

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

SITE NAME: **Brence** APPLICANT: **Carter County Road Dept.**  
 LOCATION: **Sec 6 T1S R57E** COUNTY: **Carter**

DATE: May 2010

**PROPOSED ACTION:** The Carter County Road Department proposes to mine and crush 45,000 yards of gravel from the 8.5 acre permit area. A 0.5 acre access road would be improved from Powderville Road to the site. The product would be used on a road construction and maintenance jobs.

Reclamation would be completed to grassland by 2019. No reclamation bond is required.

A: Significant Unavoidable Impacts    B: Insignificant as a result of conditioned mitigation    C: Insignificant as proposed  
 L: Long term Impacts    S: Short Term Impacts

	POTENTIAL IMPACTS					EXPLANATION
	A	B	C	L	S	
<b>PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT</b>						
1. <u>TOPOGRAPHY</u>			X	X		The mine site is on a small rise about 50 feet high.
2. <u>GEOLOGY</u> ; Stability			X	X		Alluvial material ranges in size from clays to gravels.
3. <u>SOILS</u> ; Quality, Distribution			X		X	The soils are generally a clay loam. They are about 12 inches deep with varying depths of overburden. The operator would salvage all available soils from the disturbed areas for reclamation. Average annual precipitation is between 12 and 15 inches, most of which falls during the growing season. Reclamation to rangeland could be accomplished.
4. <u>WATER</u> ; Quality; Quantity; Distribution			X		X	Hehn Draw runs along the east side of the knob over a quarter mile away. It would not be disturbed.  There are no springs on site or on the slopes of the ridge. The local landowners' wells are more than a half mile away. Since mining would be on the top of the ridge it would not impact any groundwater.  Runoff from the disturbance would be kept on site.  There would be no impact to water quality or quantity from mining.
5. <u>AIR</u> ; Quality			X		X	The crusher would have an individual permit from the Air Resources Management Bureau (ARMB). Fugitive dust would be controlled with the use of water trucks. Air quality impacts would be minimal.
6. <u>UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE, or LIMITED</u> environmental resources						The site does not contain any species of concern.
<b>BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT</b>						
1. <u>VEGETATION</u> ; quantity, quality, species			X		X	The site is in native range. The landowner has a small borrow pit just to the north. Mining would have minimal impact

						<b>POTENTIAL IMPACTS</b>					
						A	B	C	L	S	EXPLANATION
											because it would be reclaimed to native rangeland species.
2. <u>TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN, and AQUATIC</u> ; species and habitats								X		X	Deer, antelope, coyotes, and upland game birds have used the site. Mining would have minimal impact on wildlife mainly because the site has limited forage, shelter, or other wildlife value, and there are miles of the same habitat all around.
3. <u>AGRICULTURE</u> ; grazing, crops Production								X		X	Mining would result in a minimal short term reduction of grazing.
<b>HUMAN ENVIRONMENT</b>											
1. <u>SOCIAL</u> ; structures and mores								X		X	
2. <u>CULTURAL</u> uniqueness/diversity								X		X	
3. <u>POPULATION</u> ; quantity/diversity								X		X	This is a rural site. The landowner's home is more than a half mile away.
4. <u>HOUSING</u> ; quantity/distribution								X		X	
5. <u>HUMAN HEALTH &amp; SAFETY</u>								X		X	
6. <u>COMMUNITY &amp; PERSONAL INCOME</u>								X		X	
7. <u>EMPLOYMENT</u> ; quantity, distribution								X		X	This material would be used for road construction and maintenance.
8. <u>TAX BASE</u> ; state/local tax revenue								X		X	
9. <u>GOVERNMENT SERVICES</u> ; demand								X		X	
10. <u>INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL and AGRICULTURAL</u> activities								X		X	
11. <u>HISTORICAL and ARCHAEOLOGICAL</u>								X		X	A walkover of the area did not reveal any artifacts or signs of occupation. No signs were evident at depth in previously disturbed nearby areas. If during operations resources were to be discovered, activities would be halted, or possibly temporarily moved to another area until SHPO was contacted and the importance of the site was determined.
12. <u>AESTHETICS</u>								X		X	There are no residences or businesses nearby that would be disturbed by this project.
13. <u>ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS and GOALS</u> ; local and regional								X		X	
14. <u>DEMANDS on ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES</u> of land, water, air and energy								X		X	
15. <u>TRANSPORTATION</u> ; networks and traffic flows								X		X	



**PRIVATE PROPERTY ASSESSMENT ACT (PPAA) CHECKLIST**

DOES THE PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION HAVE TAKINGS IMPLICATIONS UNDER THE PPAA?

YES	NO	
X		1. Does the action pertain to land or water management or environmental regulation affecting private real property or water rights?
	X	2. Does the action result in either a permanent or indefinite physical occupation of private property?
	X	3. Does the action deprive the owner of all economically viable uses of the property?
	X	4. Does the action deny a fundamental attribute of ownership?
	X	5. Does the action require a property owner to dedicate a portion of property or to grant an easement? (If answer is NO, skip questions 5a and 5b and continue with question 6.)
		5a. Is there a reasonable, specific connection between the government requirement and legitimate state interests?
		5b. Is the government requirement roughly proportional to the impact of the proposed use of the property?
	X	6. Does the action have a severe impact on the value of the property?
	X	7. Does the action damage the property by causing some physical disturbance with respect to the property in excess of that sustained by the public generally? (If the answer is NO, skip questions 7a-7c)
		7a. Is the impact of government action direct, peculiar, and significant?
		7b. Has the government action resulted in the property becoming practically inaccessible, waterlogged, or flooded?
		7c. Has the government action diminished property values by more than 30% and necessitated the physical taking of adjacent property or property across a public way from the property in question?

Taking or damaging implications exist if YES is checked in response to question 1 and also to any one or more of the following questions: 2, 3, 4, 6, 7a, 7b, 7c; or if NO is checked in response to questions 5a or 5b.

If taking or damaging implications exist, the agency must comply with § 5 of the Private Property Assessment Act, to include the preparation of a taking or damaging impact assessment. Normally, the preparation of an impact assessment will require consultation with agency legal staff.