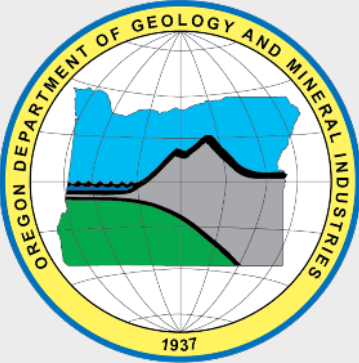
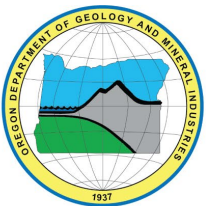




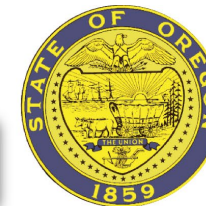
Mineral Land Regulation & Reclamation Permitting

Oregon Department of Geology
and Mineral Industries

House Committee on Rules
June 15, 2026



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY & MINERAL INDUSTRIES



AGENCY LEADERSHIP: ADMINISTRATION; FINANCE; INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY & SERVICES

MINERAL LAND REGULATION & RECLAMATION

PUBLICATIONS, EDUCATION, AND OUTREACH



EARTHQUAKE &
VOLCANO HAZARDS



LANDSLIDE INVENTORY
& HAZARDS



MINERAL RESOURCE
EXPLORATION



FLOOD & CHANNEL
MIGRATION



TSUNAMI & COASTAL
EROSION



DECARBONIZATION
GEOSCIENCE



GEOLOGIC MAPPING



LIDAR MAPPING & REMOTE SENSING



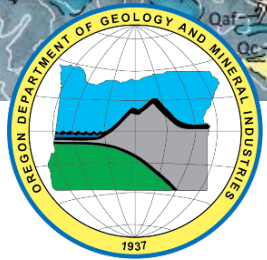
SURFACE MINING
& EXPLORATION



CHEMICAL
PROCESS
MINING



OIL & GAS,
GEOTHERMAL
WELL DRILLING,
CARBON STORAGE



DOGAMI Permits and Applications

2025 Numbers

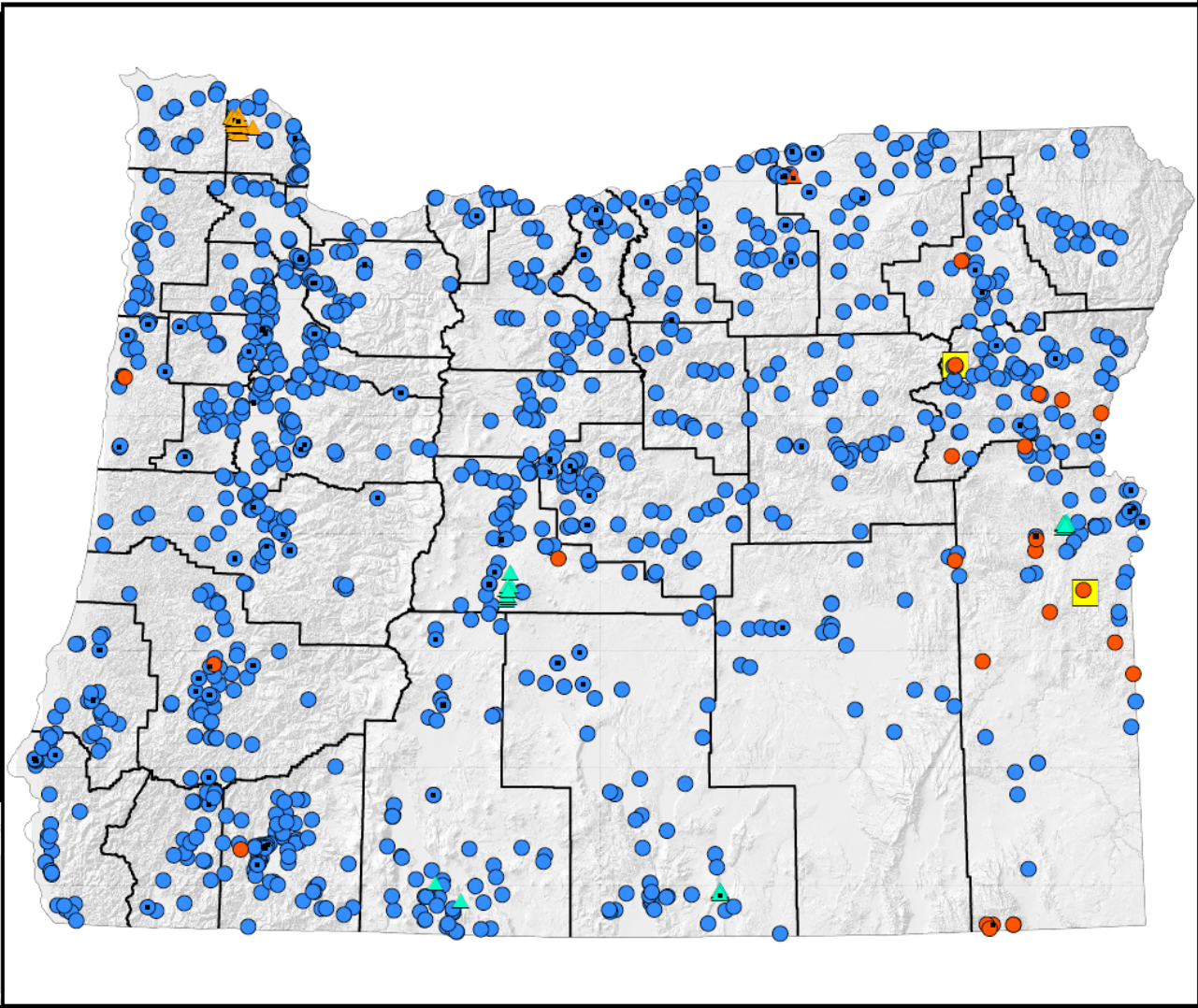
14 staff, Albany Field Office

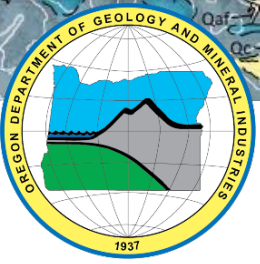
Permits by Type	Number
Operating Permit	901
Exclusion Certificate	148
Exploration Permit	29
Gas Well	70
Geothermal Well	26

Customer Service	Actions
Public Records Requests	214
Complaints Investigated	38



- Mine Sites
- Mineral Exploration
- Chemical Process
- ▲ Gas Wells
- ▲ Geothermal Wells
- ▲ Information Holes
- Sites with applications in progress.





Energy Resource Drilling Permits

- 2025 LAB established dedicated staffing (2 FTE) and fees for workload
- Meets regulatory timelines for application review and permit issuance
- Provides responsive customer service
- Coordinates with partner agencies where authorities overlap

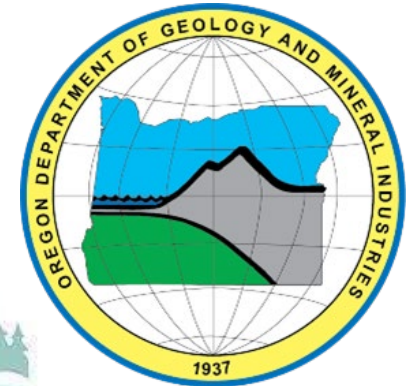


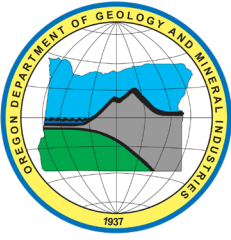


DOGAMI lead's Oregon's Consolidated Application for Chemical Process Mining

