

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OPENCUT MINING PROGRAM**

**SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
March 24, 2008**

Proponent: Stillwater Mining Company
Site Name: Yates Pit
Legal: NW ¼ Sec 21 T3S R13E
County: Sweet Grass
Existing Permit #: **SMC-001**

History: Stillwater Mining Company permitted this site originally on 2001. Material was to be used for road maintenance on the Forest Service road up to the mine, for possible secondary access road, and for a use on a land application site if it became necessary for the East Boulder Mine. Stillwater Mine works closely with the local chapters of the Northern Plains Resource Council. All mitigation on the original permit was worked out with local residents and organizations. It was approved August 2001. The original Environmental Assessment identified no significant impacts.

Type and Purpose of Action: The applicant has requested an extension to its original reclamation date until October 2014. There would be no other changes to the plan or bonding. Gravel from the pit will continue to be used for maintenance of the Forest Service and East Boulder County Road. If the Land application area needs to be built in the future this material could also be used on that project mainly for construction of accesses on the Bow Ranch. All aspects of the gravel pit operation will remain the same.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation: It is expected that impacts associated with this proposal will mimic those identified in the originally approved EA from 2001.

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Chief, Industrial & Energy Minerals Bureau

Date