

# Quarry Planning and Metrics



Improving Processes. Instilling Expertise.



# Topics to Be Covered

- **Benefits of Planning**
- **Key Factors Affecting Quarry Planning**
- **Annual Plan Review**
- **Characteristics of Good Plans**



# What is Quarry Planning?

**Quarry planning** is about making a deposit *profitable* while *managing* the production requirements and geologic/physical constraints.

# Quarry Planning – the approach?



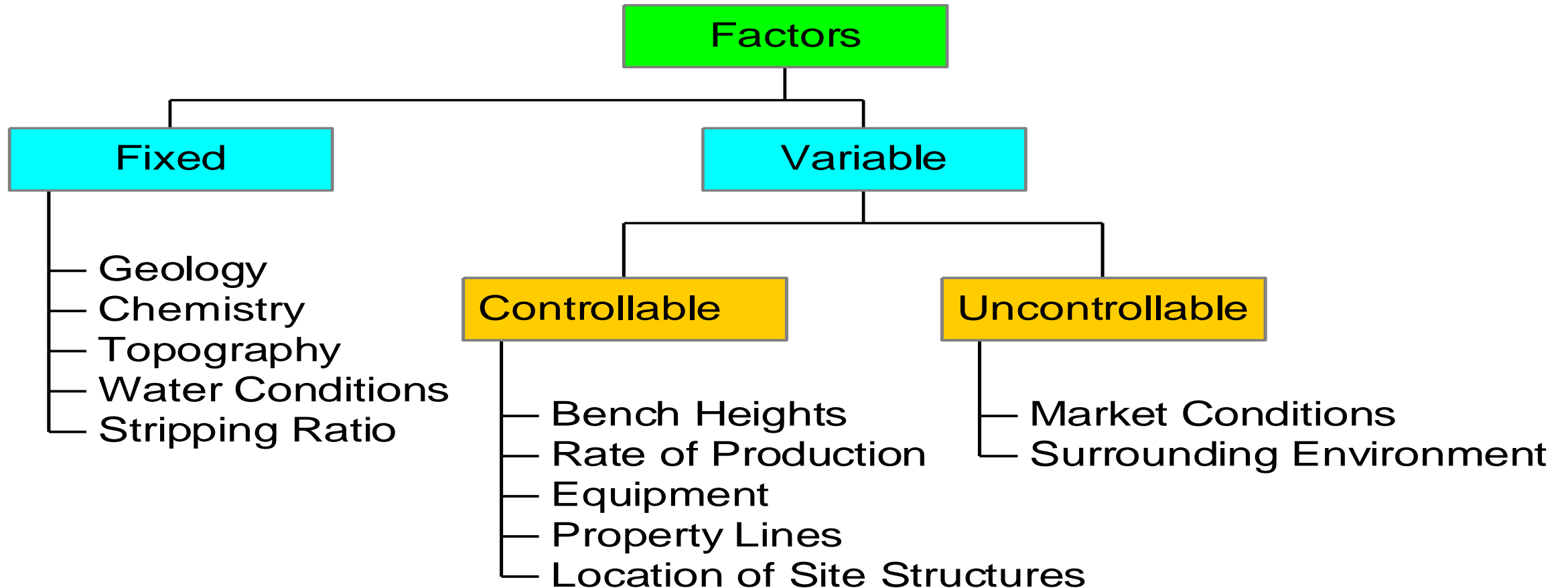
# Quarry Planning – the results?



# Key Benefits of Quarry Planning

- **Less re-work (Lean Process Thinking)**
- **Less interruption to production**
- **Improves utilization of equipment**
- **Improves ability to provide consistent products**
- **Allows for control on quality of products**
- **Improves financial control over operation (reliable expense forecasts)**

# Key Factors Affecting Quarry Planning





# Fixed Factors

**Understand the factors** - design, evaluate, create and manage an excavation sequence that is sustainable and profitable.

- **Geology**

- ✓ Directional structures – considered in pit development?
- ✓ Variation between benches/areas of pit?

- **Chemistry**

- ✓ Consistent or highly variable?
- ✓ Blending of chemistries – desirable or to be avoided?
- ✓ What to blend, how much of each, where will it come from?



# Fixed Factors (continued)

**Understand the factors** - design, evaluate, create and manage an excavation sequence that is sustainable and profitable.

- **Topography**

- ✓ Can topography assist in haulage routes?
- ✓ What are the surface drainage considerations?

- **Water Conditions**

- ✓ Where does water exist and what is its source?
- ✓ Is groundwater flow directional?
- ✓ Can water flow be redirected?



