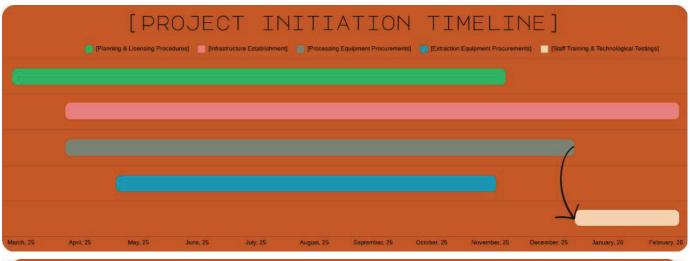
Appendix B - Permitting Process

Embarking on such endeavors requires a multifaceted approach that blends environmental science, geotechnical analysis and regulatory compliance. Rigorous environmental impact assessments scrutinize potential repercussions on ecosystems, hydrology and air quality, ensuring that the quarry's footprint minimizes ecological disruption. Moreover, engaging in comprehensive geotechnical surveys is imperative to assess the stability of excavation sites and mitigate geological hazards. By integrating local knowledge and preferences into the planning process, we cultivate a quarry that harmonizes industry imperatives with societal and environmental well-being. In essence, the journey from conceptualization to realization of a sand quarry demands a meticulous fusion of scientific inquiry, regulatory acumen and community engagement. Through this holistic approach, we aspire to establish not merely a quarry, but a model of sustainable resource management that reverberates with scientific integrity and societal responsibility.







THE PERMITTING PROCESS (I/III)

Well-known process by project initiator, with all required studies and documents at hand for a smooth and fast project permitting

Permitting Process 2024

Certificate of Urban Planning

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- Issued by the local Mayor's office of Neaua within 1 week
- Required document:
 - Technical report with description of the planned operation
- Contains list of all permits required for lawful sand extraction and processing
 - Environmental Permit
 - Water Management Permit
 - · Forestry Permit
 - Extraction Permit

Certificate already obtained

Environmental Permit

- · Issued by the Mures County Environmental Protection Agency
- Establishes the conditions and measures for environmental protection
- Required documents:
 - Environmental Agreement request form
 - · Certificate of Urban Planning
 - · Notification form regarding intended project initiation
 - Technical report regarding the intended operations
 - Environmental Impact Study issued by a certified professional

Permitting follows a 3-step process. taking approx. 4-5 months (for Step 2 and 3, see next slide):

Step 1: Issuance of a preliminary decision regarding the required environmental conditions

Water Management Permit1)

- Issued by the National Administration for Romanian Waters (taking approx. 4 weeks)
- Technical and legal requirement for obtaining Extraction Permit for sands and (other) aggregates
- Required documents:
 - Water Management Permit request form
 - Preliminary Decision of the Environmental Agency (Step 1)
 - Certificate of Urban Planning
 - Supporting technical documents

Forestry Permit

- Issued by the Regional Inspectorate for Forestry and Hunting (taking approx. 4 weeks)
- Legal requirement for lawful deforestation of land parcels
- Required documents:
 - Permanent/temporary removal request form
 - Certificate of Urban Planning
 - Preliminary Decision of the Environmental Agency (Step 1)
 - Topographical study for the involved and compensatory parcel2)
 - Supporting technical documents

The Project Initiator's close personal relationships with the relevant authorities and previous experiences in the approval process ensure a smooth procedure and ensure the receival of all required permits to kick-start the operations

THE PERMITTING PROCESS (II/III)

Well-known process by project initiator, with all required studies and documents at hand for a smooth and fast project permitting

Permitting Process 2025

Environmental Permit Step 2: Issuance of the Environmental Agreement Required documents: · Water Manage-

- ment Permit
- Forestry Permit

Extraction Permit

- Issued by the National Agency for Mineral Resources (taking approx. 4 weeks)
- Legal requirement for lawful extraction of natural resources
- Required documents:
 - Extraction Permit request form
 - Environmental Agreement (Step 2)
 - Water Management Permit
 - Forestry Permit
 - Supporting technical

Environmental Permit Step 3: Issuance of Environmental Permit

- Required documents:
 - Extraction Permit
 - Water Management Permit
 - Forestry Permit
 - Environmental Restoration Collateral Guarantee

Building Permit

- Issued by the local Mayor's office of Neaua
- Legal requirement for lawfully performing construction works regarding the platform establish ment and all extraction works
- Required documents:
 - Environmental Permit
 - Water Management Permit
 - Forestry Permit
 - Extraction Permit

The Project Initiator's close personal relationships with the relevant authorities and previous experiences in the approval process ensure a smooth procedure and ensure the receival of all required permits to kick-start the operations

THE PERMITTING PROCESS (III/III)

Well-known process by project initiator, with all required studies and documents at hand for a smooth and fast project permitting

Additional Information about Permits and the Respective Process

- Already received an extraction permit for the Cuci quarry
- Previously received an extraction permit for Neaua (May 2007 May 2008);
 - · Relevant documents (e.g., environmental study) can be reused for new permit application
- · New Urban Planning permit for Neaua quarry already filed/received: further permitting process initated
- · Permitting process
 - · Initial extraction permit only valid for 1 year, can be renewed several times
 - · Simultaneous application for an extraction license to secure mining rights for 20 years (takes up to 3 years)
- Pre-discussion of all relevant steps with local, regional and central authorities, based on the project initiator's
 personal relationships with relevant deciders in these institutions
- Environmental reconstruction and collateral guarantees to be negotiated with the agency: including compensation for deforestation at the Neaua site, subject to negotiation with the agency



Extraction permit for Cuci sand reserve received

Extraction permit is sufficient for the extraction activities at the Cuci site; no separate processing or other (building) facilities required and thus building permit is not needed

Notes



Urban Planning permit for Neaua received

Receival of the Urban Planning permit marks the starting point of the further permitting process, which is ready to be kick-started



Relevant documents prepared

Relevant documents from previously granted permit for Neaua quarry can be reused, speeding up the renewal of the required permits

Drawings		