



## **WAYNE COUNTY MINE SITE TO CREATE 100 NEW JOBS**

*Low-impact technology will extract minerals, boost economy*

Offerman, Ga.; (November 27, 2018) – Southeast Georgia-based mineral sands mining company Southern Ionics Minerals (SIM) will combine its local experience and mining expertise with Chemours Titanium Technologies to mine a mineral sand deposit in Wayne County. The mine site is on private property currently used to grow commercial timber. As the mining progresses through the site, the land will be reclaimed continuously and restored back to productive timberland.

SIM will create approximately 100 new jobs related to the new mine: 80 will be based at the mine in Wayne County and the remaining 20 jobs will be in Pierce County at the SIM Mineral Separation Plant (MSP). The new mine will add another \$7.7 million to SIM's current payroll, bringing the company's total number of employees to approximately 250.

SIM, headquartered in Offerman, Ga., will operate the mine on behalf of Chemours, the world's largest producer of titanium dioxide pigments – key components in automotive and aerospace coatings, plastics, laminates and paper. Valuable titanium and zirconium minerals make up about three percent of the sand at the mine site. Chemours has obtained a state permit to mine the land.

SIM uses a gravity separation method to extract the valuable titanium and zirconium minerals from the lighter-weight quartz sand. Once separated, the rejected quartz sand is immediately returned to the pit, topsoil is replaced, and trees are replanted.

"SIM looks forward to working with Chemours," said Stuart Forrester, president of SIM. "Through every stage of our mining process, from pre-mining surveys of wildlife to monitoring the growth of trees planted on completed mine areas, we are guided by our principles: to care for the land we work and its wildlife, to treat it as our own backyard, and to restore it to close to its pre-mining conditions."

Mineral sand concentrate will be produced at the mine, then trucked to SIM's Mineral Separation Plant in Offerman for further processing. Shipping of Chemours' final products will be managed by Chemours.

The mining activity is expected to begin in 2019.

Anyone interested in applying for a job at the Wayne County mine site should contact SIM at: 912-647-0301 or [info@simineralsllc.com](mailto:info@simineralsllc.com). For more information on our company, please visit our website at [southernionicsminerals.com](http://southernionicsminerals.com)

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