# Fixed Factors (continued)

**Understand the factors** - design, evaluate, create and manage an excavation sequence that is sustainable and profitable.

- **Stripping Ratio**

- ✓ Does the stripping adequately meet seasonal production requirements?
- ✓ Is the overburden material placed in a location that will not interfere with future development?

# Variable Factors (controllable)

**Understand the factors** - design, evaluate, create and manage an excavation sequence that is sustainable and profitable.

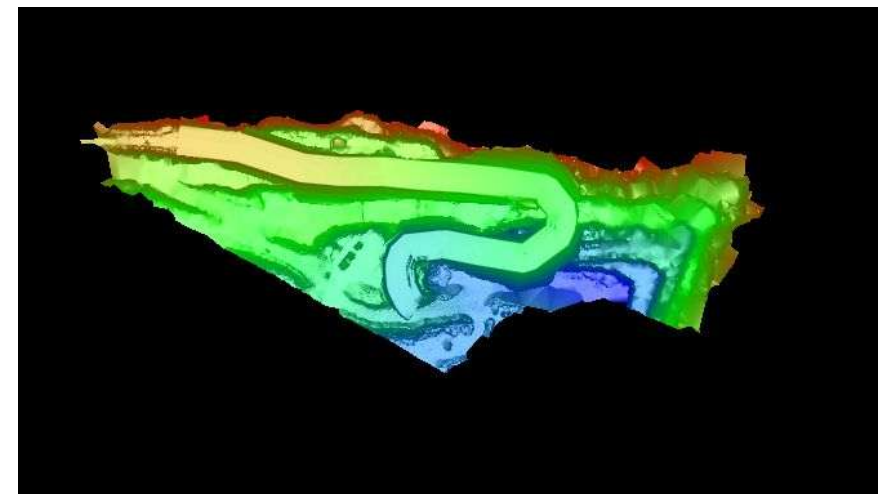
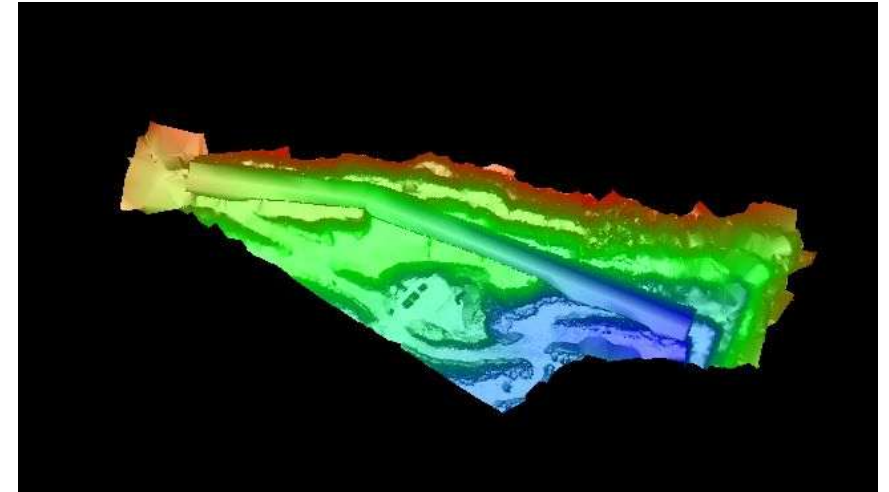
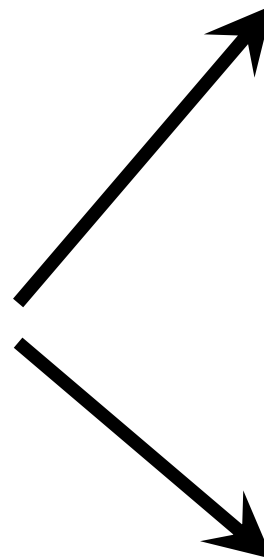
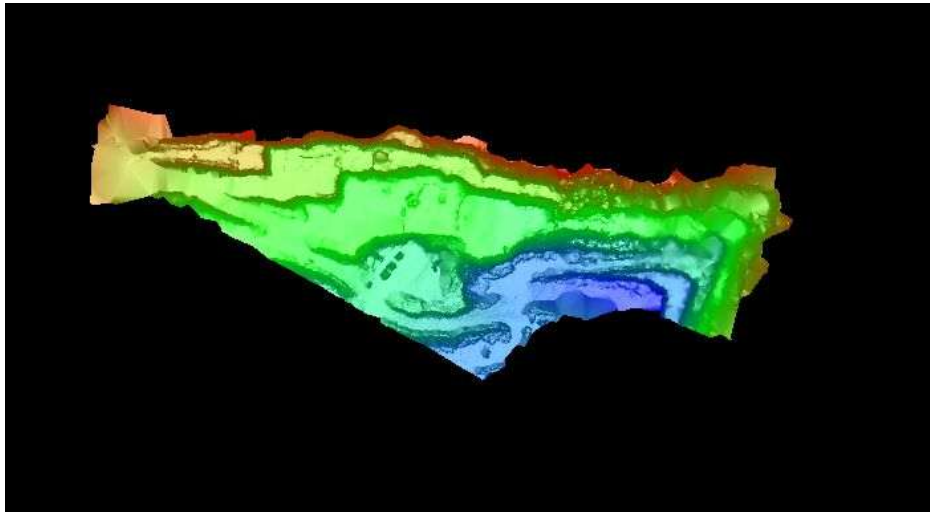
- **Bench Heights - Uniformity produces consistency**
  - ✓ Do bench elevations consider geologic/chemistry changes?
  - ✓ Bench heights optimized for equipment used?
- **Location of Structures – Sumps/fines retention ponds, ramps, crushers**
  - ✓ What are the affects of the location(s) on production?
  - ✓ Are future relocations required and if so where?
  - ✓ Are the relocations justified with production benefits?



