

Ron Olson Construction

# Mineral Extraction Interim Use Permit



Kirsten Pauly, PE/PG  
Sunde Engineering, PLLC

May 31, 2022

1

Kirsten Pauly

*Registration* Licensed Professional Engineer  
Licensed Professional Geologist

*Employment History* 1983 – present - Sunde Engineering  
2005 – present - President of Sunde Engineering

*Education* B.A. Geology, 1983, Colorado College  
M.S. Civil Engineering, 1990, University of Minnesota

*Focus on* Environmental Engineering –  
Environmental Review – EAWs/EISs – Proposer/RGU  
Aggregate Mining - Construction aggregates, limestone and  
granite quarries, and industrial sand mines.

2

## Mineral Extraction Interim Use Permit



Ron Olson owns approximately 210 acres of property located in San Francisco Township

Olson has applied for a Mineral Extraction Interim Use Permit from San Francisco Township.

The Olson property is located south of County Road 50 and east of Joyce Rd. 159<sup>th</sup> Street

Silver Creek runs through the southern portion of the property flowing east into Bevens Creek located east of the site.



3

## Township Mining Ordinance

**SAN FRANCISCO TOWNSHIP  
CARVER COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**MINERAL EXTRACTION  
ORDINANCE**  
Ordinance No. 8

Originally Adopted  
June 30, 2011

Amended by Ordinance No. 12  
December 15, 2014

Amended by Ordinance No. 14  
July 20, 2020

- San Francisco Township adopted a Mineral Extraction Ordinance in 2011
- San Francisco Township is the land use authority for mining within the Township.



4

## ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Ordinance requires all proposed mining applications begin with an Environmental Assessment Worksheet.

MINN RULES 4410 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

- The Town Board was the RGU;
- An EAW was published in February 2021;
- Distributed to required government agencies;
- 30 day comment period;
- Prepared Findings of Fact and Record of Decision including comments and response to comments, and
- Issued a Negative Declaration on the need for and EIS on May 13, 2021.



5

## ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

“Based upon the above findings and evaluation per Minnesota Rules 4410.1700, San Francisco Township finds that the proposed Olson Sand and Gravel Mine does not have the potential for significant environmental impacts. Consequently San Francisco Township issues a Negative Declaration on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet and does not require preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Olson Sand and Gravel Mine project.” (emphasis added)

- Environmental Review Process was completed in accordance with Minn. Rules 4410
- Environmental Review was completed in accordance with The Township Ordinance



6

## ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

SAN FRANCISCO TOWNSHIP CARVER COUNTY, MINNESOTA MINERAL EXTRACTION ORDINANCE No. 8 Amended by Ordinance No. 14 July 20, 2020

N. Unless the Town Board determines, based on the information developed and comments submitted as part of the EAW process, that the proposed project does not have the potential for significant environmental effects, a proposal to establish a Mineral Extraction Facility within the Minnesota River Bluff and Ravine Areas shall require the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS). Emphasis added

A scoping EAW will be required and used to set the requirements for an EIS. An EIS will be mandatory if the proposed mineral extraction is within the Minnesota River Bluff or Ravine areas of San Francisco Township, unless the Town Board determines, based on the information developed and comments submitted as part of the EAW process, that the proposed project does not have the potential for significant environmental effects. Emphasis added



7

## Section 3 - INTERIM USE PERMITS

The Ordinance regulates the TOTAL MINING AREA and the ACTIVE MINE AREA

## TOTAL MINE AREA

- No Mineral Extraction Interim Use Permit may permit a total mining area larger than 120 acres.
- An applicant must specifically identify the portion of the parcel (not to exceed 120 acres) that shall constitute the total mining area.



- Olson has identified a 37 acre total mining area



8

Active Mining Area  
Use of the total mining area shall be limited as follows:

1. 35 acres = active mining area
2. No more than 10 acres of the active mining area may be used as the extraction area at one time.
3. No more than 15 acres of the active mining area may be used as the operations area at one time.
4. No more than 10 acres of the active mining area may be used as the restoration area at one time.

Olson is seeking approval of the 35 acre active mine area (Phases 1-4). Mining into Phase 4a would be subject to a future Town Board Approval.

9

**Chapter 7: Mineral Extraction Performance Standards**

**Section 1 - PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

**N. Setbacks.**

1. No extraction activity may occur within one thousand (1000) feet of a dwelling or within two hundred (200) feet of any adjacent property line, road right-of-way or public utility.
2. Screeners, and other processing equipment may not be located closer than one thousand (1000) feet from a dwelling nor closer than two hundred (200) feet from any adjacent property line, or road right-of-way.

10

**Chapter 7: Mineral Extraction Performance Standards**

**Section 1 - PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

**N. Setbacks.**

No extraction activity or processing activity within:

- 1,000 feet of a dwelling
- 200 feet of any adjacent property line, road right-of-way or public utility.

Mine limits have been developed to maintain the required 1,000 ft setback from houses not owned by the proposer and 200 feet from road right of way

100 feet from top of bluff

11

**Chapter 7: Mineral Extraction Performance Standards**

**Section 1 - PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

**D. Access**

- All mineral extraction facilities shall have direct access to a 9-ton, or greater capacity, hard surface, road.

Olson proposes to upgrade 159<sup>th</sup> and Joyce Road from the mine site to County Road 50 ( 2,00 ft +/-) to a 9 ton blacktopped road through an agreement with the Township.

The Town Board, or designee, shall set minimum roadway maintenance obligations as a condition of the permit.

