

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 (New Draft of S.P. 282, L.D. 771)
2 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
3

4 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
5

6 Legislative Document

No. 1466

8 S.P. 549

In Senate, May 6, 1985

9 Reported by Senator Usher of Cumberland from the Committee on
10 Energy and Natural Resources and printed under Joint Rule 2. Original bill
11 sponsored by Senator Brown of Washington. Cosponsored by Representative
Ridley of Shapleigh.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

12
13 STATE OF MAINE
14

15 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
16 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE
17

18 AN ACT to Clarify Certain Aspects of Mineral
19 Exploration, Development and
20 Disclosure.
21

22 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as
23 follows:

24 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA c. 201-A, sub-c. II, as amended,
25 is repealed.

26 Sec. 2. 12 MRSA c. 201-A, sub-c. III is enacted
27 to read:

28 SUBCHAPTER III

29 MINING ON STATE LANDS

30 §549. Jurisdiction

31 The Maine Geological Survey and the agencies hav-
32 ing jurisdiction over state-owned lands shall have

1 jurisdiction, as set forth in this subchapter, over
2 all state-owned lands for the purpose of mineral de-
3 velopment and mining on that land. The Maine Geolog-
4 ical Survey and the agencies having jurisdiction over
5 state-owned lands may make such rules as each deems
6 proper with respect to the authority delegated pursu-
7 ant to this subchapter.

8 §549-A. Definitions

9 As used in this subchapter, unless the context
10 otherwise indicates, the following terms have the
11 following meanings.

12 1. Development. "Development" means all of the
13 methods used in the preparation of a known and pre-
14 sumed economically extractable ore deposit for
15 mining.

16 2. Director of the survey. "Director of the
17 survey" means the Director of the Maine Geological
18 Survey.

19 3. Exploration. "Exploration" means an examina-
20 tion of an area for the purpose of discovering the
21 presence of minerals with techniques which include
22 all of the manual, mechanical, electronic or chemical
23 methods of determining the presence, size and quality
24 of a mineral deposit.

25 4. Explosives. "Explosives" means explosive ma-
26 terials which are used to explore, develop or mine a
27 mineral deposit.

28 5. Machinery. "Machinery" means equipment or
29 machinery, exclusive of vehicles, which is used to
30 explore, develop or mine a mineral deposit.

31 6. Minerals. "Minerals" means all naturally oc-
32 curring mineral deposits, including hydrocarbons and
33 peat, but excluding sand, gravel and water.

34 7. Mining. "Mining" means all of the extractive
35 and beneficiative processes necessary to remove and
36 prepare a mineral deposit for market.

1 8. Ore. "Ore" means any mineral or an aggregate
2 of minerals which can be extracted from the earth
3 economically.

4 9. Person. "Person" means individuals, partner-
5 ships, corporations and other entities.

6 10. Royalty. "Royalty" means the amount paid to
7 the State for the right to remove minerals from state
8 land, including minimum and preproduction payments.

9 11. State lands. "State lands" means all lands
10 owned or held in trust by the State or in which the
11 State holds an interest, including inland and tidal
12 submerged lands and waters.

13 §549-B. Exploration permits, exploration claims and
14 mining leases

15 1. Authority to explore. Any individual over 18
16 years of age or other person may enter upon state
17 lands, including lands held under specific trust in-
18 struments when the trust is consistent with mineral
19 development, on receipt of an exploration permit from
20 the director of the survey for the purpose of explo-
21 ration, unless otherwise indicated in this subchap-
22 ter. An exploration permit shall be issued upon pay-
23 ment of a fee of \$20 and shall apply to state lands
24 only. An exploration permit shall bear a number and
25 be dated on the date of issue of the permit and shall
26 expire at midnight on the next June 30th. The holder
27 of an exploration permit is entitled to a renewal of
28 his permit upon expiration of the permit, upon making
29 application to the director of the survey on or be-
30 fore June 30th, including payment of the prescribed
31 fee, which renewal shall take effect on July 1st and
32 bear the same number as the expired permit.
33 Prospectors' permits in effect on June 30, 1985,
34 shall remain in effect as exploration permits until
35 June 30, 1986.

