

Kilbourne Graphite Mine

Town of Fowler, St. Lawrence County, New York

SCAN TO READ
PUBLIC NOTICE**Comment Deadline: August 31, 2026** | Reference LRB-2025-01019 in all submissions

Empire State Mines (ESM), a subsidiary of Titan Mining Corporation, encourages community members, neighboring landowners, local organizations, and interested stakeholders to review and participate in the ongoing federal public review process for the Kilbourne Graphite Project in Fowler, New York.

WHAT IS THIS NOTICE?

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District issued public notice LRB-2025-01019 on July 31, 2026, opening a formal public review period for a permit application. It does **not** mean the permit is approved. No decision will be made until the comment period closes and environmental review is complete.

WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

Empire State Mines / Titan Mining proposes a new open-pit graphite mine on their existing Sylvia Lake Rd property — the same site that has operated as a zinc mine since 1926. The project would develop a domestic source of natural flake graphite, a critical mineral used in defense, advanced manufacturing, batteries, and grid-scale energy storage. The project includes open pits, ore processing facilities, water management systems, tailings management, mine waste storage, roads, utilities, and supporting infrastructure.

WETLAND & STREAM IMPACTS

A federal Clean Water Act Section 404 permit is required because the project would impact wetlands and streams. Preliminary impacts:

- ▶ **Wetlands/Open Water:** 98 acres (federally regulated)
- ▶ **Total Stream Channels:** 5,984 linear feet
 - **Perennial:** 4,403 linear feet (year-round flow)
 - **Intermittent:** 432 linear feet (seasonal flow)
 - **Ephemeral:** 1,150 linear feet (flow only after rain/snowmelt)

REQUIRED MITIGATION

Federal law requires the applicant to restore or create equivalent resources elsewhere to offset unavoidable impacts:

- ▶ **On-site restoration:** Wetlands replaced at the project site
- ▶ **Arnold Pit reclamation:** Wetland establishment as part of mine closure
- ▶ **Off-site restoration:** Wetland and stream conservation in the surrounding watershed
- ▶ **Mitigation credits:** Purchase from Ducks Unlimited in-lieu fee program

GROUNDWATER

Open-pit mining can lower the local water table. The applicant has several monitoring wells on-site and a formal hydrogeologic study underway. Results will be submitted to the Army Corps during review.

WHAT THE ARMY CORPS WILL CONSIDER

The Army Corps will weigh the project against a broad public interest standard:

- ▶ **Environment:** Water quality, wetlands, fish & wildlife, flood hazards
- ▶ **Community:** Historic properties, land use, safety, economics
- ▶ **Alternatives:** Whether the least environmentally impactful design was chosen

A permit will only be granted if not found contrary to the public interest.

HOW TO SUBMIT A COMMENT

Comments from residents, organizations, agencies, and tribal nations are all welcome and become part of the official public record.

- ▶ **Online (preferred):**
rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs/public-notice
- ▶ **Email:** david.w.leput2@usace.army.mil
- ▶ **Mail:** USACE Buffalo District, Attn: David Leput, 478 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14202

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROJECT?

Empire State Mines

- ▶ **Phone:** (315) 287-2500
- ▶ **Email:** info@titanminingcorp.com
- ▶ **Address:** 408 Sylvia Lake Road, Gouverneur, NY 13642

ESM is committed to transparency, public engagement, and maintaining open communication throughout permitting and project development. We encourage all interested stakeholders to review the public notice and share their perspectives.

Your Voice Matters. Participate in the Review Process Before August 31, 2026.