

SUMMER 2023

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A PUBLICATION OF MAINE AGGREGATE ASSOCIATION



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AGGREGATE ASSOCIATION

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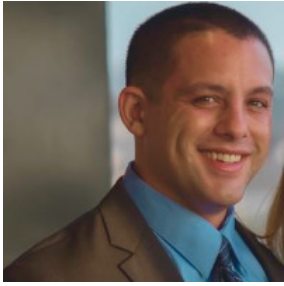


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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

RYAN CARRIGAN
RAY LABBE & SONS CONSTRUCTION

Summer is finally here! Although it may not seem like it with all the rain and cold weather we've received. It was a busy spring for Maine Aggregate Association. We held our first Spring Thaw training seminar since COVID, which was a great success. We had about 130 attendees and some really great presenters. We are already working on lining up presenters for next year in an effort to keep improving this program. If any members have suggestions on improvements, please feel free to contact me.

In addition, to Spring Thaw we also held our Annual Meeting at the Italian Heritage Center in Portland. We also had a great turn out for that event. I really enjoy seeing our members come together and have the chance to network, meet new people, and connect with old friends. I've received great feedback from some of our new members on how valuable they find our organization to be and how accommodating our longer standing members have been to the new members.

Thank you for your continued support and I wish you all a happy and productive summer.

In addition to hosting those great events we have also been keeping a close eye on new legislation that would affect our industry.

This session a bill was presented that would have had the biggest impact on our industry in years. LD1482 - An Act to Impose a Moratorium on Open-pit Rock Quarry Excavation, looked to place a moratorium on all new quarries for the next 5 years. As soon as that bill was presented our legislative council was in continual contact with the presenter, Senator Craig Hickman, voicing our concerns with the bill. That dialogue appeared to work, as Senator Hickman, withdrew the legislation last month. Although we consider this a victory for Maine Aggregate Association and its members, I need to warn you that this fight likely isn't over. Given the current political climate we fully anticipate that similar bills will be presented in the future or these groups that are trying to shut down our industry will find other avenues to attack us.

Our main goals at Maine Aggregate Association are safety training, workplace development, and legislative impact. As your president I promise to continue to be at the forefront ensuring we meet those goals as well as maintain the high integrity our organization has earned thanks to the efforts of our membership.

SPRING THAW 2024

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WHITED EQUIPMENT COMPANY RECOGNIZED AT 2023 HYUNDAI DEALER MEETING



Whited Equipment Company was recognized at the 2023 Hyundai Dealer Meeting, held in conjunction with CON-EXPO in March 2023 in Las Vegas with a pair of Dealer Awards.

During the dealer meeting Whited was awarded one of three North American Top Dealer Market Share Awards, as well, as the President's Award for 2022. The President's Award is presented to a select set of Hyundai dealers who embody the Hyundai spirit through their commitment to the Hyundai - Dealer partnership. It is presented to Dealers who stand out due to their customer service, dependability, and, loyalty.

The Whited Equipment endeavor began in earnest in the spring of 2021 after Bob & Jon Whited signed an agreement in November of 2020 to represent Hyundai Construction Equipment in 10 of Maine's 16 counties from three existing locations, Auburn, Saco, and Presque Isle.

Industry veteran Ryan Kennard was brought on board and tasked with getting the business off the ground. In his first year of 2021, Kennard was one of the top 10 Hyundai salesmen in North America and led Whited Equipment to receiving a North American Top New Dealer Award.

Ignoring any kind of a sophomore jinx, Kennard once again in 2022 was one of the top 10 North American Hyundai salesmen. As the business grew there became a need for a second sales associate. Eric Anderson joined the Whited sales team in June of 2022 and during the 12 months that he has been on board, he has achieved Top 10 North American sales status as well.

Supporting the product that is sold is of vital importance and Whited is blessed to have a solid team of Product Support professionals. This team includes Service Manager Mike Curit and Field Technician Alex Young in Whited's Saco Location, along with CE Service Advisor Dennis Lacombe, Field Technician Ryan Walker, and Technician Patricia Pickreign operating out of the Auburn location. Rounding out the Product Support team is Product Support Representative Tim Pomerleau.

As Whited Equipment enters its third year of being a Hyundai Construction Equipment dealer, they will be working vigilantly to meet customer's needs and build on the first two years of success to continue growing the business into the future.