36 If machinery or explosives are to be used for explo-
37 ration on state lands, the methods to be employed and
38 the amount of explosives to be allowed shall first be
39 approved by the director of the survey and the direc-
40 tor of the agency having jurisdiction over the state
41 land. The use of machinery or explosives shall be

1 approved only where it will be done in harmony with
2 the activities of the agency having jurisdiction over
3 the state land and will not result in environmental
4 harm.

5 2. Exploration for and mining of hydrocarbons.
6 The director of the survey and the Director of the
7 Bureau of Public Lands may promulgate rules governing
8 exploration and mining of hydrocarbons on all lands
9 within the jurisdiction of the State, public and pri-
10 vate, in order to prevent the waste of hydrocarbons
11 and to protect correlative rights and natural re-
12 sources. The directors may promulgate rules on all
13 lands in the State to specify the size of the area of
14 exploration, the amount charged for exploration per-
15 mits and exploration claims, the duration of those
16 permits and claims and other matters related to the
17 exploration and mining of hydrocarbons on state
18 lands.

19 3. Location of exploration claim and maintenance
20 of rights of possession. Any person or corporation
21 which has secured an exploration permit may locate
22 one or more exploration claims by defining the bound-
23 ary lines of the claim or claims. No exploration
24 claim may be smaller than 20 acres, except in cases
25 where only a smaller area is available in a parcel of
26 state-owned land. The location or record of any ex-
27 ploration claim shall be construed to include all
28 surface found within the surface boundary lines, and
29 all ledges throughout their entire vertical depth,
30 but shall not include any portion of the ledges be-
31 yond the end and sidelines of the exploration claim
32 or timber or growth on the exploration claim. As
33 nearly as circumstances permit, an exploration claim
34 shall be staked out in the following manner:

35 A. By erecting a post or other reasonably perma-
36 nent monument at each of the corners of the ex-
37 ploration claim. Every post or monument shall
38 stand not less than 4 feet above the ground,
39 shall not be less than 4 inches in diameter and
40 shall bear the following information: The name
41 of the locator; the number of his exploration
42 permit; the date of the staking; and, if the ex-
43 ploration claim is staked on behalf of another
44 person, the name of the other person and the num-
45 ber of his exploration permit;

1 B. By plainly marking the trees with paint and
2 by trimming the underbrush along the boundary
3 lines of the exploration claim to indicate clear-
4 ly the outlines of the exploration claim. Where
5 there are no trees or underbrush, by piling
6 stones or placing pickets at reasonable intervals
7 along the boundary lines of the exploration
8 claim; or

9 C. By establishing post or buoy markers to wit-
10 ness exploration claim corners which fall in a
11 body of water, by placing posts on dry land and
12 marking on the posts exact distances and direc-
13 tions to over-water exploration claim corners or
14 by such other methods as the director of the sur-
15 vey may by regulation establish.

16 Any person who has located and recorded any explora-
17 tion claim or claims shall, subject to this subchap-
18 ter, have the right of possession of the premises
19 covered by that exploration claim or claims, for the
20 purpose of conducting exploration activities on those
21 premises. The right of possession shall be alienable
22 in the same manner as real estate. No alienation or
23 transfer of the rights of possession conferred by a
24 located and recorded exploration claim may be effec-
25 tive until the transferor has notified the director
26 of the survey of the transfer and has received an ac-
27 knowledgment by the director of the survey in writing
28 of receipt of the notification. The director of the
29 survey shall make an acknowledgment within 30 days of
30 the receipt of the notice. Without the express prior
31 written consent of the director of the survey and the
32 agency of the State having jurisdiction over the
33 state land, granted for good cause, the exploration
34 claim shall in no way interfere with conservation,
35 recreation, harvesting timber, leasing campsite lots
36 or other activities of the agency having jurisdic-
37 tion.

38 4. Recording of exploration claim. No person
39 may have the right of possession of any exploration
40 claim until the exploration claim has been recorded
41 with the director of the survey. The explorer who
42 first records with the director of the survey a
43 validly-staked exploration claim or claims shall be
44 deemed the claim holder of record for the purposes of
45 this subchapter. The record shall contain:

1 A. The name of the claimant;

2 B. A general description of the minerals or met-
3 als sought;

4 C. The date of location and a description of the
5 exploration claim as follows:

6 (1) A reference, using magnetic bearings
7 and distances, to the natural object, perma-
8 nent monument or survey corner of the state-
9 owned parcel as will identify the claim; and

10 (2) A description, using magnetic bearings
11 and distances, of each sideline and corner
12 of the exploration claim; and

13 D. A United States Geological Survey quadrangle
14 base map and an aerial photograph of a scale that
15 shows with reasonable accuracy the outline loca-
16 tion and corners of the exploration claim in re-
17 lation to the state-owned parcel and prominent
18 natural objects or permanent structural features
19 so that the exploration claim may be located on
20 the ground by the director of the survey or his
21 representatives.