The process includes:

- Technical Review Team (TRT) of permitting and cooperating state agencies.
- External consultants where additional technical expertise is required.
- Project Coordinating Committee (PCC) of affected state and federal agencies and local and tribal governments to provide oversight and guidance.
- Transparency in review and decision making through public meetings and online posting of project materials for review and public comment.





Surface Mining Permit Life Cycle

1. Land Use Approval

The local land use authority decides where a mine can be located. The local land use process has a public comment component to address conflicting uses.

2. Permit Application

Permit applications are circulated to numerous natural resource agencies to identify resources that need to be protected from mining. This is an interagency process that does not have a public comment component.

3. Permit Issued

Conditions are written into the permit, including a required financial security, to ensure adequate protection of onsite and offsite natural and cultural resources during operation and reclamation of the mine.

4. Mining Begins

The surface mine is required to comply with local, State, and federal laws throughout the life of the mine. Information about a specific mine can be obtained via a public records request.

5. Renew Permit Annually

The MLRR program is supported solely by application and renewal fees. All permits must be renewed annually until closure is approved by DOGAMI.

6. Site Inspections

Mine sites are inspected periodically to ensure compliance with their permit conditions and applicable laws and rules.

7. Mining Ceases

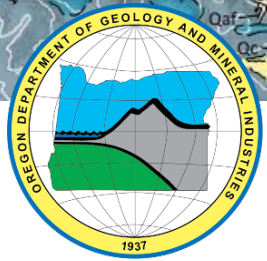
The permit holder must begin reclaiming the site within 3 years of completion of mining. Reclamation must be complete before the site can be closed and can take many years.

