill Rate:** Gradual to instantaneous

40 CFR 112.7(c) – CONTAINMENT AND DIVERSIONARY STRUCTURES

40 CFR 112.7(c)(1)(i) – Dikes, Berms or Retaining Walls

The AST is a double-walled tank acting as the secondary containment.

40 CFR 112.7(c)(1)(ii) – Curbing

Curbed areas are not provided or necessary at this facility due to other means of secondary containment being provided.

40 CFR 112.7(c)(1)(iii) – Culverting, Gutters or other Drainage Systems

A drainage system is in place to control surface runoff from the facility. The diesel fuel tank is located to allow for a buffer zone for containment, if a spill should occur and secondary containment (double-wall tank) fails.

40 CFR 112.7(c)(1)(iv) – Weirs, Booms or Other Barriers

Weirs, booms, or other barriers are available from the clean-up contractor.

40 CFR 112.7(c)(1)(v) – Spill Diversion Ponds

No spill diversion ponds are necessary at the facility.

40 CFR 112.7(c)(1)(vi) – Retention Ponds

No spill retention ponds are necessary at the facility.

40 CFR 112.7(c)(1)(vii) – Sorbent Materials

Spill kits (oil dry and other absorbent materials) can be found by the 3,000-gallon diesel tank on a trailer near the site entrance.

40 CFR 112.7(d) – DEMONSTRATION OF PRACTICABILITY

The use of the in-place secondary containment and readily available spill response equipment is practical and effective at this facility to prevent discharged petroleum products from reaching navigable waters.

40 CFR 112.7(e) – INSPECTIONS, TESTS AND RECORDS

Routine inspections and non-routine inspections shall be performed using the forms contained in **Attachment B** of this Plan. SPCC inspections will be conducted monthly. Completed forms shall be maintained for a period of three years from the date of inspection. Inspections at a minimum must consist of the following:

- Inspect exterior surfaces of tanks, pipes, valves and other equipment for leaks and maintenance deficiencies.
- Identify cracks, areas of wear, corrosion and thinning, poor maintenance and operating practices, malfunctioning equipment.
- Stained/discolored soils or concrete in the area around the tank identified and remediated.
- Ensure valves and controls are closed and locked if not in use.

Additionally, fuel levels are manually measured in all ASTs on a weekly basis. Should routine inspections or irreconcilable product shortages in the ASTs indicate that a problem might exist, the Site Contact or Responsible Official should arrange for tank testing to be performed.

TESTING

For all ASTs that are elevated above the ground (ground is defined as soil, sand, gravel, concrete, asphalt, earth, and all other solid surfaces) by saddles, stands, racks, supports, or by any other form and exceed a storage capacity of 1,000 gallons:

- Integrity Testing – All tanks, valves, and associated piping shall be tested for integrity by use of non-destructive shell testing such as the hydrostatic, radiographic, ultrasonic, or acoustic emissions method. The individuals conducting the tests must meet the certification requirements utilized by the American Petroleum Institute (API). This test will measure the structural soundness of the tank's shell, bottom, and floor and the soundness of the valves and piping that will contain oil.
- Leak Testing - All tanks, valves, and associated piping will be tested for liquid tightness. The method of leak testing will be by the mass measurement method. This test will determine if the tank, valves, and associated equipment may leak oil.
- Frequency of Tests – Integrity testing will begin fifteen (15) years post the original manufacturing date of the tank and will be conducted at a minimum of every five (5) years; whenever there are modifications, repairs, or structural changes to the tank. Leak Testing will be conducted every five (5) years. For all buried piping, integrity and leak testing must be conducted at the time of installation, modification, construction, relocation, or replacement.

REMOVAL OF TANKS FROM SERVICE

At the completion of integrity testing, any tank that is found to have a wall thickness that is 50 percent less than the original wall thickness when manufactured, will immediately be removed as an active tank. The 50 percent or less wall thickness will apply to any single location on the tank. All such tanks will either be repaired in accordance with API requirements or replaced. Any

repaired tanks must be retested and must pass the integrity test before being placed back in operation.

Any tank that fails a leak detection test will immediately be removed as an active tank. The source of the leak will be repaired in accordance with API requirements, or the tank will be replaced. Any repaired tanks must be retested for tightness and must pass before being placed back in operation.