22 5. Fees and terms of exploration claim. The
23 fees and terms of exploration of any claim shall be
24 as follows.

25 A. The fee for recording, renewing, transferring
26 or changing the size of a claim is \$100, which
27 shall be paid to the director of the survey.

28 B. The term of the exploration claim shall be
29 for one year, renewable for 5 years from the ini-
30 tial date of recording by written notice to the
31 director of the survey before June 30th. For
32 claims recorded after April 1st and before June
33 30th, the first renewal notice shall be due on
34 the 2nd June 30th following. By the end of the
35 5-year period, any title to the claim shall
36 lapse, unless a mining lease has been issued by
37 the State under this subchapter. The director of
38 the survey may, upon application and for good
39 cause, grant an extension for an additional peri-

1 od not to exceed 2 years. Upon lapse or filing
2 of notice of abandonment of a claim, no person
3 holding the claim immediately prior to the date
4 of the lapse of abandonment, or his representa-
5 tive, partner, affiliate or leasing associate,
6 may relocate on the same area for a period of 60
7 days.

8 C. In addition to the recording fee, a rental
9 fee shall be levied from the date of recordation
10 of the claim as follows:

11	<u>First year</u>	<u>\$.25 per acre</u>
12	<u>2nd year</u>	<u>\$.75 per acre</u>
13	<u>3rd year</u>	<u>\$ 1.50 per acre</u>
14	<u>4th year</u>	<u>\$ 2.50 per acre</u>
15	<u>5th year</u>	<u>\$ 5.00 per acre</u>
16	<u>6th year</u>	<u>\$20.00 per acre</u>
17	<u>7th year</u>	<u>\$30.00 per acre</u>

18 The rental fee payment for the first year shall
19 be due on the date of recordation of the claim.
20 The rental fee payment for the 2nd year and for
21 each year the claim is in effect shall be due on
22 the June 30th which precedes the year for which
23 the payment is due and shall be paid to the di-
24 rector of the survey. For claims recorded after
25 April 1st and before June 30th, the 2nd rental
26 fee payment shall be due on the 2nd June 30th
27 following.

28 D. An affidavit of investigatory and exploratory
29 work shall be filed each year with the director
30 of the survey on June 30th. At the time of fil-
31 ing that affidavit, the claimant shall demon-
32 strate to the director that investigatory work
33 has been performed on that claim at a rate of at
34 least \$5 per acre during the year ending June
35 30th. For claims recorded after April 1st and be-
36 fore June 30th, the first affidavit of investiga-
37 tory and exploratory work shall be filed on the

1 2nd June 30th following. All work done shall be
2 described in the affidavit and shall include work
3 which tends to reveal such characteristics of the
4 material sought as length, width, depth, thick-
5 ness, tonnage and mineral or metal content, or,
6 with respect to nonmetallic minerals, other phys-
7 ical characteristics of the deposit relating di-
8 rectly to the commercial exploitation of the de-
9 posit and such other information relating to the
10 exploration work as the director of the survey
11 may require. This information may be shared with
12 other governmental agencies, but shall not con-
13 stitute records available for public inspection
14 or disclosure pursuant to Title 1, section 408,
15 during the period of time in which the claim is
16 in effect.

17 E. The failure to comply with any of the re-
18 quirements of this subsection shall operate as a
19 forfeiture of the claim or claims. Written no-
20 tice of the forfeiture shall be sent by regis-
21 tered or certified mail to the claimant's last
22 known address. Any claimant who is aggrieved may
23 file a written petition for a hearing before the
24 director of the survey within 14 days after no-
25 tice of forfeiture has been given. If the peti-
26 tion for a hearing is filed with the director of
27 the survey within the 14-day period, the director
28 of the survey shall, within 30 days, grant a
29 hearing on the forfeiture and give the claimant
30 10 days' notice of the time and place of the
31 hearing. For good cause, the director of the
32 survey may extend the time for filing the peti-
33 tion. If the claimant is aggrieved by the deci-
34 sion of the director of the survey resulting from
35 the hearing, he may, within 30 days thereafter,
36 appeal to the Superior Court filing a claimant
37 therefor. The court shall fix a time and place
38 for hearing and cause of notice of the hearing to
39 be given to the director of the survey and, after
40 hearing, the court may affirm or reverse the de-
41 cision of the director of the survey and the de-
42 cision of the court shall be final. During the
43 pendency of all proceedings under this paragraph,
44 no person may lay claim to the area of dispute.
45 The director of the survey may perform the duties
46 of this paragraph personally or through his des-
47 ignee.

