15A NCAC 05B .0112 PERMIT APPLICATION PROCESSING FEES

(a) A non-refundable permit application processing fee, in the amounts stated in Paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of this Rule, shall be paid when an application for a new mining permit, a permit modification or a renewal permit, is filed in accordance with G.S. 74-51 or G.S. 74-52 and 15A NCAC 5B .0003, .0004, and .0005.

(b) A non-refundable fifty dollar (\$50.00) permit application processing fee is required for minor permit modifications. Minor permit modifications include administrative changes such as ownership transfers, name changes, and bond substitutions. A minor permit modification also includes lands added to a permitted area, outside of the minimum permit buffer zone requirements, where no plans for mining related disturbance of the added lands have been approved. All other changes to the permit are major modifications. No fee is required for administrative changes initiated by the Director to correct processing errors, to change permit conditions or to implement new standards.

(c) A non-refundable fifty dollar (\$50.00) permit application processing fee is required for permit renewal of an inactive site, provided that any previously disturbed areas have been reclaimed in a manner acceptable to the Department. Once renewed, prior to initiating any mining related disturbance, an application for a major modification and a processing fee shall be submitted to and approved by the Department. For purposes of this Paragraph, and notwithstanding Paragraph (d) of this Rule, the acreage for a major modification shall be the total acreage at the site. All other modifications to the renewed permit shall be governed by Paragraphs (b) and (d) of this Rule.

(d) For the purposes of this Rule, acres for new permits and renewal permits means the total acreage at the site; and acres for major modification of permits means that area of land affected by the modification within the permitted mine area, or any additional land that is to be disturbed and added to an existing permitted area, or both. Each permit application shall be deemed incomplete until the permit application processing fee is paid. Schedule of Fees:

TYPE	ACRES	NEW PERMIT	MAJOR MODIFICATION	RENEWAL
CLAY	1 but less than 25	\$ 500	\$ 250	\$ 250
	25 but less than 50	1000	500	500
	50 or more	1500	500	500
SAND & GRAVEL,	1 but less than 5	150	100	100
GEMSTONE AND	5 but less than 25	250	100	100
BORROW PITS	25 but less than 50	500	250	500
	50 or more	1000	500	500
QUARRY, INDUSTRIAL	1 but less than 10	250	100	100
MINERALS, DIMENSION	10 but less than 25	1000	250	500
STONE	25 but less than 50	1500	500	500
	50 or more	2500	500	500
PEAT & PHOSPHATE	1 or more	2500	500	500
GOLD (HEAP LEACH), TITANIUM & OTHERS	1 or more	2500	500	500

(e) Payment of the permit application processing fee shall be by check or money order made payable to the "N.C. Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources". The payment shall refer to the new permit, permit modification or permit renewal.

(f) In order to comply with the limit on fees set forth in G.S. 143B-290(4)b, the Director shall, in the first half of each state fiscal year, project revenues for the fiscal year from fees collected pursuant to this Rule. If this projection shows that the

statutory limit will be exceeded, the Director shall order a pro rata reduction in the fee schedule for the remainder of the fiscal year to avoid revenue collection in excess of the statutory limits.

History Note: Filed as a Temporary Rule Eff. November 1, 1990, for a Period of 180 Days to Expire on April 29, 1991; Authority G.S. 143B-290; ARRC Objection Lodged November 14, 1990; ARRC Objection Removed December 20, 1990; Eff. January 1, 1991; Amended Eff. December 1, 1991.