8. Site Reclamation

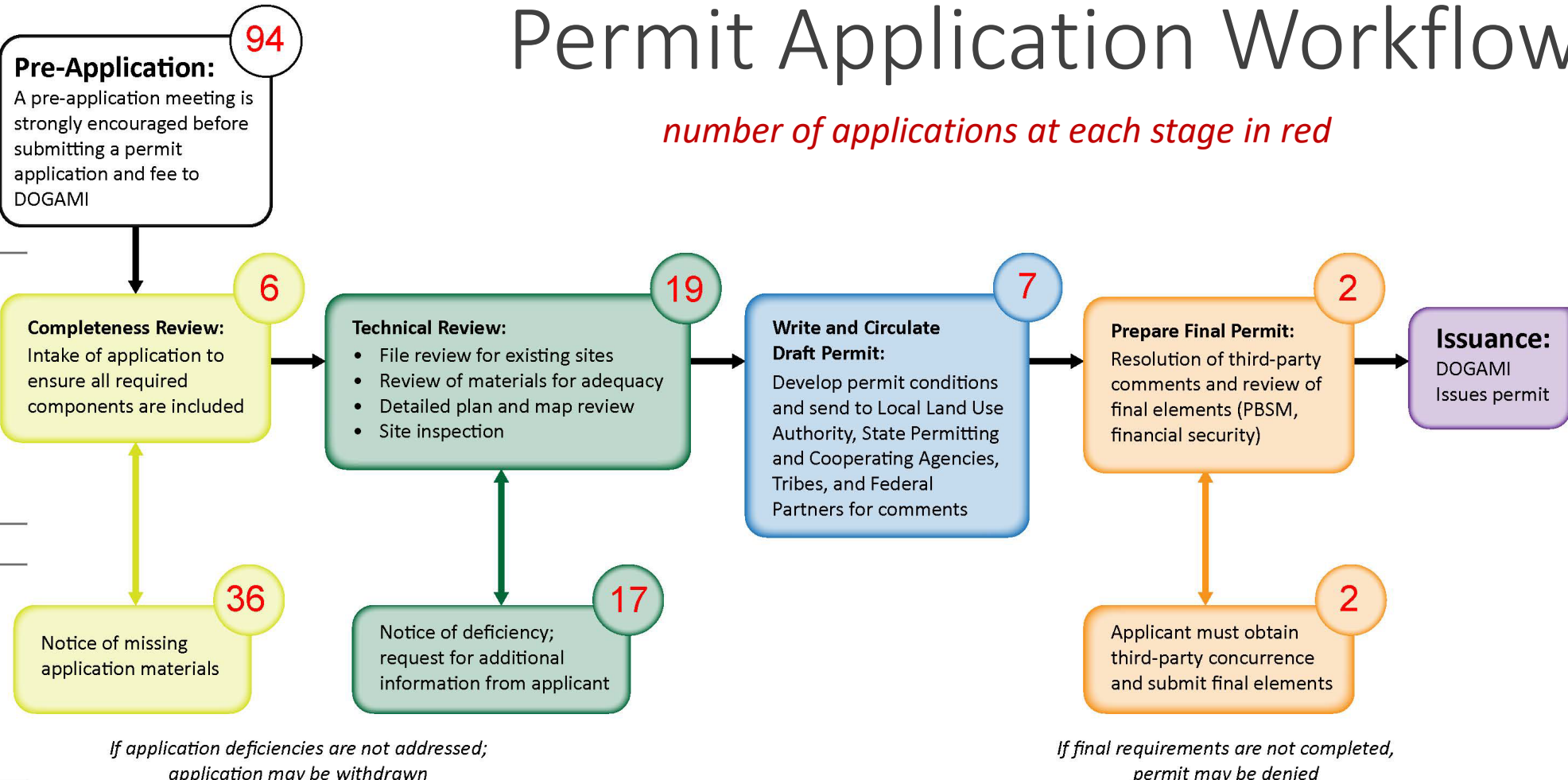
Prior to site closure DOGAMI must ensure that all reclamation obligations have been met and the site is reclaimed to a secondary beneficial use such as forestry or agriculture.