All tanks that exhibit obvious, suspected, or possible structural problems will immediately be removed as active tanks until they are inspected. If the tanks are determined to be safe, they can be placed back into operation. If the tank fails integrity or leak detection tests, they will be repaired in accordance with API requirements or replaced. If the tank is repaired, it will be retested for tightness before being placed back into operation.

40CFR 112.7(f) – PERSONNEL, TRAINING AND SPILL PREVENTION PROCEDURES

40CFR 112.7(f)(1) – Employee Training

Each applicable employee that handles oil and oil products shall be made aware of the existence and location of the SPCC plan and its contents. These personnel will be trained in the applicable pollution control laws, rules, and regulations, and the operation and maintenance of the equipment used to prevent oil discharges. Any new employee with oil-handling responsibilities is to be provided with training prior to being involved in any oil operation. The training program topic(s), names of employees trained, and the date and time of training will be documented and maintained on-site in the facility's files. A log of trained employees can be found in **Attachment F**.

40CFR 112.7(f)(2) – Discharge Prevention Designee

The Site Contact and Responsible Official are responsible for oil discharge prevention, control, and response preparedness activities at this facility.

40CFR 112.7(f)(3) – Annual Training

Yearly spill prevention and discharge briefings shall be provided by management to all oil handling personnel to ensure adequate understanding of the SPCC plan. Employees are instructed as to the proper reporting procedures and emergency contacts. Training is aimed at ensuring continued understanding and adherence to the SPCC Plan. The training program topic(s), names of employees trained, and the date and time of training will be documented and maintained on-site in the facility's files. A log of trained employees can be found in **Attachment F**.

40 CFR 112.7(g) – SECURITY

40 CFR 112.7(g)(1) – Fencing

The facility is gated with access limited to the permittee staff and contractor staff. All other visitors, such as regulatory agencies, must contact the permittee for entrance. Permittee staff escorts all visitors within the facility.

40 CFR 112.7(g)(2) – Valves

The storage tanks equipped with drain valves shall remain closed and locked when not in use.

40 CFR 112.7(g)(3) – Starter Controls

The electrical controls on all pumps shall be locked in the off position or located within a lockable area that is only accessible to authorized personnel except when in use or in standby mode.

40 CFR 112.7(g)(4) – Loading/Unloading Connections

All loading/unloading connections shall have drip pans or other mechanisms in place so that minor spillages can be collected before reaching groundwater. Loading/unloading connections of oil pipelines/hoses are securely capped when not in service or when in standby service for an extended period of time. See Table 5 for proper procedures with loading/unloading activities.

40 CFR 112.7(g)(5) – Lighting

Lighting is present on site around plant area and has been strategically placed in order to discover spills at night and prevent spills from occurring through vandalism. Operations and inspections should be conducted in daylight hours. If fueling operations occur during times without natural daylight, then lighting must be installed around fuel tank area.

40 CFR 112.7(h) – TANK CAR AND TRUCK LOADING / UNLOADING RACK

The tank will periodically receive shipments of fuel. Fuel is received in bulk. Any oils and greases needed for equipment will arrive and leave with equipment maintenance personnel and will not remain on site overnight. The bulk shipments are received in tanker trucks, and products are directly pumped from the tanker truck to the AST. The tank owner ensures that vendors understand the site layout and know the protocol for entering the facility and loading/unloading product. The truck loading and unloading procedures meet the minimum requirements of the U.S. Department of Transportation. Transfer operations are conducted in accordance with the procedures summarized in Table 5 on the next page.

