

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

As Engrossed: H3/30/17

A Bill

SENATE BILL 620

5 By: Senator Standridge
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO EXEMPT CRYSTAL QUARTZ MINING ON PRIVATE
9 PROPERTY FROM THE ARKANSAS OPEN-CUT RECLAMATION ACT;
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

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14 TO EXEMPT CRYSTAL QUARTZ MINING ON
15 PRIVATE PROPERTY FROM THE ARKANSAS OPEN-
16 CUT RECLAMATION ACT.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 15-57-320, concerning exemptions from the
22 Arkansas Open-Cut Land Reclamation Act, is amended to add an additional
23 subsection to read as follows:

24 (h) The permitting provisions of this subchapter do not apply to
25 quartz crystal mined on private property by the person who owns both the
26 surface rights and subsurface rights of the property.
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28 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 15, Chapter 57, Subchapter 2, is
29 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 15-57-204. Quartz crystal mined on private property

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

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



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

3 (2)(A) Whenever possible:

4 (i) Backfill spoil into the pits;

5 (ii) Cover the mining site with topsoil; and

6 (iii) Revegetate the mining site to prevent
7 pollution of the waters of *the state*.

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

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

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

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16 */s/Standridge*

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19 **APPROVED: 04/07/2017**