

**BEST COAL, INC.
CHOCTAW MINE, P-3799, R-24**

**ALABAMA SURFACE MINING COMMISSION
SURFACE MINING PERMIT APPLICATION**

P A R T I

Prepared by:

MCGEHEE ENGINEERING CORP.
P. O. Box 3431
450 19th Street West
Jasper, Alabama 35502-3431
Telephone (205) 221-0686

Fee: _____

Bond Required: _____

Date Approved: _____

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT REVISION

Name of Permittee: BEST COAL, INC.

License Number: L-568 Complete Permit Number: P-3799-64-24-S

Expiration Date of Permit: 8/01/24 Revision Number: R-24

Mine Name: Choctaw Mine

Nature of Proposed Revision R-24:

1. Add Sediment Basin 031 (2 acres) and access (1 acre) to Increment No. 6.
2. Modify the General Plan.
3. Modify the Hydrologic Monitoring Plan.
4. Show the exact configuration of Sediment Basin 010.
5. Change the post mining landuse of Sediment Basins 010, 011, 018, 018B, 018C & 026 from fish & wildlife habitat (permanent) to undeveloped/no current use (temporary).

Identify any conditions placed on this permit which would relate to the proposed revision being requested:

None.

STATE OF ALABAMA

SURFACE MINING COMMISSION

- (XX) Permit Application for a Surface Coal Mine
() Permit Application for an Underground Coal Mine
() Permit Application for a Preparation Facility

PART I A. IDENTIFICATION

1. PERMIT APPLICANT

Name: **Best Coal, Inc.**
Street Address: **9865 Highway 269**
City: **Parrish** State: **AL** Zip: **35580**
Mailing Address: **9865 Highway 269**
City: **Parrish** State: **AL** Zip: **35580**
Telephone Number: **(205)-686-0055**
Social Security Number (Voluntary): ____ - ____ - ____
Employer Identification Number: _____
ASMC License#: **L-0568**

2. ENTITY OR PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING ABANDONED MINE LAND RECLAMATION FEES

Name: **Best Coal, Inc.**
Street Address: **9865 Highway 269**
City: **Parrish** State: **AL** Zip: **35580**
Mailing Address: **9865 Highway 269**
City: **Parrish** State: **AL** Zip: **35580**
Telephone Number: **(205)-686-0055**
Social Security Number (Voluntary): ____ - ____ - ____
Employer Identification Number: _____
ASMC License#: **L-0568**

3. IDENTIFY THE OPERATOR FOR THIS MINE IF DIFFERENT FROM THE PERMITTEE

Name: **SAME AS PERMITTEE**
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____
Telephone Number: (_____) ____ - ____
Social Security Number (Voluntary): ____ - ____ - ____
Employer Identification Number: _____
ASMC License#: _____

4. CONTACT PERSON FOR PERMIT REVIEW ISSUES AND CORRESPONDENCE

Name: **McGehee Engineering, Corp.**
Mailing Address: **P. O. Box 3431, 450 19th Street West**
City: **Jasper** State: **AL** Zip: **35502**
Telephone Number: **(205) 221-0686**
Email Address: **jwhitlock@mcgehee.org**

PART I B. OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

1. PERMIT APPLICANT OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL.

At the time of filing of this application provide an update of all information contained in the applicant's license file or certify that the information contained in the license is accurate and complete. The updated information shall be submitted on Part I A through Part I F of the License application form. Check one of the following:

A license update is included.

Information contained in the license file is accurate and complete at the time of filing of this application.

Following notification that the permit appears eligible for issuance, the applicant must certify that all information in this application and the license file pertaining to ownership and control, surface mining history and violation history is still valid or the applicant must submit the appropriate update information.

2. OPERATOR OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL.

If someone other than the permittee has been identified as the operator under this permit, an update of the ownership and control information contained in the operator's license file must be provided or certify that the information contained in the license file is accurate and complete. The updated information shall be submitted on Part I A through Part I F of the License application form. Check one of the following:

A license update is included.

Information contained in the license file is accurate and complete at the time of filing of this application.

Following notification that the permit appears eligible for issuance, the applicant must certify that all information in this application and the license file pertaining to ownership and control, surface mining history and violation history is still valid or the applicant must submit the appropriate update information.