TABLE 5 - UNLOADING/LOADING CHECKLIST

Stage	Tasks
Prior to loading/ unloading	☐ Visually check all hoses for leaks and wet spots. ☐ Verify that sufficient volume is available in the storage tank or truck. ☐ Lock in the closed position all drainage valves of the secondary containment structure. ☐ Secure the tank vehicle with wheel chocks and interlocks. ☐ Ensure that the vehicle's parking brakes are set. ☐ Verify proper alignment of valves and proper functioning of the pumping system. ☐ If filling a tank truck, inspect the lowermost drain and all outlets. ☐ Establish adequate bonding/grounding prior to connecting to the fuel transfer point.
During loading/ unloading	☐ Driver must stay with the vehicle at all times during loading/unloading activities. ☐ Periodically inspect systems, hoses, and connections. ☐ When loading, keep internal and external valves on the receiving tank open along with the pressure relief valves. ☐ When making a connection, shut off the vehicle engine. When transferring Class 3 materials, shut off the vehicle engine unless it is used to operate a pump. ☐ Maintain communication with the pumping and receiving stations. ☐ Monitor the liquid level in the receiving tank to prevent overflow. ☐ Monitor flow meters to determine rate of flow. ☐ When topping off the tank, reduce flow rate to prevent overflow.
After loading/ unloading	☐ Make sure the transfer operation is completed. ☐ Close all tank and loading valves before disconnecting. ☐ Securely close all vehicle internal, external, and dome cover valves before disconnecting. ☐ Secure all hatches. ☐ Disconnect grounding/bonding wires. ☐ Make sure the hoses are drained to remove the remaining oil before moving them away from the connection. Use a drip pan. ☐ Cap the end of the hose and other connecting devices before moving them to prevent uncontrolled leakage. ☐ Remove wheel chocks and interlocks. Inspect the lowermost drain and all outlets on tank truck prior to departure. If necessary, tighten, adjust, or replace caps, valves or other equipment to prevent oil leaking while in transit.

40 CFR112.7(i) – BRITTLE FRACTURE EVALUATION

Not applicable - there are no field constructed tanks at this facility, and no brittle fracture tests are required.

40 CFR112.7 (j) – STATE RULES

The State of Alabama defers to 40 CFR 112 for all regulations related to SPCC Plan conformance.

40 CFR 112.8(a) – GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The general requirements for this SPCC Plan under the regulations have been met.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Coast Guard (USCG) administer Area Plans for spill contingency response by Region throughout the United States. The USCG covers coastal areas, and EPA covers inland areas. In a major spill event, contacting the National Response Center hotline will trigger assistance from the appropriate agency, if needed.

40 CFR 112.8(b) – FACILITY DRAINAGE

40 CFR 112.8(b)(1) – Diked Storage Areas

All AST(s) will be located within a secondary containment structure or be double walled.

40 CFR 112.8(b)(2) – Dike Drainage Valves

Not applicable - there are no dike areas at this facility as AST is double-walled.

40 CFR 112.8(b)(3) – Undiked Areas

There shall be no AST(s) in un-diked areas unless tanks are double walled.

40 CFR 112.8(b)(4) – Diversion Systems

A diversion system is not warranted for this site.

40 CFR 112.8(b)(5) – Drainage Water Treatment

A drainage water treatment system is not warranted for this site.

40 CFR 112.8(c) – BULK STORAGE TANKS

40 CFR 112.8(c)(1) – Compatibility

The AST at the facility is constructed of steel and is compatible with the characteristics of the oil product they contain.

40 CFR 112.8(c)(2) – Secondary Containment

The tank is double-wall construction and meets the secondary containment requirements of the SPCC Plan. Should any additional secondary containment structure be provided, it must have the storage capacity to hold 110% of the volume of the largest tank. Secondary containment located outdoors (no cover provided) will need to hold 110% of the volume of the largest tank plus enough freeboard for a 25-year average, 24-hour storm (precipitation) event.

40 CFR 112.8(c)(3) – Rainwater Drainage

Not applicable – there are no containments/diked areas to drain located at this facility.

40 CFR 112.8(c)(4) – Buried Tanks

Not applicable – there are no buried tanks located at this facility.

40 CFR 112.8(c)(5) – Partially Buried Tanks

Not applicable – there are no partially buried tanks located at this facility.

40 CFR 112.8(c)(6) – Tank Integrity Testing

The AST will be visually inspected on a monthly basis, and written inspections are completed using the inspection forms included as **Attachment B**. Integrity testing will be performed should visual inspections reveal any signs of deterioration or leaks.

40 CFR 112.8(c)(7) – Heated Tanks

Not applicable – there are no heated tanks located at this facility.