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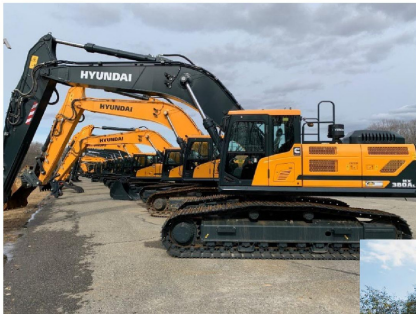


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THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AGGREGATE MINING & METALLIC MINERAL MINING

BY TED JOHNSTON

Metallic mining in Maine has been in the news a lot lately due to a large deposit of lithium that has been discovered in Western Maine. This deposit is thought to be one of the largest and highest quality in the world, worth around \$1.5 billion. Maine has some of the strictest metallic mining regulations in the country, virtually making metallic mining non-existent in the state. Since this discovery there has been a push to revisit metallic mining laws so that this lithium deposit can be extracted. Although this could be great for our state, it could also potentially affect aggregate mining if we do not maintain that there is a clear separation between the two industries.

Unfortunately, many people do not know there is a difference. Please use the following information to help educate local and state leaders. It is imperative to our future that we maintain this separation from metallic mining.

Aggregate Mining and Metallic Mineral Mining are both regulated by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and address such issues as: Abutting properties, Buffer Strips, Dust, Erosion and Sedimentation, Groundwater, Noise, Public and Private Roads, Reclamation, Scenic Impact, Solid Waste, Stormwater, Surface Waters (rivers lakes and streams), Traffic, Wetlands, Wildlife Habitat amongst others. In addition to DEP regulations, these types of operations are also subject to local municipal ordinances that may include restrictions on location, hours of operations traffic, and other issues important to the community.

Aggregate Mining, or surface mining, is the extraction of sand, gravel, and rock using excavators, bulldozers, and similar equipment. Once extracted, aggregates are processed by crushing, screening, and washing. (to be continued next page)

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THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AGGREGATE MINING & METALLIC MINERAL MINING (CONTINUED)

With aggregate mining there is no unused by-product.

1. The initial overburden or organic soil is typically stockpiled on-site for future site reclamation or sold commercially.
2. Large boulders and rocks are used as rip rap for shoreland and slope stabilization or as mooring piers.
3. Once crushed and screened, examples of how stone, gravel and sand are part of our everyday lives include:

Asphalt pavement for roads, parking lots and airport runways,
Ready-mix concrete for bridges and foundations.

Landscape materials for golf courses, athletic fields, bicycle paths, and gardens

Water filtration for municipals water supplies and swimming pools

Beach and sand dune re-nourishment.

Wash water is usually stored in ponds and reused. The ponds are periodically dredged, and those materials are dried and used.

Once aggregate excavation is complete, the open pits are reclaimed by backfilling contouring, and revegetating to be compatible with the surrounding area or suitable for converting to another use that is permitted by the DEP.



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Metallic Mineral Mining refers to the extraction of both ferrous metals (typically iron) and nonferrous metals including gold, silver, copper, nickel, lead, lithium, and zinc. Many of these metals are common elements in the earth's crust but usually exist only as components of other minerals and in minute quantities. Metallic mineral mining can include surface mining as well as shaft mining. Shaft mining is a form of underground mining where shafts are pushed vertically from top to bottom to excavate the ores and minerals. (continued on next page)

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AGGREGATE MINING & METALLIC MINERAL MINING (CONTINUED)

In addition to shaft mining, another difference between aggregate mining is beneficiation, which is how the valuable metallic ore is extracted. Beneficiation includes crushing, grinding, gravity concentration and flotation concentration. These valuable minerals, iron, gold, silver, lead, copper, nickel, lithium, tin, and zinc are further processed by smelting and refining. These minerals are critical components used in communications, construction, healthcare manufacturing, transportation, and all aspects of our everyday lives - our laptops, our computers, cell phones, jewelry, and televisions. The value of metallic minerals cannot be overstated.

A by-product of beneficiation is known as tailings. Tailings are the waste solid residuals after separation of valuable minerals from economically worthless minerals called gangue. Tailings are often stored in artificial ponds that are controversial because tailings can be sources of heavy metals, sulfides, and radioactive content.

