



Hickory Fire Department
Division of Fire and Life Safety

City of Hickory
76 N Center St NE
Hickory, NC 28601
Phone: (828) 323-7522

Blasting, Storage, and Use of Explosives Plan Review Submittal Requirements

The NC Fire Code requires an operational permit for the manufacture, storage, handling, sale or use of any quantity of explosive or explosive material.

The following information must be provided with the Special Operational Use Permit Application and payment for a permit (see fee schedule for permit amounts). In addition to the information that must be provided with the application, procedures and inspection guidelines have been included. Additional information and requirements may be necessary depending on the particular job.

Permit Requirements:

1. A corporate surety bond in the principal sum of \$1,000,000.00 minimum or proof of liability insurance in the same amount. The bond or policy shall be in force for the duration of the blasting operations. City of Hickory shall be listed as a Certificate Holder and additional insured on the insurance policy.
2. Copy of ATF License.
3. A description or resume of the blaster(s) setting forth the name, age, experience, business address, and phone number.
4. Two copies of the site plan using Google maps or GIS indicating:
 - a. Blasting area(s)
 - b. Any structures and their distance to the blasting site.
 - c. Nearby railways or roads.
 - d. Any barricades, whether manmade or natural.
 - e. Location and distance from any utilities.
 - f. The intended use of blasting mats or seismograph equipment.
5. A description setting forth the storage arrangements of the explosives, amount and method of detonation.
6. When blasting is done in a congested area or in close proximity to a structure, railway, or highway, or any other installation, precautions shall be taken to minimize earth vibrations and air blast effects. All precautions shall be noted on the site plan.

7. When blasting is being conducted in the vicinity of utility lines or right-of-way, the blaster shall notify the appropriate representatives of the utilities at least 24 hours in advance of blasting, specifying the location and the intended time of such blasting. Verbal notices shall be confirmed with written notice.
8. The blaster shall maintain the Special Operational Use Permit on the job site and have it readily available throughout the course of the work.

Site Inspection

1. Blasting operations may only occur during daylight hours.
2. Applicants must provide seismographic monitoring when required by the Fire Code Official.
3. All required warning signals and signs are in place prior to the blasting operations being conducted.
4. Prior to the first “shot”, the Fire Code Official shall perform a site inspection to issue the Special Operational Use Permit and to ensure that all required guidelines set forth in the North Carolina Fire Code are being followed and that the site plan provided by the blaster is consistent with the blast area.
5. The Fire Code Official shall witness all blasting operations to ensure that no unusual hazards exist or conditions are present during or after the blast. Prior to the shot, the Fire Code Official shall notify Catawba County Communications Center at (828) 464-3112.