# Variable Factors (controllable)

**Understand the factors** - design, evaluate, create and manage an excavation sequence that is sustainable and profitable.

- **Location of Site Structures**



# Variable Factors (controllable)

**Understand the factors** - design, evaluate, create and manage an excavation sequence that is sustainable and profitable.

- **Rate of Production**

- ✓ **Can the pit layout adjust to increases in production?**



# Variable Factors (uncontrollable)

- **Market Conditions**
  - ✓ Have a contingency plan(s)
- **Surrounding Environment**
  - ✓ Urban environments offer unique challenges compared to rural settings.



# Annual Quarry Plan Review

“It’s hard to get from here to there if you are unclear about here.

And haven’t thought much about there.”





# Annual Planning Review

- **Designed to improve your operational results.**
  - ✓ use practical quarry plan engineering
  - ✓ improve safety and financial outcomes
- **Practically applied**
  - ✓ monitor current production activity
  - ✓ monitor middle / long term development requirements and objectives.
- **Provide a more disciplined planning effort:**
  - ✓ Borrows from traditional mine planning programs
  - ✓ Borrows from Lean-Six Sigma concepts

# Planning Reduces Operational Costs

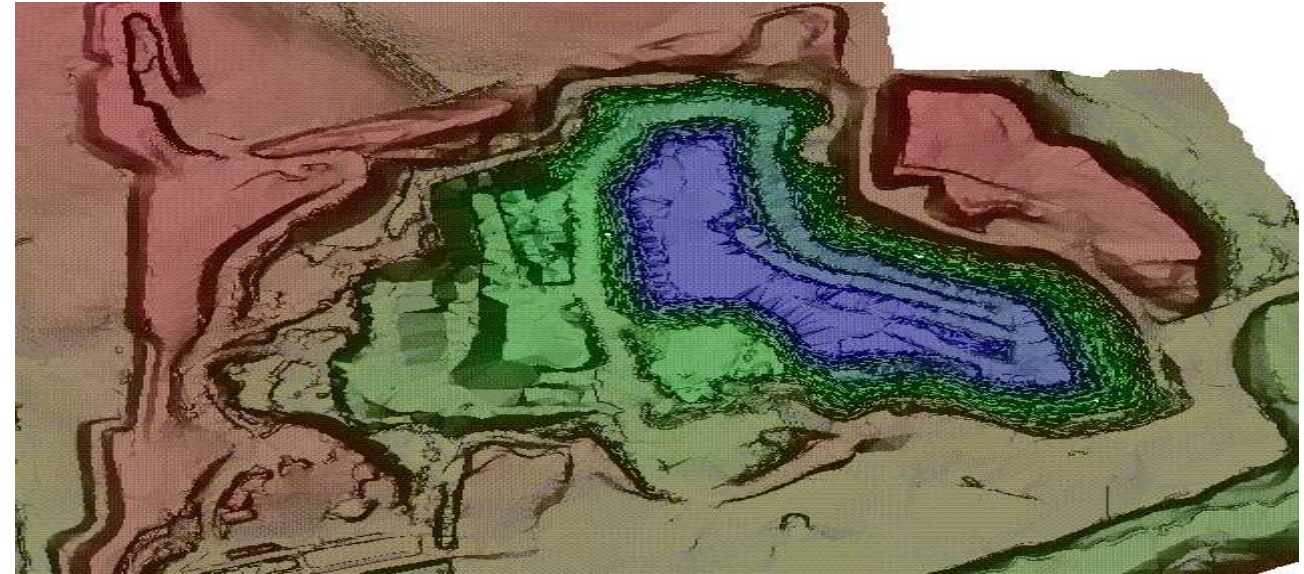
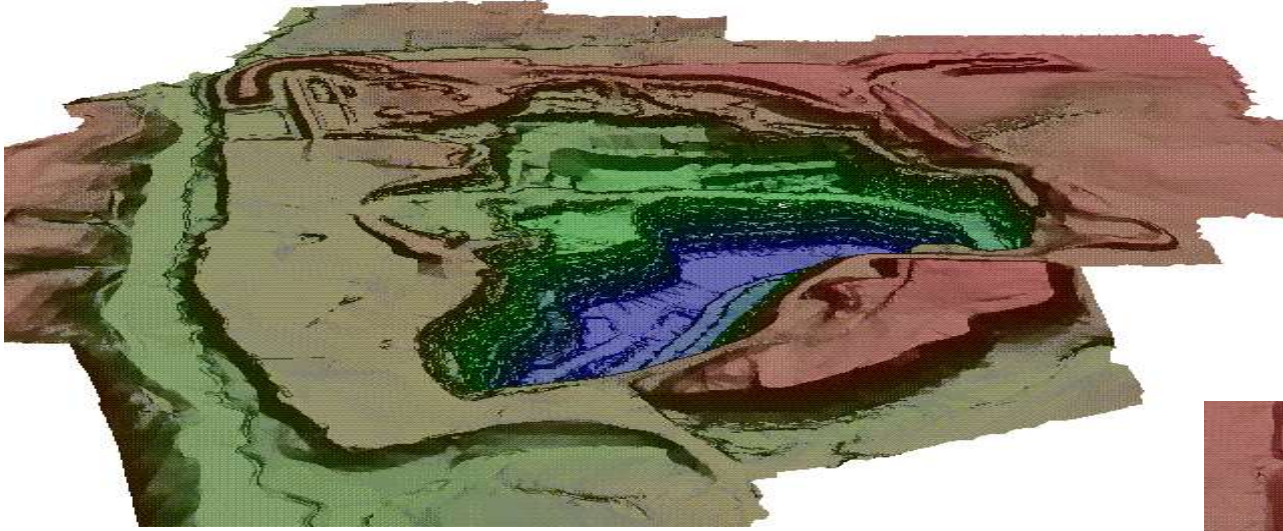