3. CONTROL OF MINING OPERATION THROUGH CONTROL OF COAL TO BE MINED.

Provide the information below for any person or entity who owns or controls the coal to be mined under this permit and who, by lease, sublease, or other contract:

A. has the right to receive the coal after mining, or,

B. has the authority to determine the manner in which the operator or permittee conducts surface coal mining operations.

(USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IN THE FORMAT BELOW IF NECESSARY)

Name: **Best Coal, Inc.**

Street Address: **9865 Highway 269**

City: **Parrish** State: **AL** Zip: **35580**

Mailing Address: **9865 Highway 269**

City: **Parrish** State: **AL** Zip: **35580**

Telephone Number: **(205)-686-0055**

Social Security Number (Voluntary): **- -**

Employer Identification Number:

ASMC License#: **L-0568**

PART I C. PROPERTY OWNERSHIP, INTERESTS AND RIGHTS

1. OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY TO BE MINED AND RIGHT OF ENTRY.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Show the property ownership boundaries of each parcel of land in the permit area on the permit map or an overlay of the same scale as the permit map. If the surface estate is severed from the mineral estate, show and describe the ownership of each estate separately. In the spaces below, identify:

1. Every current legal or equitable owner(s) of record (as found in a standard search of title) of the property;
2. The holders of record of any leasehold interest in the property; and,
3. Any purchaser of record under a real estate contract of the property.

Describe the basis of the applicant's legal right to enter and mine on all properties contained in the permit application. If the mineral estate has been severed from the surface estate, describe the basis of the legal right to enter and mine both the surface and mineral separately. Give the nature of such right (i.e. lease, deed, contract, etc.), where recorded, describe from whom, to whom, and the date executed and whether that right is the subject of pending litigation.

USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IN THE FORMAT BELOW AS NECESSARY

Legal description of property or permit map symbol: (SEE PERMIT MAP)

Surface/Mineral/or Fee Simple (both): SURFACE, MINERAL

Legal owner(s) of record: ALABAMA POWER COMPANY,

Address: P.O. Box 2641 City: Birmingham State: AL Zip: 35201

Holders of leasehold interest: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Purchasers under a real estate contract: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Description of right to enter or mine:

Describe the type of document or conveyance which grants the right of entry, disturbance or mining. Indicate from whom the right was acquired and to whom the right was granted. If the grantor of the right is not the owner(s) of property, identify all grantors and grantees of the right beginning with the owner(s) and ending with the permit applicant.

| Describe Right of Entry (If deed indicate where recorded): | Granted From: | Granted To: | Date Granted: | Litigation Pending? (Yes or No) If yes, explain |
|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|
| LEASE | ALABAMA POWER COMPANY | TAFT COAL SALES & ASSOCIATES, INC. | 8-1-98 MINERAL & SURFACE WITH EXCEPTIONS BELOW Pending Verification Part of NE/NE, Part of the SE/NE, SE/NW, and West 1/2 of SE/SW, 28-15S-7W & SW/NE of Section 33-15S-7W | NO |
| ASSIGNMENT | TAFT COAL SALES & ASSOCIATES, INC. | SEMINOLE COAL RESOURCES, LLC | 2-12-16 | NO |
| ASSIGNMENT | SEMINOLE COAL RESOURCES, LLC | CEDAR LAKE MINING, INC. | 4-27-16 | NO |
| ASSIGNMENT | CEDAR LAKE MINING, INC. | BEST COAL, INC. | 3-15-2021 | NO |

USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IN THE FORMAT BELOW AS NECESSARY

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Legal description of property or permit map symbol: (SEE PERMIT MAP)

Surface/Mineral/or Fee Simple (both): SURFACE

Legal owner(s) of record: SOUTHERN ELECTRIC GENERATING COMPANY (SEGCO)

Address: 600 North 18TH Street City: Birmingham State: AL Zip: 35291

Holders of leasehold interest: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Purchasers under a real estate contract: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Description of right to enter or mine:

