



City of Jasper

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JOSH GATES, Mayor
JENNY BROWN SHORT, Councilmember
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JENNIFER W. SMITH, Councilmember
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KATHY CHAMBLESS, City Clerk, C.P.A.

July 8, 2026

Alabama Surface Mining Commission
Attn: Kathy H. Love, Director
1811 Second Avenue
P.O. Box 2390
Jasper, AL 35502

Re: Support for Surface Mine No. 1 Revision (Permit No. P-3869, Revision No. R-5)

Dear Director Love and Members of the Alabama Surface Mining Commission:

On behalf of the City of Jasper, I am pleased to express our strong support for the proposed revision to the Reclamation Plan for Drummond Company, Inc.'s Surface Mine No. 1 (Permit No. P-3869, Revision No. R-5).

We respectfully request your favorable consideration and approval of this revision, which is essential to one of the most significant economic development and recreational projects in our city's history.

The requested revision will allow the site to be graded and the existing highwall to be backfilled, creating a development-ready property for the City's planned regional multiuse sports complex. This work represents far more than site preparation. It is the foundation of a catalytic project that will transform reclaimed mine land into a regional destination, creating lasting economic and quality-of-life benefits for the City of Jasper, Walker County, and communities throughout Northwest Alabama.

Once completed, the complex will attract visitors from across the region, generate tourism, support local businesses, create jobs, and encourage future private investment while expanding recreational opportunities for our residents. The project also stands as an outstanding example of how reclaimed mining property can be responsibly repurposed to create long-term value for an entire region.

The City is especially appreciative of Drummond Company's willingness to preserve two sections of the existing highwall at our request. These features will serve as both a unique aesthetic element and an educational showcase honoring Walker County's rich mining heritage, creating a meaningful connection between our community's past and its future.

The City of Jasper believes this revision reflects responsible environmental stewardship, thoughtful planning, and a shared commitment to creating opportunities that will benefit generations to come. We respectfully ask the Alabama Surface Mining Commission to approve this revision and allow this transformational project to move forward.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued commitment to responsible reclamation throughout Alabama.

Sincerely,

Josh Gates
Mayor, City of Jasper