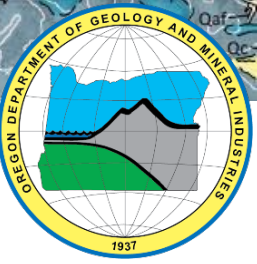
9. Mine Site Closed

When reclamation is confirmed complete DOGAMI approves closure of the mine site and releases the reclamation security posted by the permittee at permit issuance.



number of applications at each stage in red





Barriers to Efficient Application Processing

Quality of Application Materials

- Incomplete submissions
- Cycles of revision
- Cascading workload

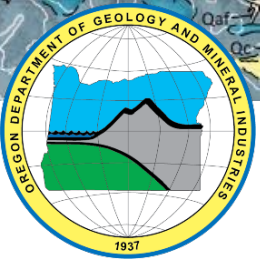
Staffing, Workload and Capacity

- Increased applications
- Additional regulatory responsibility
- Technically complex projects and permits

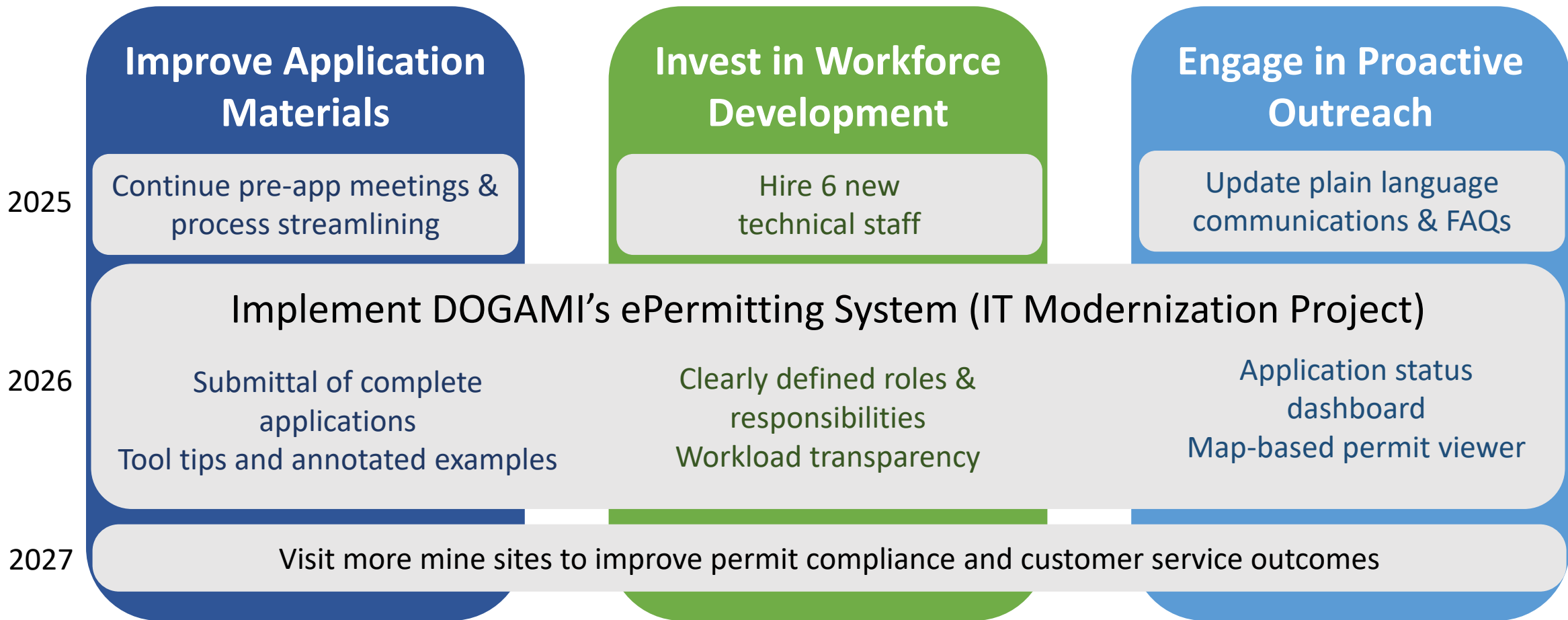
Heightened Public Awareness

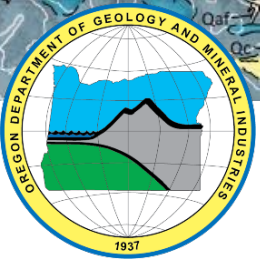
- Growing public interest
- Misunderstanding of agency authority
- Limited external engagement

2025 external process audit describes challenges and opportunities



DOGAMI Initiatives for 2025-27 Biennium





Ongoing Improvements and Opportunities

- Propose new Key Performance Measure (KPM) for application processing
- Report to Legislature on resources needed to complete 2025 audit findings
- Calibrate external expectations with internal program resources
- Align permitting process requirements across regulations
- DOGAMI participation on Joint Permitting Council



