



**Land Reclamation Division  
Memorandum No. 2024-01**

To: All Coal Operators

From: Daniel W. Barkley, Supervisor *Daniel W. Barkley*  
Land Reclamation Division

Date: January 25, 2024

Re: Borehole Plugging Information

The Department is aware that many boreholes were approved, installed and plugged prior to the current methods, operating and reporting standards and requirements. Prior to final bond release on any permitted lands, the Department must confirm that all boreholes have been plugged. However, in some instances boreholes were plugged and abandoned with no documentation submitted to the Department.

Pursuant to 62 Ill. Adm. Code 1780.18(b)(8) and 1815.15(g) a description of the measures used to seal boreholes within the permit area is to be submitted to the Department and each borehole shall be properly reclaimed in accordance with 62 Ill. Adm. Code 1816.13-1816.15 and/or 1817.13-1817.15. The regulations at 62 Ill. Adm. Code 1816/1817.13, 1816/1817.14, and 1816/1817.15 require that boreholes, when no longer needed be *“cased, sealed or otherwise managed...to prevent acidic or other toxic drainage from entering ground or surface waters, to minimize disturbance to the prevailing hydrologic balance, and to ensure the safety of people, livestock, fish and wildlife, and machinery in the permit and adjacent area.”*

For older sites, where proof of installation and/or proof of plugging cannot be expressly conveyed for each individual borehole, the Department has determined that the following information will be required:

1) A spreadsheet that includes, at a minimum, the following information:

The Permit No., the IPR and/or IBR No., IPR/IBR approval date, the number of boreholes approved, the number of boreholes installed, the installation date (approximate, if not known), the number of boreholes plugged, the plugging date (approximate, if not known), a description of the location of the boreholes, the section, township, range and county of the borehole location. (Example Attached)

2) A Blanket Plugging Affidavit (attached) form, completed by an authorized representative of the Permittee/Operator.

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This information is required to be submitted at the time of the bond release request for the Department's review. The spreadsheet can cover multiple IPR/IBR and/or Permit areas, but each request for bond release where proper plugging documentation has not been previously provided to the Department, is required to include this information.

Ultimately, it is the Permittee's responsibility to ensure that all boreholes, openings, wells, etc., have been properly plugged and abandoned pursuant to the existing Illinois regulations promulgated under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act. Failure to provide this information, in the acceptable format, may result in a delay or denial of final bond release.

Should you have any questions regarding this requirement or this memorandum, please contact the Division Hydrogeologist or Bond Unit Manager.

Attachments: Borehole Spreadsheet Example  
Blanket Plugging Affidavit



Office of Mines & Minerals  
Land Reclamation Division  
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## BLANKET PLUGGING AFFIDAVIT

With this affidavit, I, the undersigned, testify and certify, to the best of my knowledge, that all known installed boreholes have been properly plugged and abandoned and no open boreholes exist on the accompanying IBR Borehole Spreadsheet.

UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE EXAMINED THIS FORM, INCLUDING ACCOMPANYING STATEMENTS AND DOCUMENTS, AND TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, IT IS TRUE, CORRECT AND COMPLETE.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Company Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Representative Title

Permit #	IBR/IPR #	Date Issued	# Boreholes Approved	#Boreholes Installed	Installation Date(s)	#Boreholes Plugged	Plug Date(s)	Location Description	Section	Township	Range	County
99	16	2/5/1986	3	4	5/6/1986	4	1/12/2010	Miller Farm	3	5N	4W	Sangamon
99	17	3/4/1987	2	1	4/7/1987	1	7/1/2015	Near intersection of County Rd 110 and Elm	5	5N	4W	Sangamon
505	2	2/19/2014	1	3	Apr-14	3	Aug-21	Baptist Church yard	17	5N	4W	Sangamon