



Legislative Fiscal Office
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Prepared by: Twais Broadus
 Reviewed by: Ben Ruef, Katie Bannikov
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Bill Title: Relating to fees imposed by the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Department of Transportation, Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

Summary of Fiscal Impact

Costs related to the measure are anticipated to be minimal - see explanatory analysis.

Summary of Revenue Impact

Agency -- Fund Type	2025-27 Biennium	2027-29 Biennium
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries -- Other Funds	\$ 3,148,475	\$ 4,191,595
Total Revenue Impact	\$ 3,148,475	\$ 4,191,595

Measure Description

The measure increases various fees administered by the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) related to mineral, oil, gas, and geothermal resource exploration and production. The changes apply to application, renewal, modification, and transfer fees for permits governing surface mining operations, geothermal wells, prospect wells, and seismic or information holes.

Statutory fee caps for permits and renewals are increased for surface mining programs, along with the per-ton extraction fee limit and fees for special inspections and permit changes. Higher fees are also established for consolidated surface mining permits. In the well drilling and geothermal programs, fees for applications, renewals, modifications, and transfers are raised, including those for prospect wells, information hole drilling and seismic program approvals.

Fee revenues are deposited into the Geology and Mineral Industries Account and support DOGAMI’s permitting, inspection, and enforcement responsibilities.

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is anticipated to have minimal impact on the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries and the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

DOGAMI administers the Mineral Land Regulation & Reclamation (MLRR) program, which regulates mineral production and promotes land reclamation across the state. Since its establishment in 1972, the program has been funded entirely with Other Funds revenue from permit fees.

MLRR is not currently meeting regulatory timelines for processing permit applications or conducting mine site inspections for compliance and safety. The fee adjustments authorized by the measure are intended to align revenues with program costs and ensure timely service delivery by increasing staffing levels. DOGAMI's fee modeling assumes stable application and renewal volumes, steady production levels, and exclusion of cost-reimbursable positions.

The measure is estimated to generate approximately \$3.1 million in Other Funds revenue in the 2025-27 biennium and \$4.2 million in the 2027-29 biennium.

Department of Transportation

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) maintains over 200 permits issued by DOGAMI for quarries used in the Statewide Material Source Program, which supports maintenance, operations, and emergency response. The measure increases a variety of fees related to onshore exploration, surface mining operations, and permit renewals, including those applicable to ODOT-managed sites. Any increase in costs associated with the measure are expected to be absorbable within existing agency resources.

Relevant Dates

The measure takes effect on January 1, 2026.