Describe the type of document or conveyance which grants the right of entry, disturbance or mining. Indicate from whom the right was acquired and to whom the right was granted. If the grantor of the right is not the owner(s) of property, identify all grantors and grantees of the right beginning with the owner(s) and ending with the permit applicant.

| Describe Right of Entry (If deed indicate where recorded): | Granted From: | Granted To: | Date Granted: | Litigation Pending? (Yes or No) If yes, explain |
|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| LEASE | SOUTHERN ELECTRIC GENERATING COMAPNY | TAFT COAL SALES & ASSOCIATES, INC. | 8-1-98 | NO |
| ASSIGNMENT | TAFT COAL SALES & ASSOCIATES, INC. | SEMINOLE COAL RESOURCES, LLC | 2-12-16 | NO |
| ASSIGNMENT | CEDAR LAKE MINING, INC. | BEST COAL, INC. | 3-15-2021 | NO |

Legal description of property or permit map symbol: (SEE PERMIT MAP)

Surface/Mineral/or Fee Simple (both): SURFACE

Legal owner(s) of record: CANE CREEK, LLC

Address: 9865 Hwy. 269 City: Parrish State: AL Zip: 35580

Holders of leasehold interest: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Purchasers under a real estate contract: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Description of right to enter or mine:

Describe the type of document or conveyance which grants the right of entry, disturbance or mining. Indicate from whom the right was acquired and to whom the right was granted. If the grantor of the right is not the owner(s) of property, identify all grantors and grantees of the right beginning with the owner(s) and ending with the permit applicant.

| Describe Right of Entry (If deed indicate where recorded): | Granted From: | Granted To: | Date Granted: | Litigation Pending? (Yes or No) If yes, explain |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|---|
| LEASE | CANE CREEK, LLC | BEST COAL, INC. | | NO |

PART I C. (CONTINUED)

2. OWNERSHIP OF SURFACE AND MINERAL LANDS CONTIGUOUS TO THE AREA TO BE MINED.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Provide the information below for the owners of record of all surface and mineral properties contiguous to any part of the proposed permit area.

USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IN THE FORMAT BELOW AS NECESSARY

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Name: SOUTHERN ELECTRIC GENERATING COMPANY.
Address: 600 NORTH 18TH STREET City: Birmingham State: AL Zip: 35291
Interest owned (Surface Coal or Fee Simple): Surface
Type of Interest (Owner, Lease, or Other): Owner

Name: ALABAMA POWER COMPANY.
Address: P.O. Box 2641 City: Birmingham State: AL Zip: 35201
Interest owned (Surface Coal or Fee Simple): Surface
Type of Interest (Owner, Lease, or Other): Owner

Name: CANE CREEK, LLC
Address: 9865 Hwy. 269 City: Parrish State: AL Zip: 35580
Interest owned (Surface, Coal or Fee Simple): Surface
Type of Interest (Owner, Lease, or Other): Owner

PART I C. (CONTINUED)

3. INTERESTS OR PENDING INTERESTS IN LANDS CONTIGUOUS TO THE PERMIT AREA.

INSTRUCTIONS:

THE APPLICANT HAS NO INTEREST IN ANY LANDS OR CONTIGUOUS LAND
OTHER THAN THE PERMITTED AREA.

Give the legal description of all lands contiguous to the permit area for which the permit applicant:

1. Holds an interest,
2. Holds an option, or
3. Has made a bid for ownership, lease or other interest.

USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IN THE FORMAT BELOW AS NECESSARY

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Legal description: _____

Describe the nature of the interest: _____

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Legal Description: _____

Describe the nature of the interest: _____

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Legal description: _____

Describe the nature of the interest: _____

PART I D. PERMIT AREA INFORMATION

1. Give the requested term of this permit: 5 years.
2. Give the legal description of the land upon which the applicant proposes to conduct surface coal mining operations. List each quarter-quarter section, section, township, range, and county.

SE/NE, NE/SE & SE/SE of Section 32, NE/SE, SW/SE, NW/SE, SW/NW & NW/NW of Section 33, Township 15 South, Range 7 West, NW/NE & NE/NW of Section 4, Township 16 South, Range 7 West, all in Walker County, Alabama.