Proper Planning



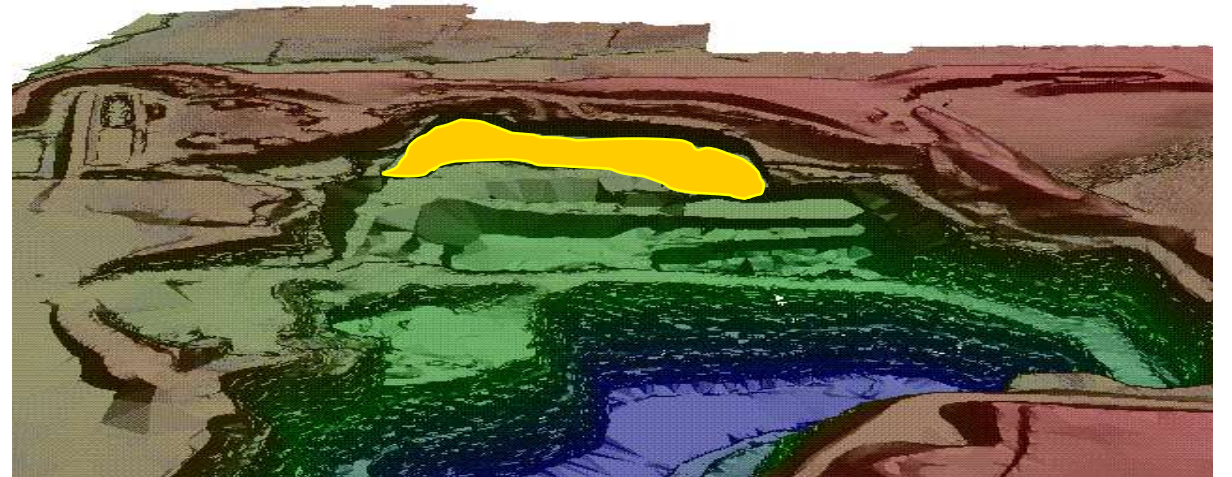
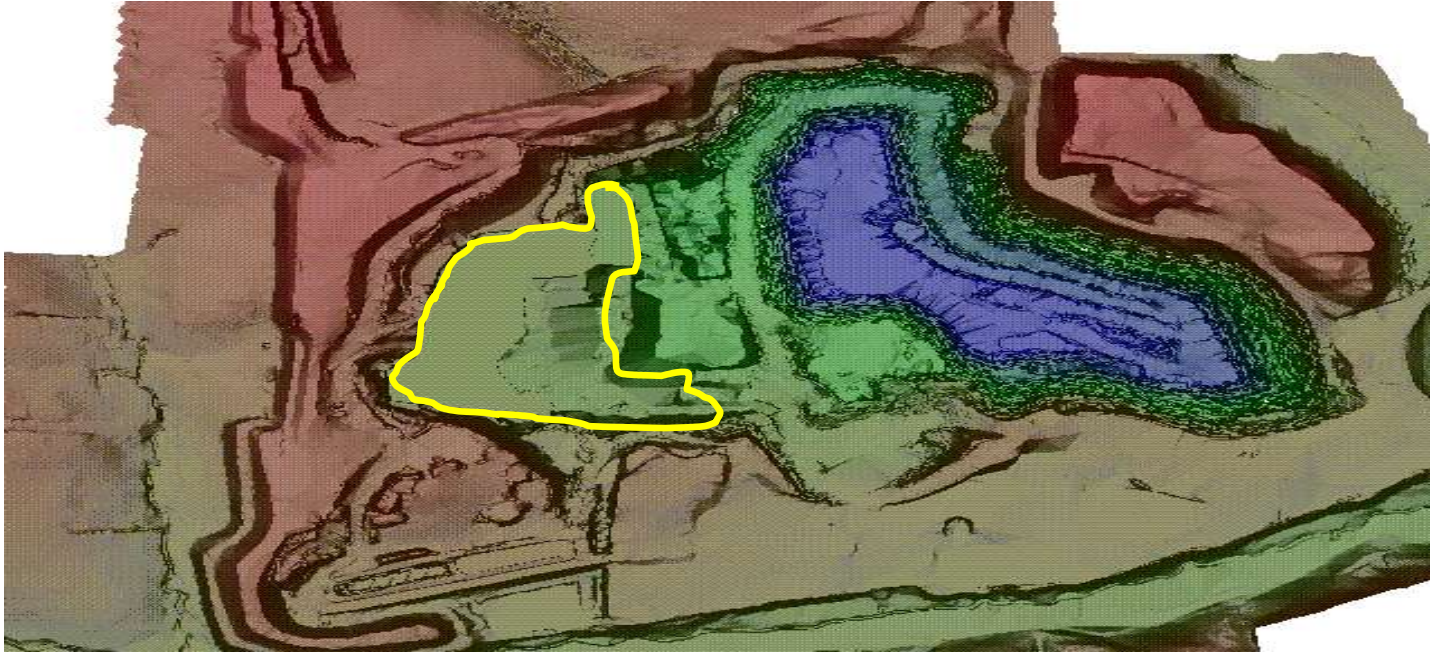
Traditional Planning