40 CFR 112.8(c)(8) – Discharge Engineering Controls

Not applicable – there are no discharge engineering controls at this facility.

40 CFR 112.8(c)(9) – Effluent Treatment Facilities

Not applicable – there are no effluent treatment facilities at this facility.

40 CFR 112.8(c)(10) – Visible Discharges

Visible leaks from the AST will be promptly investigated and corrected immediately upon discovery.

40 CFR 112.8(c)(11) – Portable Storage Tanks

There is one 3,000-gallon portable storage tank located at this facility while work is occurring on site.

40 CFR 112.8(d)–TRANSFER OPERATIONS, PUMPING, AND FACILITY PROCESSES

40 CFR 112.8(d)(1) – Buried Piping

Not applicable – there are no underground buried transfer lines at the facility.

40 CFR 112.8(d)(2) – Terminal Connections

Lines that are not in service or are on standby for an extended period of time are capped or blank-flanged.

40 CFR 112.8(d)(3) – Pipe Supports

All pipe supports are designed to minimize abrasion and corrosion and to allow for expansion and contraction. All aboveground piping, valves, and pipe supports are examined monthly to assess their condition. Inspection includes aboveground valves,

piping, appurtenances, expansion joints, valve glands and bodies, catch pans, pipeline supports, locking of valves, and metal surfaces. Observations are noted on the monthly inspection checklist provided in this Plan.

40 CFR 112.8(d)(4) – Aboveground Piping, Valves and Appurtenances

All aboveground piping and valves are examined monthly to assess their condition. Inspection includes aboveground valves, piping, appurtenances, expansion joints, valve glands and bodies, catch pans, pipeline supports, locking of valves, and metal surfaces.

40 CFR 112.8(d)(5) – Vehicle Warnings

The tanks should be located away from main traffic paths and construction activities. Temporary barriers should be located around the tank to minimize potential collisions and to improve visibility of the tank.

40 CFR 112.9, 112.10, 112.11, 112.12, 112.13, 112.14, 112.15, 112.20 – NOT APPLICABLE

ATTACHMENT A - Certification of the Applicability of the Substantial Harm Criteria

Facility Name: **Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc. – Universal Understanding Pit #1**
Facility Address: **County Road 48, Abbeville, AL 36310**

1. Does the facility transfer oil over water to or from vessels and does the facility have a total oil storage capacity greater than or equal to 42,000 gallons?

Yes _____ No X

2. Does the facility have a total oil storage capacity greater than or equal to 1 million gallons and does the facility lack secondary containment that is sufficiently large to contain the capacity of the largest aboveground oil storage tank plus sufficient freeboard to allow for precipitation within the aboveground oil storage tank area?

Yes _____ No X

3. Does the facility have a total oil storage capacity greater than or equal to 1 million gallons and is the facility located at a distance (as calculated using the appropriate formula in Attachment C-III to this appendix or a comparable formula (1) such that a discharge from the facility could cause injury to fish and wildlife and sensitive environments? For further description of fish and wildlife and sensitive environments, see Appendices I, II, and III to DOC/NOAA's "Guidance for Facility and Vessel Response Plans: Fish and Wildlife and Sensitive Environments" (see Appendix E to this part, Section 13, for availability) and the applicable Area Contingency Plan.

Yes _____ No X

4. Does the facility have a total oil storage capacity greater than or equal to 1 million gallons and is the facility located at a distance as calculated using the appropriate formula in Attachment C-III to this appendix or a comparable formula (1) such that a discharge from the facility would shut down a public drinking water intake (2)?

(1) If a comparable formula is used documentation of the reliability and analytical soundness of the comparable formula must be attached to this form.

(2) For the purposes of 40 CFR part 112, public drinking water intakes are analogous to public water systems as described at 40 CFR 143.2(c).

Yes _____ No X

5. Does the facility have a total oil storage capacity greater than or equal to 1 million gallons and has the facility experienced a reportable oil discharge in an amount greater than or equal to 10,000 gallons within the last 5 years?

Yes _____ No X

Certification

I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document, and that based on my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining this information, I believe that the submitted information is true, accurate, and complete.

