



Montana Department of ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Brian Schweitzer, Governor

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LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY OFFICE

December 30, 2005

Dear Reader:

Big Sky Masonry, Inc. (Big Sky) of Bozeman, MT applied for an operating permit to collect surface or near surface stone on May 12, 2005. The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) issued a Draft Checklist Environmental Analysis (CEA) on September 28, 2005 evaluating the potential impacts from the rock collecting site and asking for comments on the proposed operation. The Draft CEA addressed issues and concerns raised during public involvement and from agency scoping. No comments were received on the Draft CEA.

The agencies have decided to approve the permit as proposed contingent on posting of the reclamation bond of \$15,740. Following are the approved permit conditions:

- Permit Area: 1000 acres over the life-of-the permit
- Permitted Disturbance: Currently, one site is proposed on 834 permit acres. Up to 834 acres could be disturbed over the 5-year quarry life. This could change over time as new sites could be added through amendment or revisions after environmental analysis.
- Bonded Acres: Most of the 1000 acres will be disturbed over the life of the permit, but concurrent reclamation will limit the total of disturbed and unreclaimed acres at any one time to 14 acres.
- Bond: \$15,740

Information on the Big Sky Masonry operating permit application can be obtained by writing or calling the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, c/o Patrick Plantenberg, P. O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620, telephone (406) 444-4960; e-mail address pplantenberg@mt.gov.

Paul L. Kelly for WDM

Warren D. McCullough, Chief
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12/30/05

Date

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