# Annual Quarry Plan Review

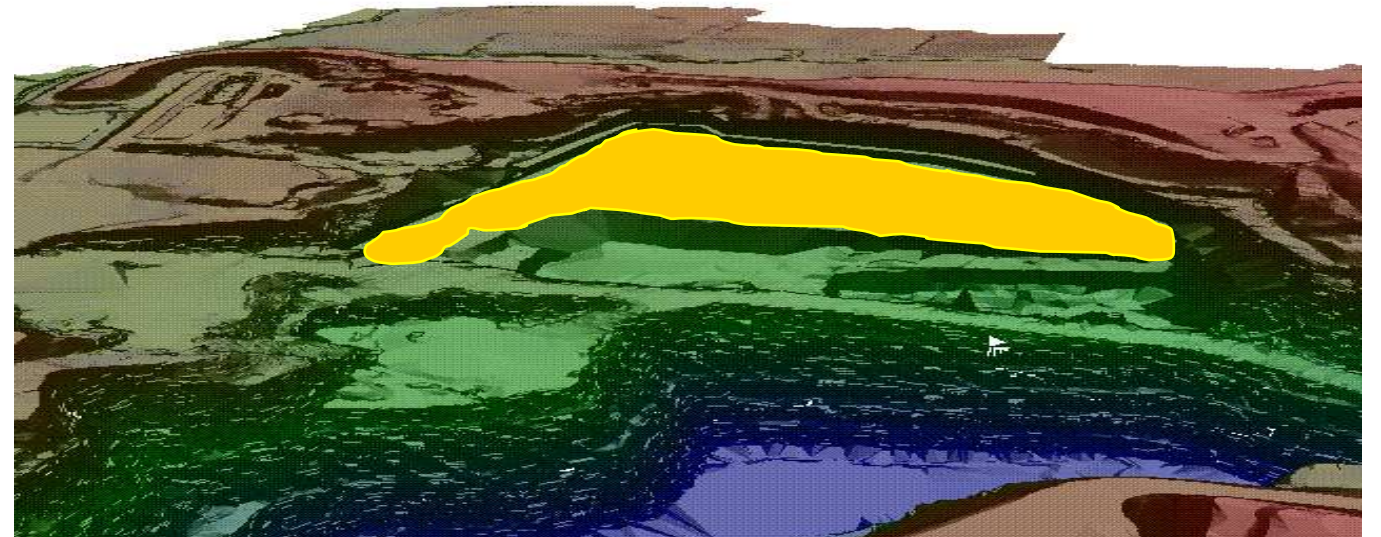


Practical quarry planning is about; understanding exactly your current position and situation, then thinking very