Graham Reid, Director of Operations

Date

ATTACHMENT B - Monthly Inspection Checklist

This inspection record must be completed **each month** and ***filed in the plan***. Provide further description and comments, if necessary, on a separate sheet of paper and attach them to this sheet.

*Any item that receives “yes” as an answer must be described and addressed immediately.

Items to Check	Y*	N	Description & Comments
Storage tanks			
Tank surfaces show signs of leakage			
Tanks are damaged, rusted or deteriorated			
Bolts, rivets, or seams are damaged			
Tank supports are deteriorated or buckled			
Tank foundations have eroded or settled			
Level gauges or alarms are inoperative			
Vents are obstructed			
Secondary containment is damaged or stained			(Double-Wall)
Water/product in interstice of double-walled tank			
Piping			
Valve seals, gaskets, or other appurtenances are leaking			
Pipelines or supports are damaged or deteriorated			
Joints, valves and other appurtenances are leaking			
Loading/unloading and transfer equipment			
Loading/unloading rack is damaged or deteriorated			
Connections are not capped or blank-flanged			
Secondary containment is damaged or stained			(Double-Wall)
Security			
Fencing, gates, or lighting is non-functional			
Pumps and valves are not locked (when not in use)			
Response Equipment			
Response inventory equipment is non-complete (Spill Kit)			

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

ATTACHMENT C - Notification of Reportable Spill Events

FACILITY NAME: Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc. – Universal Understanding Pit #1

FACILITY ADDRESS: County Road 48, Abbeville, AL 36310

Release Date: _____ **Report Prepared By:** _____

Substance Released: _____ **Amount released:** _____

Location of Spill: _____

Affected Area (describe in detail all areas exposed to the spilled material): _____

Corrective Actions: _____

Plans to Prevent Recurrence: _____

Discharge Notification Form

Part A: Discharge Information

General information when reporting a spill to outside authorities:

Name: IRM- Universal Understanding Pit #1

Address: County Road 48, Abbeville, AL 36310

Telephone: 334-687-6846

Owner/Operator: Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc.

Primary Contact

(your name): _____

(your cell phone number): _____

Type of Product:

Quantity released:

Quantity released to Creek:

Location/Source:

Yes or No (circle)

Discharge Date and Time:

Discovery Date and Time:

Discovery Date and Time:

Actions taken to stop, remove, and mitigate impacts of the discharge:

Affected Media:

☐	Air
☐	Water
☐	Stormwater Sewer
☐	Dike or Berm
☐	Soil
☐	Other

Who did you notify: _____

What number did you call: _____

Describe the damage to facilities and the environment:

Describe any injuries to persons:

Part B: Notification Checklist

	Date and time	Name of person receiving call
Discharge in any amount		
Kallie Turner – Eufaula Area Mine Superintendent: (229) 938-2918		
Discharge in amount exceeding 10 gallons and <i>not affecting a waterbody or groundwater</i>		
Eufaula Fire and Rescue – South Side Station Non-Emergency: (334) 687-1218 Emergency: 911		
ADEM (334) 271-7700		
Discharge in any amount and affecting (or threatening to affect) a waterbody		
Eufaula Fire and Rescue – South Side Station Non-Emergency: (334) 687-1218 Emergency: 911		
ADEM (334) 271-7700		
(AEMA) 800-843-0699		
National Response Center (800) 424-8802		
*Water Works		
**Spill Clean Up Contractor Alabama Petroleum Technology, LCC (334) 312-6072		

*The Water Works should be notified of a discharge only if oil has reached or threatens any sewer drains that connect to the POTW collection system.

**Recommended to hire spill clean-up contractor.

Part C: Summary

Chemical or Petroleum Release Exceeding Reportable Quantity (Major Spill)	
Who to Call	When to Call
Ala. Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) Field Operations Division 1400 Coliseum Boulevard Montgomery, AL 36110-2059 Telephone: (334) 271-7700	Petroleum Release > 25 gallons Chemical Release > Reportable Quantity Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm within 24 hours of release
Alabama Department of Public Safety Telephone: (334) 242-4378	Petroleum Release > 25 gallons Chemical Release > Reportable Quantity Weekends, holidays, and weekdays before 8:00 am or after 5:00 pm within 24 hours of release
National Response Center (NRC) Telephone: (800) 424-8802	Petroleum Release > 25 gallons Chemical Release > Reportable Quantity
Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) Abbeville, AL Telephone: (334) 585-6702	Petroleum Release > 25 gallons Chemical Release > Reportable Quantity Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm within 24 hours of release
Water Works	The Water Works should be notified of a discharge only if oil has reached or threatens any sewer drains that connect to a POTW collection system.
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Emergency Response Hotline Telephone: (404) 562-8700	In the event of a petroleum or chemical release in excess of the reportable quantity when the above agencies cannot be contacted.