12



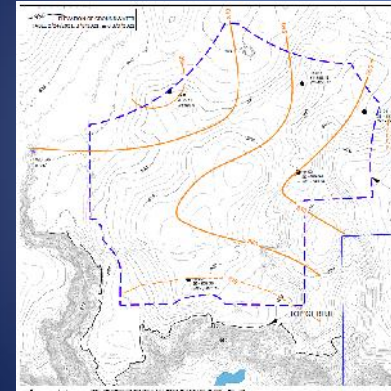
Chapter 7: Mineral Extraction Performance Standards  
Section 1 - PERFORMANCE STANDARDS D. Access

- Site access at least 300 feet from any intersection or residential driveway.
- The proposed site access is located over 300 feet from an intersection or residential driveway



13

Y. **Dewatering.** Dewatering to obtain materials intersecting the groundwater shall not be allowed. No mining will be allowed within ten (10) feet of the normal water table.

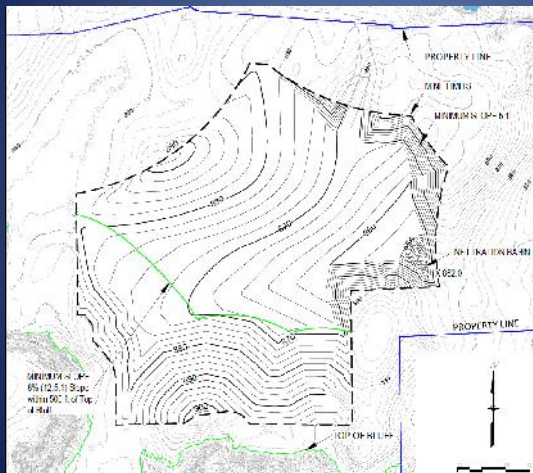


- 6 soil borings drilled to establish the elevation of the water table.
- Groundwater beneath the site is a surficial sand and gravel aquifer. As the sand thins to the west the presence of the water table aquifer diminishes.
- No dewatering is proposed. Depth of mining will be limited to ten feet above the normal water table.



14

## Reclamation



5:1 slopes except  
8% slopes within  
500 feet of top of  
bluff

Phased reclamation

CCWMO Permit  
addresses requires a  
topsoil management  
plan, seeding  
specifications and  
stormwater  
management  
standards.

15

## Other permits:

Carver County WMO grading permit - addresses reclamation, topsoil management seeding, erosion and sediment control and stormwater management.

MPCA – NPDES Permit requires a stormwater pollution prevention plan and stormwater management, inspections, and reporting.

Air emissions permit – Processing equipment is subject to a general air permit from the MPCA includes fugitive dust and noise standards

MSHA – Not a permit but mines require registration and subject to inspections and compliance with MSHA regulations

16

Why here?

1. We don't get to choose where sand and gravel deposits are located. They are naturally occurring based on past geologic activity.
2. We use aggregates to maintain and build our states infrastructure including roads, bridges, public works projects, schools and homes.
3. The availability of a local supply of quality aggregates is economically beneficial reducing the cost of construction projects and reducing tax payer dollars spent on these projects
4. Aggregates are an important natural resource in Minnesota. Aggregate deposits in Carver County are scarce. They are a finite resource and there is a need to utilize the available deposits before development covers them up.

17

Because

1. We use aggregates to maintain and build our states infrastructure including roads, bridges , public works projects, schools and homes
2. The availability of a local supply of quality aggregates is economically beneficial reducing the cost of construction projects and reducing tax payer dollars spent on these projects
3. Aggregates are an important natural resource in Minnesota. They are a finite resource and there is a need to utilize the available deposits before development covers them up.

18

## Use of Construction Aggregates

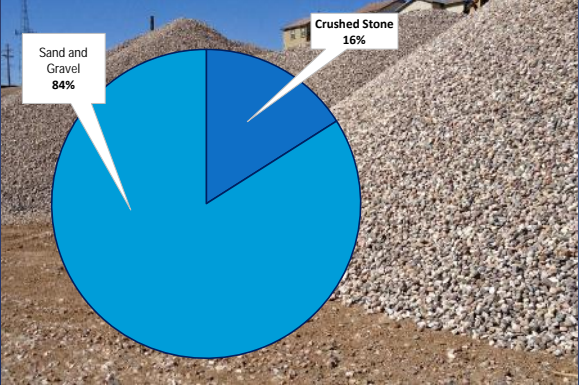
Aggregates are a vital component of our state's infrastructure

Concrete and Asphalt Mixes	Agricultural Lime
Foundations for Highways	Snow and Ice Control
Foundations for Structures	Drainfields
Railroad Ballast	Golf Course Sand
Road Shoulder Stabilization	Infield Mix
Gravel Roads	Recreational Trails
Driveways	Landscape Rock
RipRap/Erosion Control	Engineered Backfill
Shoreland Stabilization	Retaining Wall Blocks
	Beaches





19

## Sources of Aggregates in MN



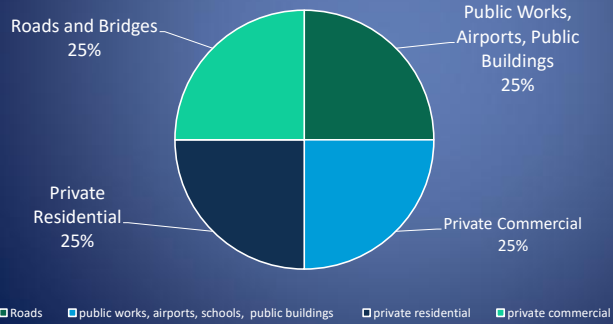
- Crushed Stone
- Sand and Gravel



20

Estimated annual consumption of aggregates is 9-10 tons per person to build and maintain roads, bridges, develop infrastructure, and support construction projects.

2017 Minerals Education Coalition Society for mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Foundation



21

Questions?

22