

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

INDUSTRIAL & ENERGY MINERALS BUREAU OPENCUT MINING PROGRAM

SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Proponent : Richland County Public Works
Site : Vitt Site
Legal : N1/2NW1/4NW1/4of Sec 2, T23N, R56E
County : Richland

Approved Permit & Amendment: C27-019

Type and Purpose of Action: Proponent has applied for an amendment to add 20 acres adjacent to the existing mine to the permit area. This area would be used for mining purposes. Product is being used for road construction jobs. Reclamation would be to rangeland.

Site Description: The site is located in a rural area rangeland area about 6 miles north of Highway 200 in western Richland County. The site is totally encompassed by oil pipelines which have been flagged for safety. An old, prelaw highway gravel pit lies on the south side. The amendment area is owned by Edna Bahls.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation: The proposed new mine area is an extension of the area currently being mined. The updated Mining and Reclamation Plan applies to the new area. It does not change the mining methods or reclamation of the site. The new acreage can be easily prepared, used, and reclaimed. There are no exceptional mining and reclamation considerations. Use of the amendment area would not cause any significant impacts on the physical environment or human population. The proponent is legally bound through the reclamation permit with the state to reclaim the site. There were no species of concern identified in an information request in 1998 and none identified in June 2005 when the Bahls area was originally submitted to us. Both before and since that time pipelines have crisscrossed the site and adjacent land. The land has been farmed in the past. Because all of the area has been previously disturbed, the possibility that species of concern are present is negligible.

The 1998 Environmental Assessment is applicable to this action.

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Prepared by: Jo Stephen, July 2006