carefully about future outcomes and engineering the best process to get there.

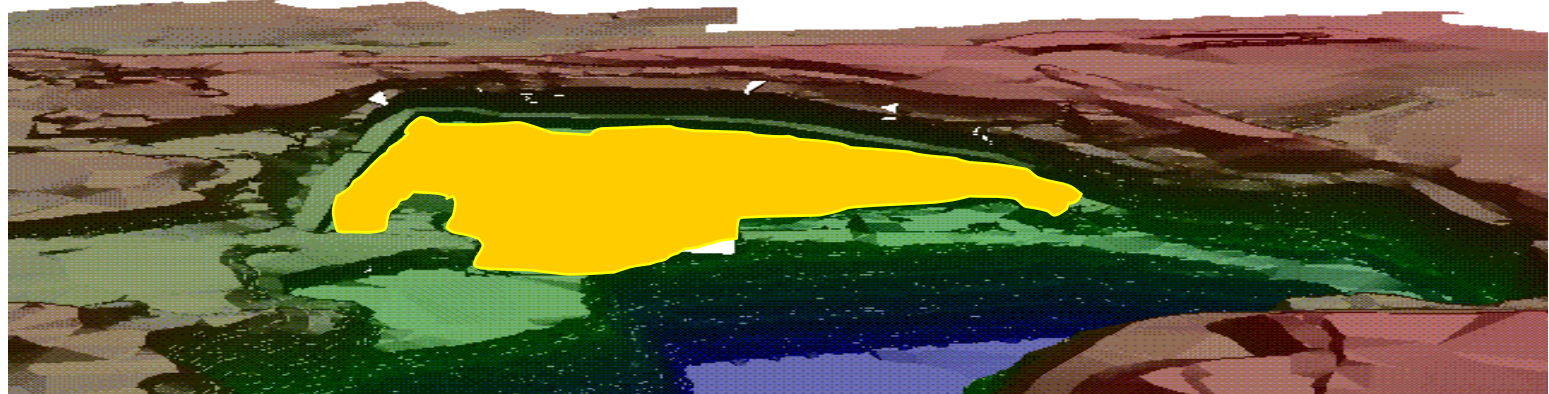
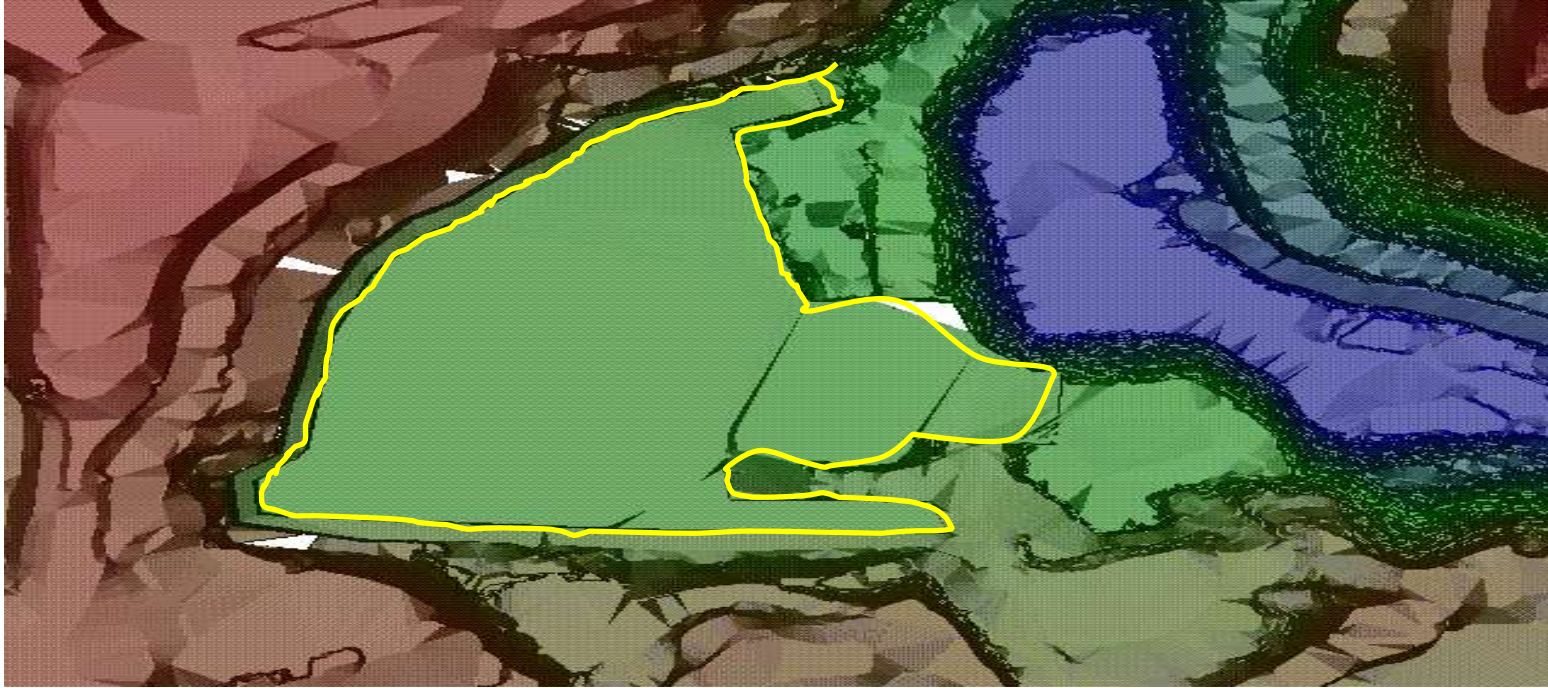
# Bench 1 – 767,750 Tons