ATTACHMENT D - Spill Response Procedures

Indication of a Leak or Spill

The following could be indications of a leak or spill and should prompt an immediate routine inspection for verification of the release:

Tank/Pipe System Leaks

- Inventory Loss
- Failure of tanks or lines under pressure testing
- Tripping of Leak detectors
- Erratic pumping, loss of flow to secondary storage tanks
- Water in diesel fuel
- Equipment damage

Spills and Overfills

- Spills during fuel deliveries
- Storage tank overfills

Initial Response Outline

- Control the leaking source: Be aware of location and operation of shutoffs for pumps, and status of the generator operation.
- Know location of spill response equipment within designated area.
- Wear protective clothing when cleaning up spills.
- Control migration/spread of contamination: Proper use of oil sorbents pads, granular oil sorbent, and oil sorbent booms.
- Notify the Site Contact for further response assistance.

Reportable Incident

- All releases of petroleum products to any stormwater ponds, sanitary sewer system, navigable waters or adjoining shorelines
- Releases that could cause a sheen, film or discoloration on the water surfaces
- A release that could result in a violation of water quality standards
- A release that could cause sludge or emulsion

SPILL RESPONSE PROCEDURES-continued

Emergency Response Procedures

- The following general steps should be taken by anyone discovering a spill:
- If anyone is injured, call 911.
- Notify the appropriate supervisor, or Site Contact, as soon as possible and obtain their assistance in stopping and containing the spill.
- Wear protective clothing when cleaning up spills.
- Stop or contain the source of the flow immediately.
- Use oil sorbent material or pads as appropriate from the spill kit.
- Check drainage system for spill products to ensure no migration has occurred.
- Dispose of all waste products generated from the clean-up properly.
- In the event that the spill cannot be contained, management shall contact a spill response contractor.
- Site Contact will coordinate all required reporting under applicable State and Federal Laws. When reporting an incident, be prepared to answer the following questions:
 - Location of the Spill or Release
 - Type of Material Released
 - Quantity (known or estimated)
 - Quantity released off-site
 - Discovery (when/how)
 - Persons involved (primary and secondary contacts)
 - Response Efforts

Log all spills on the appropriate spill reporting forms to be maintained with this plan for at least five (5) years from the date of the spill.

ATTACHMENT E – Secondary Containment Calculations

- **ALL AST TANKS ON-SITE ARE DOUBLE-WALLED AND DO NOT REQUIRE ADDITIONAL CONTAINMENT.**

ATTACHMENT F – Annual Employee Training Log

Complete this annual training log once a year with employees handling petroleum products at the facility. SPCC topics to address include proper storage, containment and spill/clean-up procedures for petroleum products on-site.

[illegible]

