

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
Permitting and Compliance Division  
P.O. Box 200901, Helena, Montana 59620  
(406) 444-3490

**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)**

Issued For: Jim Gilman Excavating, Inc.  
3105 Kossuth  
Butte, MT 59701

**RECEIVED**

**SEP 16 1998**

**ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY COUNCIL**

Air Quality Permit Number: 2544-01

Department's Decision to Modify Issued: 09/15/98

Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Compliance: An environmental assessment required by the MEPA, was completed for this project as follows.

Legal Description of Site:

During the summer months (April 1 through September 30), in or within 10 kilometers of any PM-10 nonattainment area.

During the winter months of October 1, 1998 through March 31, 1999 in the Butte PM-10 non-attainment area: NE 1/4, SE 1/4, Section 25, Range 8W, Township 3N, in Silver Bow County.

Description of Project: This addendum is for the operation of a portable 1980 Cedar Rapids Jaw Crusher, a portable 1986 El-Jay Cone Crusher, and associated equipment. Operation at the above-listed locations, in compliance with the conditions and limitations outlined in addendum 1 to permit #2544-01, will not adversely impact the PM-10 nonattainment areas.

Benefits and Purpose of Proposal: This Addendum contains more stringent operational limits that allow the facility to operate at the above-listed locations without adversely impacting the PM-10 nonattainment areas.

Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives whenever alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider: No reasonable alternatives available.

A listing and appropriate evaluation of mitigation, stipulations and other controls enforceable by the agency or another government agency: A list of enforceable conditions are contained in permit #2544-01 and Addendum 1.

Description and analysis of regulatory impacts on private property rights: The department has considered alternatives to the conditions imposed in this permit as part of the permit development. The department has determined that the permit conditions are reasonably necessary to ensure compliance with applicable requirements and demonstrate compliance with those requirements and do not unduly restrict private property rights.

Potential Impact on Physical Environment

		Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments
1	Terrestrial and Aquatic Life and Habitats			X			Terrestrials will use the areas in which the crusher operations occur. However, the crusher operations alone will present only minor affects to the terrestrial life. In addition, the crusher operations are portable and the affects will be limited by short term projects.
2	Water Quality, Quantity and Distribution			X			Water will be used as pollution control but will only cause minor disturbance to the area. Any accidental spills or leaks from equipment will be properly handled.
3	Geology and Soil Quality, Stability and Moisture			X			The geology and soils of the area will be impacted by the crusher operations. The impacts will be minor due to the size, and nature (recycling existing concrete) of the operation.
4	Vegetation Cover, Quantity and Quality			X			The vegetation cover will be affected by the crusher operations. Since the site is a pre-existing industrial area (stockyard), the affects of the projects will be less noticeable. The vegetation can be re-established following the industrial operations.
5	Aesthetics			X			The crusher operations will be visible and will create additional noise in the area. Permit #2544-01 includes conditions to control emissions (including visible emissions) from the plant. Since the crusher operations are small, any noise impacts will be minimal.
6	Air Quality			X			The air quality impacts from the crusher operations are minor. Permit #2544-01 includes conditions limiting the opacity from the plant and requiring water spray bars to control air pollution. The portable plant, and all associated equipment, is limited by permit #2544-01 to total particulate emissions of 250 tons/year or less.
7	Unique Endangered, Fragile or Limited Environmental Resource			X			The affects to unique, endangered, fragile or limited environmental resources are minor because the crusher operations are portable and do not stay in one location for long periods of time. The crusher operations are performed on relatively small portions of land with regard to the surrounding area.
8	Demands on Environmental Resource of Water, Air and Energy			X			The crusher operations will only demand small quantities of water, air, and energy for proper operation.
9	Historical and Archaeological Sites				X		Historical and archaeological sites are not known to be present at the locations where the crusher operations will be performed. The crusher operations are moving into sites that are pre-existing industrial operation areas.
10	Cumulative and Secondary Impacts			X			There is potential for other operations such as asphalt plants to locate at this site. However, any asphalt plant would have to apply for and receive the appropriate permits from the DEQ prior to operation. These permits will address the environmental impacts associated with any asphalt plant at this or any other site. Overall, the crusher operations will have only minor impacts on the area because they affect only a small amount of property for a short amount of time. The crusher operations, and all associated equipment, are limited by permit #2544-01 to total particulate emission of 250 tons/year or less.

## Potential Impact on Human Environment

		Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments
1	Social Structures and Mores				X		There will be no disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities from the crusher operations.
2	Cultural Uniqueness and Diversity				X		The crusher operations will not cause a change in the cultural uniqueness and diversity of the area.
3	Local and State Tax Base and Tax Revenue			X			The crusher operations will have little, if any, affects to the local and state tax base and tax revenue. The activity will continue in an area for only a short period of time, creating no new jobs and no permanent income.
4	Agricultural or Industrial Production			X			The crusher operations will not create any agricultural production. The crusher operations are small by industrial standards and will therefore have only a minor impact on local industrial production.
5	Human Health			X			The proposed emissions from the crusher operations will have minor impacts on human health. Permit #2544-01 incorporates conditions to ensure that the crusher operations will be operated in compliance with all applicable rules and standards.
6	Access to and Quality of Recreational and Wilderness Activities			X			The crusher operations will not affect any access to recreational and wilderness activities. However, minor affects to the quality of recreational and wilderness activities may be created by the aesthetics and noise from the site. In addition, any impacts will be temporary because the crusher operations are portable and the plant does not stay at one location for very long.
7	Quantity and Distribution of Employment			X			The activities from the crusher operations will not greatly affect the quantity and distribution of employment in the area. More than likely, the activities will only employ people from the company, and they will be in the area for only a short period of time.
8	Distribution of Population				X		The crusher operations will not require increased or decreased housing in the area.. Several people from the company will likely stay in the area for the short-term project.
9	Demands for Government Services			X			Due to the relatively small size of this operation only minor increases will be seen in traffic on existing roads in the area while the crusher operations are in progress. The only other government services demanded for this project will be acquiring the appropriate permits from government agencies.
10	Industrial and Commercial Activity			X			The crusher operations represent only a minor increase in the total industrial activity in the area.
11	Locally Adopted Environmental Plans and Goals			X			The impacts from the crusher operations comply with all local standards to prevent significant impacts to local PM-10 nonattainment areas.
12	Cumulative and Secondary Impacts			X			The crusher operations will cause a minor affect to both the physical environment and human environment. There is potential for other operations such as asphalt plants to locate at this site. However, any asphalt plant will have to apply for and receive the appropriate permits from the DEQ prior to operation. These permits will address the environmental impacts associated with any asphalt plant at this or any other site. In addition, the crusher operations, and all associated equipment, are limited by permit #2544-01 to total particulate emission of 250 tons/year or less.

Recommendation: No EIS is required.

If an EIS is not required, explain why the EA is an appropriate level of analysis: Modeling indicates this source will have minimal impacts on the Butte PM-10 nonattainment area when it is operated at the above-mentioned locations. Further, this plant is portable and its impacts in any one area will be minimal.

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction: Department of Environmental Quality.

Individuals or groups contributing to this EA: Department of Environmental Quality, Permitting and Compliance Division.

EA prepared by: M. Eric Merchant, MPH  
Date: 09/15/98