3. Give the acreage of the permit, each increment and the type of bonding.

a. Total permit acreage: 1,029 Acres

- b. Give the acreage and type of bond for each mining increment:

| <u>Increment</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Type Bond Proposed</u> |
|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | 62 | Phase 3 Bond Release |
| 2. | 114 | Phase 3 Bond Release |
| 3. | 62 | Phase 2 Bond Release |
| 4. | 272 | Phase 3 Bond Release |
| 5. | 112 | Phase 3 Bond Release |
| 6. | 286 | Surety Bond |
| 7. | 32 | Phase 3 Bond Release |
| 8. | 72 | Phase 3 Bond Release |
| 9. | 17 | Phase 2 Bond Release |

- c. Identify the increment(s) on which mining will initially begin upon issuance of this permit: Inc. No. 6

4. Has any acreage in the proposed permit area been previously disturbed by mining? () YES () NO

If yes, supply the following for any and all previously disturbed areas:

- a. Show the boundaries of the previously disturbed area(s) on the permit map and identify with an appropriate symbol.

See approved Permit Map

- b. List, for each area, the permit number under which it was disturbed and the number of acres. Indicate the status of each permit as Unreleased, Grading released, or 100% released. (If no permit, indicate as such)

| <u>Permit</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Status</u> |
|---------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| <u>NA</u> | <u> </u> | <u>Pre-Law</u> |

5. Is disturbance to be conducted within 300 feet, measured horizontally, from an occupied dwelling?

() YES () NO.

If YES, attach a signed waiver from the owner of the dwelling indicating the minimum distance disturbance will be allowed by the owner.

6. Is disturbance proposed within 100 feet of a public road right-of-way or will a public road be closed or relocated?

() YES (XX) NO.

If YES, enclose a copy of the approval granted by the government entity which has jurisdiction over the road. The approval must state the minimum distance disturbance will be allowed to the road or road right-of-way. Approval from Alabama Department of Transportation for the deadhead crossing Alabama Highway 118 will be submitted later.

7. List all other licenses and permits required to conduct mining operations including, but not limited to, MSHA I.D. and NPDES. Give the identification or permit number, the name and address of the issuing authority, and the status or date of approval or issuance of each:

| Permit | ID or Permit Number | Issuing Authority | Address | Status or date of issuance |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------|--|----------------------------|
| MSHA ID | 01-00347 | MSHA | 228 West Valley Ave. Birmingham, AL 35209 | |
| NPDES | AL0072184 | ADEM | 1751 Federal Drive Montgomery, AL 36110 | 5-13-16 |

8. Is the property in the permit covered by zoning or other land use restrictions? () YES (XX) NO.

If yes, indicate the jurisdictional authority and zoning or landuse restriction for the entire permit area. If more than one zoning classification exists for the permit area, identify the boundaries of each on the permit map.

| Jurisdictional Authority | Zoning Classification | Allows mining? Yes or No |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>N/A</u> | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

9. Describe access to the proposed mine from a known point on the nearest public highway:

From the intersection of Segco Road and State Highway 269, go 1.7 miles in a northwesterly direction along Segco Road to entrance roads on right and left of highway.

10. Did the applicant receive assistance from the Small Operator Assistance Program in preparing this application?

() YES (XX) NO

If YES, list SOAP I.D. Number: _____

11. Submit a certificate of proof of Liability Insurance with this application.

PART I E. PUBLIC NOTICE AND AVAILABILITY FOR INSPECTION

12. Give the name of the approved public office in which a copy of this application will be filed for public inspection following notification of completeness: Alabama Surface Mining Commission website <http://surface-mining.alabama.gov>.

13. Enclose a copy of the notice of filing of this application which will appear in a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity of the mine and identify the name of the newspaper: See Attachment I-E-13

If YES, attach a signed waiver from the owner of the dwelling indicating the minimum distance disturbance will be allowed by the owner.

6. Is disturbance proposed within 100 feet of a public road right-of-way or will a public road be closed or relocated?

() YES (XX) NO.

If YES, enclose a copy of the approval granted by the government entity which has jurisdiction over the road. The approval must state the minimum distance disturbance will be allowed to the road or road right-of-way. Approval from Alabama Department of Transportation for the deadhead crossing Alabama Highway 118 will be submitted later.

