

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

PROPONENT: Jim Gilman Excavating

PROJECT NAME: Opencut Gravel Mining – Dearborn Ranch Site Reclamation would be completed by May, 2004.

LOCATION: SE¼ Section 30, T15N, R3W **COUNTY:** Lewis & Clark

PERSON PREPARING EA: Jerry Burke

E.A. COMPLETED: 12/19/03
(Date)

TYPE AND PURPOSE OF ACTION:

The applicant proposes to mine, crush and haul 8,000 cubic yards of gravel from a 3-acre site located 2.5 miles northeast of Wolf Creek. The site is a gravel bench on the south side of the Prickly Pear Valley. The site would be mined into an existing gravel pit to a depth of 25 feet where the topsoil averages 6” of sandy silty loam and there is 2.5 feet of overburden. The mine is approximately 2,000 feet to the southwest of the Missouri river and 1,000 feet from Prickly Pear Creek neither water body would be impacted by the proposed operation. The site is a existing gravel pit and hayland and will be returned to a use of rangeland. The slopes of the reclaimed area would be 3:1 or less.

	A	B	C	POTENTIAL IMPACTS		
				LONG TERM	SHORT TERM	AMPLIFICATION
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT						
1. <u>TOPOGRAPHY</u>			X	X		
2. <u>GEOLOGY</u> ; Stability			X			
3. <u>SOILS</u> ; Quality, Distribution			X		X	Soils will be stripped and saved, and replaced after mining is finished.
4. <u>WATER</u> ; Quality, Quantity; Distribution			X			
5. <u>AIR</u> ; Quality			X		X	Some deterioration of air quality will occur, but episodes will be infrequent.
6. <u>UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE, or LIMITED</u> environmental resources			X			
BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT						
1. <u>TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN, and AQUATIC</u> ; species and habitats			X		X	Wildlife displaced during active mining will return following reclamation.
2. <u>VEGETATION</u> ; Quantity, quality, species			X		X	

3. <u>AGRICULTURE</u> ; grazing, crops, production			X		X	Grazing will be postponed, but will resume following reclamation.
				POTENTIAL IMPACTS		
	A	B	C	LONG TERM	SHORT TERM	AMPLIFICATION
HUMAN ENVIRONMENT						
1. <u>SOCIAL</u> , structures and mores			X			
2. <u>CULTURAL</u> ; Uniqueness, diversity			X			
3. <u>POPULATION</u> ; quantity and diversity			X			
4. <u>HOUSING</u> ; quantity and distribution			X			
5. <u>HUMAN HEALTH & SAFETY</u>			X			
6. <u>COMMUNITY & PERSONAL INCOME</u>			X			
7. <u>EMPLOYMENT</u> ; quantity and distribution			X			
8. <u>TAX BASE</u> ; local and state tax revenue			X			
9. <u>GOVERNMENT SERVICES</u> ; demand			X			
10. <u>INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL and AGRICULTURAL</u> activities			X		X	Grazing will be postponed, but will resume following reclamation.
11. <u>HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL</u>			X			
12. <u>AESTHETICS</u>			X		X	The site will be visible from Interstate 15 until reclaimed.
13. <u>ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS and GOALS</u> ; local and regional			X			
14. <u>DEMANDS on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES</u> of land, water, air and energy			X			
15. <u>TRANSPORTATION</u> ; networks and traffic flows			X			

A: Significant Unavoidable Impacts. B: Insignificant as a result of conditioned mitigation. C: Insignificant as proposed.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: Denial

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: None

OTHER GROUPS OR AGENCIES CONTACTED OR WHICH MAY HAVE OVERLAPPING JURISDICTION: None

REGULATORY IMPACT ON PRIVATE PROPERTY: None

RECOMMENDATION FOR FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:
 EIS MORE DETAILED EA NO FURTHER ANALYSIS

INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS CONTRIBUTING TO THIS EA: _____

Approved By _____
 (Signature)

Date _____