

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

As Engrossed: H3/30/17
A Bill

SENATE BILL 620

By: Senator Standridge

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO EXEMPT CRYSTAL QUARTZ MINING ON PRIVATE
PROPERTY FROM THE ARKANSAS OPEN-CUT RECLAMATION ACT;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO EXEMPT CRYSTAL QUARTZ MINING ON
PRIVATE PROPERTY FROM THE ARKANSAS OPEN-
CUT RECLAMATION ACT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 15-57-320, concerning exemptions from the Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(h) The permitting provisions of this subchapter do not apply to quartz crystal mined on private property by the person who owns both the surface rights and subsurface rights of the property.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 15, Chapter 57, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

15-57-204. Quartz crystal mined on private property

(a) A person who owns both the surface rights and subsurface rights of private property that mines quartz crystal on the private property shall remove topsoil and spoil and store it on the mining site separately for future reclamation needs.

(b) Upon completion of mining on private property, the private property owner shall:



(1) Leave the mining site in a condition that safeguards the mining site from trespass if any highwalls are left on the mining site; and

(2)(A) Whenever possible:

(i) Backfill spoil into the pits;

(ii) Cover the mining site with topsoil; and

(iii) Revegetate the mining site to prevent

pollution of the waters of *the state*.

(B) If the owner does not place spoil back into the final cut, the owner shall:

(i) Grade the spoil so that no slope is steeper than one foot (1') vertical to three feet (3') horizontal; and

(ii) Respread and revegetate the topsoil to prevent pollution of the waters of *the state*.

/s/Standridge