1 F. Within 6 months of the lapse or termination
2 of a validly located exploration claim or claims,
3 the owner of the claim or claims shall provide to
4 the director one copy of all factual data ac-
5 quired during exploration of that claim or
6 claims. The factual data shall include, but not
7 be limited to, all geologic maps, drill logs, as-
8 say or other analytical data, geochemical maps,
9 geophysical data and metallurgical or other labo-
10 ratory tests, but shall not include interpretive
11 reports derived from that data.

12 6. Land use ruling. Any person with a recorded
13 exploration claim shall make application to the di-
14 rector of the agency having jurisdiction over the
15 state lands on which the claim is located for a rul-
16 ing on the question of whether mining operations can
17 be carried on consistent with any prior or proposed
18 other use by the State or any agency or instrumentality
19 of the State. Such a ruling, that mining opera-
20 tions can be carried on, shall not be made without
21 consulting the director of the survey. No mining
22 lease may be issued under this subchapter without a
23 land use ruling which answers the question in this
24 subsection in the affirmative. A public hearing
25 shall be held prior to any ruling required under this
26 subsection. The ruling shall be made within 180 days
27 of the date of the application and when obtained
28 shall be binding and irrevocable for such period of
29 time as the applicant and the State may agree.

30 7. Mining lease. Mining leases may be applied
31 for and granted as follows.

32 A. Any person with a valid recorded exploration
33 claim in accordance with this subchapter may make
34 application for a mining lease to the director of
35 the agency having jurisdiction over the state
36 lands on which the mining lease is sought. The
37 application shall be accompanied by a report from
38 a certified geologist or mining engineer contain-
39 ing all information of a geologic, engineering
40 and operational nature which is required by the
41 director of the survey or the director of the
42 agency having jurisdiction over the state lands
43 on which the mining lease is sought to properly
44 evaluate the application and an accurate survey

1 of the property boundaries certified by a regis-
2 tered surveyor and evidence of ability to finance
3 the proposed mining operations.

4 B. The director of the agency having jurisdic-
5 tion over these state lands shall hold a hearing
6 for the purpose of hearing evidence on whether to
7 grant or deny a mining lease to mine under this
8 section. The hearing shall be held within 90
9 days of receipt of the application and notice of
10 the date, time and place shall be given to the
11 applicant and public notice shall be made by
12 causing publication of the notice twice in a
13 newspaper of general circulation in the proposed
14 locality or, if none, in the state paper. The
15 date of first publication shall be at least 10
16 days and the last publication shall be at least 3
17 days before the date of the hearing.

18 C. A decision in accordance with this subsection
19 shall be issued within 120 days of the date of
20 the hearing.

21 D. The director of the agency having jurisdic-
22 tion over the state lands, with the consent of
23 the director of the survey, may issue a mining
24 lease subject to such terms and conditions as the
25 directors may determine.

26 E. If a lease is issued, the lessee shall be re-
27 quired to provide a bond in an amount determined
28 by the director of the agency having jurisdiction
29 over the state-owned lands to be necessary to re-
30 claim the area mined and to protect against dam-
31 age that may be caused to any property located
32 outside the leased area by the lessee's mining
33 operations or, in lieu of a bond, other security
34 determined by the director of the agency having
35 jurisdiction over the state-owned lands to pro-
36 vide the same protection as a bond.

37 8. Common and undivided interests. The director
38 of the survey and the Director of the Bureau of Pub-
39 lic Lands, acting jointly, may, by regulation, estab-
40 lish procedures for the filing of exploration claims
41 and issuance of exploration permits and leases cover-
42 ing state-owned public lands, including public re-

1 served lands, which are comprised of state-owned com-
2 mon and undivided interests. The regulations may
3 condition the issuance of an exploration permit or
4 mining lease and the filing of an exploration claim
5 upon the consent of a majority of the private common
6 and undivided ownership of the parcel of land to
7 which the exploration permit, exploration claim or
8 mining lease relates.