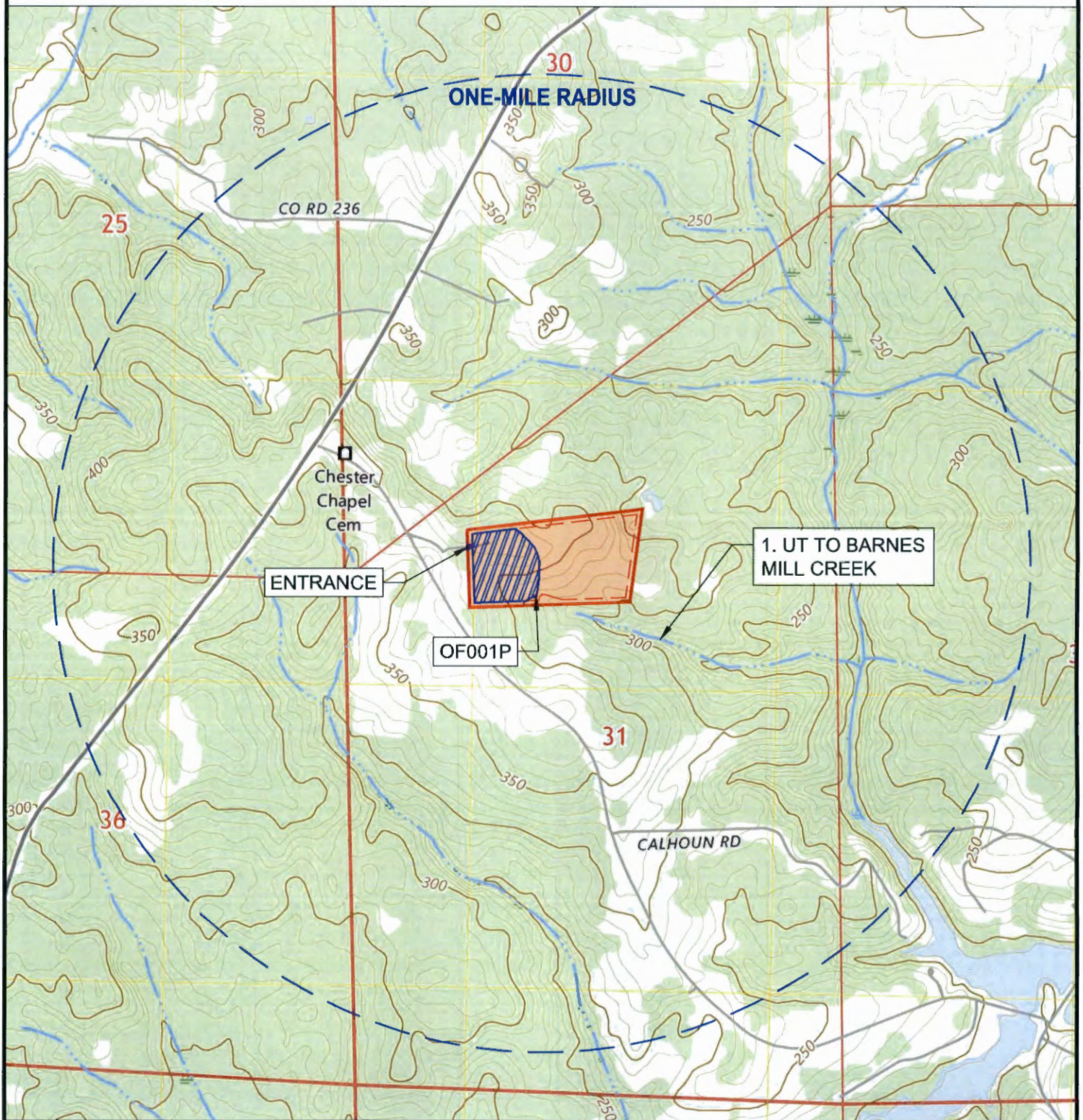
FIGURE 1

NOI MAP:

Imerys Refractory Minerals USA, Inc.
Universal Understanding Pit #1
Located in Section 31, T-9-N, R-29-E
Fort Gaines NW Quadrangle
Henry County, Alabama



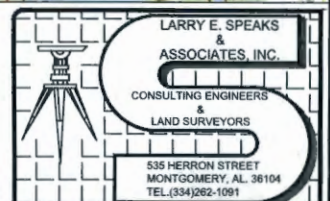
0 1500 3000 Feet



POINT	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
Entrance	31.71646	-85.17437
001P	31.71501	-85.17201

LEGEND

- PROPERTY BOUNDARY / MINE LIMITS
- 50-FOOT BUFFER
- DISTURBED/ACTIVE MINING AREA



DATE: 03/16/2026

FIGURE 2

[illegible]

EXISTING CONTOURS ARE DERIVED FROM LIDAR DATA OBTAINED FROM THE USDA GEOSPATIAL DATA GATEWAY

 EXISTING CONTOURS
 PERMIT BOUNDARY
 50' BUFFER
 REQ'D EARTHEN BERM
 RUNOFF FLOW DIRECTION

