

Senior / Lead Mine Engineer

FCI Sand Operations · Pleasanton, TX · Eagle Ford Basin

Reports To: President / COO & Plant Manager

Status: Full-Time, Exempt

Location: On-Site — Pleasanton, TX

About the Role

FCI Sand Operations is executing a comprehensive operational turnaround of its open pit frac sand mining and processing facility in the Eagle Ford Basin, targeting 1,000,000+ finished tons per year of 100-mesh frac sand. We are seeking an experienced Senior/Lead Mine Engineer to take ownership of mine planning, pit design, and ROM production. This is a hands-on, build-it-yourself role for a candidate who wants to shape mine engineering practices and systems from the ground up during a high-impact turnaround.

Key Responsibilities

- Develop and maintain short-, medium-, and long-range mine plans, pit designs, and sequencing to optimize ROM feed grade, volume, and reserve life
- Own reserve/resource modeling and ore body characterization in coordination with geology
- Lead drill-and-blast design (where applicable) and overburden/waste stripping plans
- Manage haul road design, pit dewatering, and surface water control
- Calculate and track strip ratios, ROM tonnage, and material balance from pit to wash plant feed
- Partner with operations leadership on contract mining oversight — scope, productivity benchmarks, and cost-per-ton accountability for third-party ROM mining and material handling contractors
- Support permitting, reclamation planning, and regulatory compliance (TCEQ, MSHA Part 46)
- Conduct geotechnical assessments of pit slopes, highwalls, and tailings/overburden stockpile stability
- Provide mine engineering input into the daily/weekly S&OP process (ROM inventory, feed planning, stockpile management)
- Mentor junior engineering and survey staff as the team scales

Qualifications

- BS in Mining Engineering, Geological Engineering, or related field (PE license a plus)
- 7+ years of mine engineering experience in industrial minerals, frac sand, aggregates, or similar open pit operations
- Proficiency in mine planning/design software (e.g., Vulcan, Surpac, MineSight, or equivalent)
- Strong working knowledge of MSHA Part 46 regulations
- Experience with drone/GPS survey data and GIS-based reserve modeling
- Demonstrated ability to manage contract mining relationships and hold contractors accountable to production and cost targets
- Comfortable operating in a lean, fast-paced turnaround environment with significant ownership and limited red tape
- Strong communication skills — able to translate technical mine plans into operational and financial terms for leadership

What Sets This Role Apart

You will be a core member of the leadership team rebuilding this site's operational foundation — not inheriting a mature system, but building mine planning and reporting infrastructure that will define how this operation runs for years to come.