

**Supplement to:
Environmental Assessment
Department of Environmental Quality
Industrial and Energy Minerals Bureau
Opencut Mining Program**

Proponent: Riverside Contracting, Inc. – Clayton Ranch Site

Legal: SW1/4NW1/4, Sec. 20, T 1N, R 15E

County: Sweet Grass

Type and Purpose of Action: The proponent has submitted an application to amend Opencut Permit # RCI-124 that if approved, would provide for mining an additional 10.8 acres of land and adding 2.2 acres for facility level disturbance creating a total permit area of 27.0 acres. The site is located approximately 1.5 miles east of Big Timber, Montana along the frontage road on a relatively flat lying river terrace. The reclamation bond has been increased to \$106,680.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation: The applicant has proposed to follow the original Plan of Operation that provides for daylighting the mined area to the east with 6:1 slopes and reconstructing lateral irrigation ditches to allow the landowner continued irrigation of the pasture. The Opencut Mining Act, rules and regulations, reclamation bond, Plan of Operation and oversight from DEQ staff will ensure reclamation is completed to acceptable standards. The impacts identified and analyzed in the original Environmental Assessment dated March, 2004 are applicable to this action and as such, this action is insignificant as proposed.

Date: July 15, 2009

Prepared by: Steve Welch

Approved by: _____
Neil Harrington, Industrial and Energy Minerals Bureau Chief