9 Any permit or lease issued under this section shall
10 extend only to the common and undivided interest of
11 the State. Any partition occasioned by a negative
12 ruling under subsection 6 or 7 shall be conducted
13 with reasonable expedition. In any partition or lo-
14 cation of public reserved land, the Bureau of Public
15 Lands may accept a partition of the surface estate
16 and continue as a cotenant in all or a portion of the
17 mineral estate.

18 9. Royalty. Royalty payments shall be made as
19 follows.

20 A. The holder of a lease to mine shall make roy-
21 alty payments annually or more frequently if so
22 specified in the lease.

23 B. The amount of royalty payments, including
24 minimum royalties and preproduction payments, to-
25 gether with the other terms and conditions of the
26 lease, shall be set jointly by the director of
27 the survey and the director of the agency having
28 jurisdiction over the state lands. The royalty
29 rate set shall reasonably relate to applicable
30 royalty rates generally prevailing.

31 10. Disposition of fees and royalties. All fees
32 and royalties accruing to the survey under this sub-
33 chapter shall be paid into a separate account to be
34 established by the Treasurer of State to be used for
35 salaries and other expenses incurred in the adminis-
36 tration of this subchapter, subject to and to the ex-
37 tent permitted by section 553, subsection 3, para-
38 graph E. The account shall not lapse, but shall con-
39 tinue from year to year.

40 11. Rights-of-way. Any person who has located
41 an exploration claim and has been issued a mining

1 lease in accordance with this subchapter may, with
2 the consent of the director of the agency having ju-
3 risdiction over those state lands and consistent with
4 the law, have the right of access across any lands
5 owned or controlled by the State to and from that lo-
6 cation. The holder of a mining lease may be issued a
7 permit giving him authority to open, construct, put
8 in, maintain and use ditches, tunnels, pipes, con-
9 duits, flumes and other works through, over and upon
10 that land for drainage and passage of water, together
11 with the right to construct dams, provided that no
12 such water flows on land of others, in connection
13 with the working of his mine to bring water to the
14 mine necessary or convenient for its operation with
15 such conditions and restrictions as may be imposed.

16 12. Mining under bodies of water. Where any
17 mineral is situated under or in the bed of a stream
18 or lake, and for the efficient working of the mineral
19 deposit, it is necessary to divert the water of that
20 stream within the boundaries of public land, or drain
21 any lake, the director of the agency having jurisdic-
22 tion over these state-owned lands may permit the di-
23 version or drainage to be done, subject to such pro-
24 visions, for the benefit of any persons who are enti-
25 tled to the use of the water of that stream or lake
26 in its natural state, as to him may seem just and ex-
27 pedient.

28 13. Annual reports. Any person with a mining
29 lease engaged in mine development or mining under
30 this subchapter shall, in the month of June following
31 the year the operation was carried on, pay all appli-
32 cable fees, rentals and royalties and file an annual
33 report with the director of the survey and director
34 of the agency having jurisdiction over the state-
35 owned land setting forth:

36 A. The location of the operation;

37 B. The quality and grade of mineral products or
38 ores produced;

39 C. The amount of royalty which has accrued on
40 material extracted;

41 D. The number of persons ordinarily employed at
42 operation below ground and above ground; and

1 E. Any other information, relating to the mining
2 lease, mine development or mining, the director
3 of the bureau and the director of the agency hav-
4 ing jurisdiction over the state-owned lands may
5 require by regulation.

6 This information may be shared with other government
7 agencies, but shall not constitute records available
8 for public inspection or disclosure pursuant to Title
9 1, section 408.