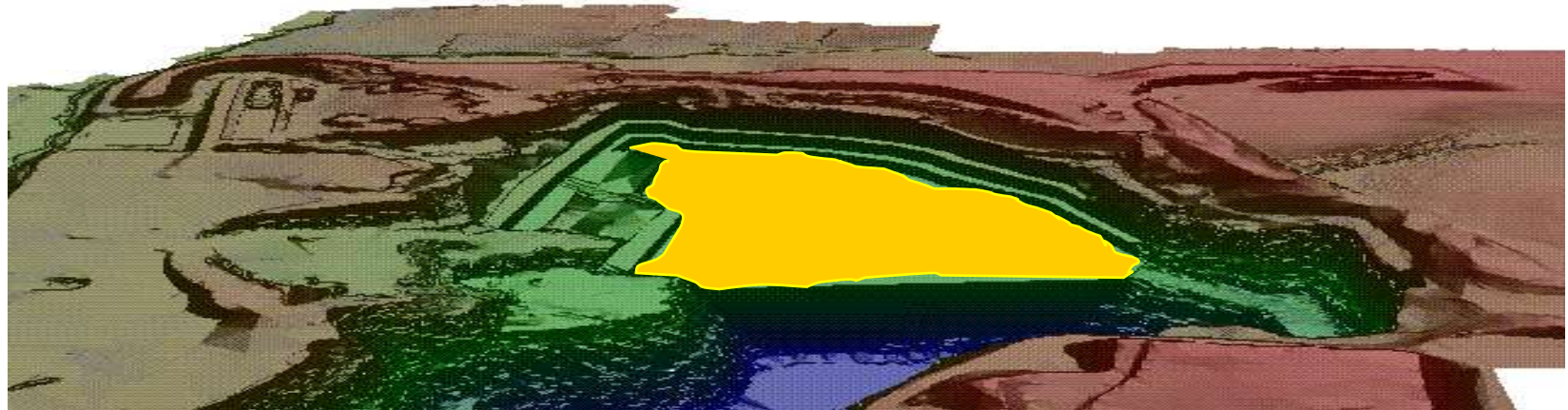
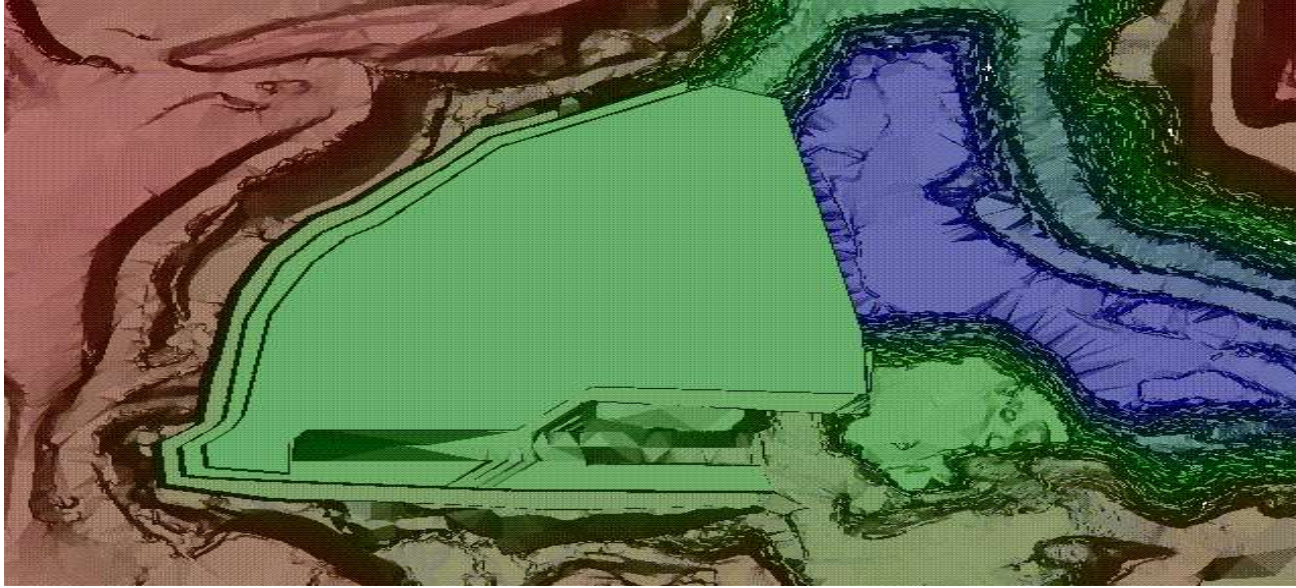
# Bench 2 – 780,300 Tons