In conclusion,

Aggregate mining and metallic mineral mining are essential to society. The major differences:

- Aggregate Mining there is no waste.
- Metallic Mineral Mining may include shaft mining.
- Metallic Mineral Mining includes further processing, including beneficiation, smelting, and refining.
- Metallic Mineral Mining produces tailings or gangue, which is typically stored in man-made ponds. Tailings can be sources of heavy metals, sulfides, and radioactive content.

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UNDER THE DOME

BY TIM C. WALTON

WALTON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

At some juncture in almost every conversation I have had with business people about politics over the years, somewhere embedded in the discussion is always the old adage, “we need to run government more like business”. A controversial perspective in some circles for sure, but also one that is widely held, especially from those operating businesses in heavily regulated and taxed industries. In the legislative and public policy arena, where the bulk of my time is spent on your behalf, I see first hand where your frustrations come from and why you would like to see changes in the process. As they say, “I feel your pain”. After-all, when problems come-up in your respective businesses, you have to deal with them, often on the spot, or risk doing more damage; if there are bad apples on your team, you adjust to mitigate the fallout; and on the rare occasion when you might run short on cashflow on any given week, you find a way to secure the funds, but in doing so you likely have to sign some paperwork promising to pay it back. All of these things happen in course of doing business, not so much in government. So, back to “we need to run government more like business”, as the first round of the 131st Maine State Legislative session winds-down and comes to a close, I can assure you those words ring louder than ever before.

It seemed like from the first day of session to the bitter end things ran behind; chaos became the norm; and even what was considered normal from previous sessions had all of a sudden become “not normal”. Bills were scheduled for public hearings by the droves without language attached, many with significant complexity. Bills assigned to the Labor Committee aimed at making it more costly and difficult to do business in Maine were coming at us like asteroids, more so than normal and often with little input sought from the business community. To say the least, what is typically a challenging environment, became exponentially worse in that regard as the days and weeks progressed. That said, we were able to work thru the dysfunction and make it across the finish line in good shape with regard to the industry focused initiatives we engaged in, including legislation that addressed: work zone safety; regulatory streamlining; restrictive labor proposals; construction debris; transportation highway funding and support of career and technical education needs.(cont. on next page)

WALTON
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS & INDUSTRY RELATIONS

UNDER THE DOME (CONT.)

There is one bill, however, that I would be remiss if I didn't give special mention. On occasion there is legislation that seems to come straight out of nowhere and heads right at it's target like a freight train. That bill was LD-1482, "An Act to Impose a Moratorium on Open-pit Rock Quarry Excavation" and our sector of the industry was the target. To show how detrimentally impactful this would have been to us if passed, I only need to share the summary with you. As follows: This bill prohibits persons not engaged in open-pit mining on or prior to December 31, 2022 from engaging in open-pit mining under the laws governing quarries. The prohibition is retroactive to December 31, 2022 and is repealed January 1, 2027. The bill also requires the Department of Environmental Protection to review the statutory performance standards for quarries and submit recommended changes to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

When this bill was printed, I immediately brought it to the Government Relations Committee's attention and after a brief discussion they directed me to take swift action. To make a long story short, after several lengthy conversations with the bill's sponsor, Senator Craig Hickman (D-Winthrop) and other presumed supporters, Senator Hickman requested the bill be pulled from the legislative process. (cont. on next page)



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UNDER THE DOME (CONT.)

As an association our influence under the dome proved very beneficial on this matter, as did the decisive leadership of President Carrigan and his fellow MAA leadership team. However, without question, probably the biggest contributor to our success on this and other issues like it, is the influence you, the membership, contribute to the association's efforts in Augusta thru the good standing and respect you have earned in the communities where you live, work and do business across the State. Thank you very much for all you do to make MAA a better association and Maine a better State. NOTE: in this edition of Sand & Gravel is a mining comparison informational piece written by Board Director Ted Johnston. I issued this document to the Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources during their deliberations on the various mining bills.

In closing, I'd like to pay tribute to our board leadership and the Government Relations Committee. Their leadership and fortitude to lead our political efforts are the greatest tool I have to do my job for you in Augusta. If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Tim C. Walton serves as Legislative Counsel to the Maine Aggregate Association and is the President of Walton External Affairs, LLC, an Augusta, Maine based firm specializing in Government, Business & Industry Relations

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