10 14. Termination. In the event that any
11 explorer, claimant or lessee violates any of this
12 subchapter or any rule, the director of the survey or
13 the director of the agency having jurisdiction over
14 the state-owned lands shall notify the explorer,
15 claimant or lessee, as the case may be, of the al-
16 leged violation and of the nature of the alleged vio-
17 lation, by sending the notice by registered or certi-
18 fied mail to him at his last known address. If the
19 violation is not remedied within 30 days after the
20 date of mailing the notice, the permit, claim or
21 lease of the violator in existence at the time of the
22 violation may be terminated by the State through the
23 director of the survey or the director of the agency
24 having jurisdiction over the state-owned lands by
25 giving written notice of termination in the same man-
26 ner specified for notice of violation. For cause,
27 the State, through the director of the survey or the
28 director of the agency having jurisdiction over the
29 state-owned lands, may extend such further time for
30 compliance as it may determine. Any person who is
31 aggrieved may file a written petition for a hearing
32 before the State within 30 days of the date of the
33 giving of written notice of termination by the State.
34 The hearing shall take place within 30 days of re-
35 ceipt of the petition and a decision shall be ren-
36 dered by the State within 60 days following the final
37 adjournment of the hearing. Appeals from the State's
38 decision shall be pursuant to the Maine Rules of Civ-
39 il Procedure as they apply to appeals from rulings of
40 public agencies.

41 15. Injunctions against violation. Whenever it
42 appears that any person is violating or threatening
43 to violate this subchapter or any rule or order is-
44 sued pursuant to this subchapter, the State may seek

1 an injunction against that person in the Superior
2 Court of the county in which the office of the direc-
3 tor of the survey and the director of the agency hav-
4 ing jurisdiction over the state-owned lands is lo-
5 cated or of any county where the violation occurs or
6 is threatened, or in the county in which the defend-
7 ant resides or in which any defendant resides if
8 there is more than one defendant, to restrain the
9 person from continuing the violation or from carrying
10 out the threat of violation. In any such action, the
11 court shall have jurisdiction to grant to the State,
12 without bond or other undertaking, such prohibitory
13 or mandatory injunctions as the facts may warrant,
14 including temporary restraining orders and prelimi-
15 nary injunctions.

16 §549-C. Compliance with regulatory laws

17 Nothing in this subchapter may be deemed to re-
18 lieve any explorer or mining lessee from the obliga-
19 tion to comply with all applicable environmental or
20 other regulatory laws and rules of the State.

21 Sec. 3. 12 MRSA c. 201-A, sub-c. IV is enacted
22 to read:

23 SUBCHAPTER IV

24 INFORMATION ON MINING EXPLORATION

25 §550. Annual exploration registration

26 Annual registration shall be required as provided
27 in this section.

28 1. Registration. Any person conducting mineral
29 exploration where the total exploration expenses in-
30 curring in a calendar year exceed \$25,000 on private,
31 leased or otherwise acquired lands within the State
32 must register with the director. Registration shall
33 be valid for the fiscal year and must be renewed an-
34 nually.

35 2. Information. Registration shall include the
36 following information:

37 A. The name and address of the person conducting
38 the exploration;

1 B. The name and address of the parent and any
2 subsidiaries or domestic affiliates of the corpo-
3 ration engaged in exploration activities in this
4 State; and

5 C. The names of counties where exploration is
6 expected to occur.

7 §550-A. Notice of intent to file

8 Intent to file shall be required as provided in
9 this section.

10 1. Anticipated filing, notices of intent to
11 file. Companies anticipating to file for a permit
12 under Title 38, Article 6 to mine a metallic mineral
13 deposit on a site larger than 20 acres on state land
14 or privately-owned land shall file a notice of intent
15 to file with the director at least 6 months prior to
16 the date when an application for a site location per-
17 mit will be filed.

18 Companies shall publish the notice of intent in a
19 daily or weekly newspaper having general circulation
20 in the municipality in which the deposit is located,
21 on the earliest date practicable following the filing
22 of the notice with the director, and shall repeat the
23 publication of the notice at weekly intervals for a
24 total of 4 successive weeks.

25 2. Information. Notice of intent to file shall
26 include:

27 A. The name and address of the applicant;

28 B. The name and address of the parent and any
29 subsidiary or domestic affiliates of the corpora-
30 tion engaged in exploration activities in this
31 State;

32 C. The location of the intended mining site; and

33 D. The ores to be extracted from the intended
34 mining site.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This new draft enacts provisions relating to mining exploration and development on state-owned lands. This new draft is a housekeeping effort to modernize an antiquated procedure by expediting and facilitating the exploration, development and administrative activities on state-owned lands.

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This new draft requires that any person conducting mineral exploration on any lands in the State register annually with the Director of the Maine Geological Survey. It requires that a notice of intent to file be given to the director 6 months prior to filing for a site location permit and that notice of intent to file be published in the newspaper for 4 consecutive weeks.

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