

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0069

Mine permit and reclamation plan changes-landowner approval.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Hornok, Allemand, Davis, Haroldson, Heiner, Neiman, Pendergraft, Slagle and Wylie and Senator(s) Boner, Hutchings and Ide

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to environmental quality; requiring  
2 landowner approval before the department of environmental  
3 quality or the environmental quality council approves any  
4 mine permit or reclamation plan revisions as specified;  
5 specifying applicability; and providing for an effective  
6 date.

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8 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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10 **Section 1.** W.S. 35-11-402(a)(x) and 35-11-416 by  
11 creating a new subsection (c) are amended to read:

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13 **35-11-402. Establishment of standards.**

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1           (a) The council shall, upon recommendation by the  
2 advisory board through the administrator and the director,  
3 establish rules and regulations pursuant to the following  
4 reclamation standards for the affected areas, including but  
5 not limited to:

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7           (x) Rules and regulations for the criteria for  
8 review and information and public notice requirements for  
9 permit revisions. Subject to this paragraph, a permit may  
10 be revised without public notice or hearing for revisions,  
11 including incidental boundary revisions to the area covered  
12 by the permit, if these do not propose significant  
13 alterations in the reclamation plan. Subject to applicable  
14 standards, any permit, except for surface coal mining  
15 permits, may be revised, in the permitted area, by  
16 identifying proposed alterations to the mining or  
17 reclamation plan in the annual report or addendum thereto,  
18 or by obtaining prior approval from the director, at the  
19 operator's discretion. If the surface landowner is  
20 different from the permit holder or the mineral owner, no  
21 permit or reclamation plan shall be revised or altered in  
22 any way under this paragraph without first receiving the  
23 surface owner's consent in writing;

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2           **35-11-416. Protection of the surface owner.**

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4           (c) If the surface landowner is different from the  
5 permit holder or the mineral owner, no permit or  
6 reclamation plan required by this article shall be revised  
7 or altered in any way under this article without first  
8 receiving the surface owner's consent in writing.

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10           **Section 2.** This act shall apply to all applications  
11 for mining permit revisions or reclamation plan alterations  
12 submitted to the department of environmental quality on and  
13 after the effective date of this act.

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15           **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2024.

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(END)