



GUYANA GEOLOGY & MINES COMMISSION

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MINUTE

To: Mr. Joslyn McKenzie – Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Natural Resources

Subject: Proposed Definition of Medium-Scale Mining for EITI Reporting

Further to your direction, and the discussions of the EITI Internal Working Group, the following is proposed as the basis for defining medium-scale mining operations for EITI reporting purposes.

Background

Guyana's mining sector is defined by law and characterized by small-, medium-, and large-scale mining activities. The definition, licensing, and reporting process combines small- and medium-scale into a similar category. Unlike other EITI reporting countries, where the small-scale or artisanal mining revenue activities are disclosed in aggregates, the legislative framework in Guyana places a large number of miners in the medium-scale category, which may otherwise be defined as small-scale miners in other EITI reporting countries. To address this issue, the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission has assessed and proposed a set of criteria for miners for disaggregated EITI reporting. This definition is for EITI reporting purposes and does not alter the legislative framework at GGMC.

For clarity, the proposed criteria below apply specifically to gold mining activities and are intended to determine the scope of gold mining operations subject to disaggregated EITI reporting.

Existing Legislative Definition

Small-scale mine

A mine subject to a Claim License, from which more than 20 m³ but less than 200 m³ of material, including overburden, is excavated or processed as an aggregate in any continuous 24-hour period.

Medium-scale mine

A mine subject to a Mining Permit, from which more than 200 m³ but less than 1,000 m³ of material, including overburden, is excavated or processed as an aggregate in any continuous 24-hour period.

Large-scale mine

A mine subject to a Mining License, from which more than 1,000 m³ of material, including overburden, is excavated or processed as an aggregate in any continuous 24-hour period.



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Recommendation

To adopt a practical approach for EITI disclosures by ensuring material payments accounting is reported and reconciled, GGMC would like to recommend the definition below that excludes small-scale gold mining operations from disaggregated reporting. Further, based on 2023 data this definition will ensure at least 85% of revenues reported in the mining sector are disclosed and reconciled.

The proposed definition is based on the following criteria:

- Production is ongoing and above a threshold of approximately 250oz annually.
- Miner operating on an area which is the subject of a mining permit or mining license where a minimum of 200m³ of material, including overburden, is excavated or processed as an aggregate in any continuous 24-hour period.
- Excludes prospecting tenure at all scales where mining is prohibited in accordance with the law.

Kind regards

Tamara Gilhuys
Assistant Commissioner
13th October, 2026

cc: Commissioner, Guyana Geology and Mines Commission



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