7. List all other licenses and permits required to conduct mining operations including, but not limited to, MSHA I.D. and NPDES. Give the identification or permit number, the name and address of the issuing authority, and the status or date of approval or issuance of each:

| Permit | ID or Permit Number | Issuing Authority | Address | Status or date of issuance |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------|--|----------------------------|
| MSHA ID | 01-00347 | MSHA | 228 West Valley Ave. Birmingham, AL 35209 | |
| NPDES | AL0072184 | ADEM | 1751 Federal Drive Montgomery, AL 36110 | 5-13-16 |

8. Is the property in the permit covered by zoning or other land use restrictions? () YES (XX) NO.

If yes, indicate the jurisdictional authority and zoning or landuse restriction for the entire permit area. If more than one zoning classification exists for the permit area, identify the boundaries of each on the permit map.

| Jurisdictional Authority | Zoning Classification | Allows mining? Yes or No |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>N/A</u> | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

9. Describe access to the proposed mine from a known point on the nearest public highway:

From the intersection of Segco Road and State Highway 269, go 1.7 miles in a northwesterly direction along Segco Road to entrance roads on right and left of highway.

10. Did the applicant receive assistance from the Small Operator Assistance Program in preparing this application?

() YES (XX) NO

If YES, list SOAP I.D. Number: _____

11. Submit a certificate of proof of Liability Insurance with this application.

PART I E. PUBLIC NOTICE AND AVAILABILITY FOR INSPECTION

12. Give the name of the approved public office in which a copy of this application will be filed for public inspection following notification of completeness: Alabama Surface Mining Commission website <http://surface-mining.alabama.gov>.

14. Enclose a copy of the notice of filing of this application which will appear in a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity of the mine and identify the name of the newspaper: See Attachment I-E-13

ATTACHMENT I-E-13

PUBLIC NOTICE FILING OF PERMIT APPLICATION

In accordance with the provision of Act No. 81-435 of the State of Alabama and the regulations promulgated under this act, Best Coal, Inc., 9865 Highway 269, Parrish, AL 35580 is filing an application to revise its Choctaw Mine (P-3799), Surface Mine. Access to the mine is as follows:

From the intersection of Segco Road and State Highway 269, go 1.7 miles in a northwesterly direction along Segco Road to entrance roads on right and left of highway.

Nature of Proposed Revision R-24:

1. Add Sediment Basin 031 (2 acres) and access (1 acre) to Increment No. 6.
2. Modify the General Plan.
3. Modify the Hydrologic Monitoring Plan.
4. Show the exact configuration of Sediment Basin 010.
5. Change the post mining landuse of Sediment Basins 010, 011, 018, 018B, 018C & 026 from fish & wildlife habitat (permanent) to undeveloped/no current use (temporary).

SE/NE, NE/SE & SE/SE of Section 32, NE/SE, SW/SE, NW/SE, SW/NW & NW/NW of Section 33, Township 15 South, Range 7 West, NW/NE & NE/NW of Section 4, Township 16 South, Range 7 West, all in Walker County, Alabama.

A copy of the permit application is available for public inspection and review on the Alabama Surface Mining Commission website <http://surface-mining.alabama.gov>. A copy of the permit application is also available for public inspection and review at the office of the Alabama Surface Mining Commission located on the second floor of the Pinnacle Bank Building at 1811 2nd Avenue, Jasper, Alabama 35501. Written comments, objections, request for public hearing or request for informal conferences concerning this permit should be sent to the Alabama Surface Mining Commission, P.O. Box 2390, Jasper, Alabama 35502-2390, no later than 30 days from the last date of publication of this notice.

This notice to be published in the Daily Mountain Eagle Newspaper.
Please run this notice once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks starting 2/1, 2/8, 2/15, and ending 2/22/2022.

Please send invoice and notarized proof of publication to:

Best Coal, Inc.
9865 Highway 269
Parrish, Alabama 35580
Telephone (205) 686-0055

Also, please send a notarized proof of publication to:

McGehee Engineering Corp.
P. O. Box 3431
Jasper, AL 35502-3431
Telephone (205) 221-0686

If you should have any questions or need additional information, please call: (205) 221-0686.