



# Reclamation Security

## Chief Inspector

Under the Mines Act, securities are held by the Province until the *Chief Inspector* has been satisfied that all reclamation requirements have been fulfilled. Securities can only be released under the authority of the Chief Inspector of Mines

## Chief Permitting Officer

Under the Mines Act, the Chief Permitting Officer is responsible for setting the amount and form of reclamation security that must be provided by the permittee, as a condition of the permit. The amount of security may be increased or decreased at the discretion of the Chief Permitting Officer based on the mine's actual reclamation liability at any point in time.

## Continuous Review

The liability of a mine must be updated a minimum of every five years by a proponent, through the Reclamation and Closure Update required by the Code. It is also required to be updated whenever a proponent applies to make substantial changes to the mine plan approved by their *Mines Act* permit.

## Closing the Gap

As of March 31, 2024, the province has secured \$4.13 billion, or 93% of the total liabilities. The current total liabilities for major mines is estimated at \$4.46 billion.

In 2016, the gap between total liabilities and the amount held by the government was 40%, today it is < 10%.

## Determining the Amount of Reclamation Security

A proponent must develop and submit an RLCE to the Chief Permitting Officer. The RLCE is reviewed, and the total liability that will be created over the next five years of mining is determined. Based on the calculated liability, the amount of reclamation security is set by the Chief Permitting Officer as a condition of the *Mines Act* permit.

## Major Mines Reclamation Security Policy

Released in 2022, the policy sets out requirements for major mines to provide a clear accounting of estimated reclamation costs and establishes a framework for determining the amount and form of reclamation security.

## Reclamation Liability Cost Estimates (RLCE)

In 2024, updated guidance was published to support the Major Mines Reclamation Security Policy for proponents on the information required to be included in RLCEs, including site reclamation, water quality mitigations, site staffing, on-going maintenance, and monitoring and reporting.