# Bench 3 – 1,810,300 Tons



# Bench 4 – 1,733,400 Tons



# Production From Benches

- Bench 1 – 767,750 tons
- Bench 2 – 780,300 tons
- Bench 3 – 1,810,300 tons
- Bench 4 – 1,733,400 tons

**Mineable Reserves Available – 5,091,750 Tons**

**Sounds Good – Right?**



# Tons Currently Available From Benches

- Bench 1 – 767,750 tons
- Bench 2 – 12,550 tons
- Bench 3 – 1,030,000 tons
- Bench 4 – 500,000 tons

**Does It Still Sounds Good?**

# Characteristics of Good Plans

- **Based on reliable market forecasts**
- **Flexible to adjust to changing market conditions**
  - ✓ Contain if-then scenarios
- **Consider current pit configuration & equipment**
- **Outline sequence of activities necessary to achieve plan**
  - ✓ Realistic expectations and timeline (considers dependencies)
  - ✓ Identify what is needed at each stage (work breakdown structure)
- **Structured to maximize revenue**
  - ✓ Efficient usage of available resources (labor and equipment)
- **Identify risks in achieving the plan**
  - ✓ Offers contingency plan(s)
- **Communicated to stakeholders**

# Metric Considerations

- **Implement Survey and Elevation Control programs**
- **Become Engaged with Drill and Blast Designs**
  - ✓ Don't just accept the current drilling practices
  - ✓ Don't just accept the current blasting practices
- **Monitor the Drill and Blast Pattern Outcome**
  - ✓ Pattern layout
  - ✓ Seismograph results
  - ✓ Blast video analysis
  - ✓ Size gradation such as oversize %, fines %, excess back break, or micro fracturing
  - ✓ Diggability, cycle times, or fuel costs per finished ton
- **Apply Lean-Six Sigma tools that are fundamental to program management:**
  - ✓ base lining, data control, process monitoring, information sharing

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