

Memorandum

Date: June 5, 2023
To: Raleigh Miller Mine
From: Daniel Elder, Planner II
Subject: Washington County Public Works. Raleigh Miller Mine Inspection

Purpose: Overview of Mine Violations and plan for moving forward.

1. The review of the site indicated that berm located on the eastern parcel line of the northern permit is within 50 feet at several places. The owner will correct the berm ensure it is outside of the 50-foot setback, regardless of the purpose of the encroachment. The owner will provide the County and Township with a survey indicating that the berm is outside of the setback.
2. The berm located on south parcel line of the northern pit is located outside of the approved mining area. Staff is under the understanding that the berm was constructed at the request of the neighboring resident. The parcel in question will be added to the mining operations site plan for approval with the Township and County. This will allow for the formal documentation that the berm in question is not a violation and is in place as an approved screening measure.
3. The survey of the northern pit indicated several areas that were below the allowed excavation depth of 840 feet. The County would like to work with the mine to come to an understanding regarding the elevations needed in the pit for storm water management. The owner will provide the County and Township with a plan, prepared by a licensed qualified engineer, that includes the grading and contours needed outside of the approved mining area to allow for water runoff. The plan shall be documented with the County and Township during the next permitting cycle to ensure that all parties understand the elevations and operations on site. Any areas inside the active mining area below 840 feet in elevation shall be restored to 840 feet in elevation.
4. County staff was made aware of a complaint regarding screening from 100th St N. The owner will work with the County to create a landscaping plan that provides additional screening on the northwest area of the site.
5. Staff reviewed the western haul road onsite. The haul road is within the 50-foot setbacks of the regulations. Upon review staff believes that location of the haul road is located in such a place that moving the road will present additional difficulties, specifically with run-off and erosion. The owner during the next permitting cycle with the Township and County shall have the location of the road formally documented in the permit.
6. The owner shall install a fence between the south pit and the house located to the north. Additionally, fence will be repaired and installed along Pawnee between the gate and the location of the home.

7. Staff has reviewed the setbacks with the latest aerial imagery, and there is concern regarding the setback for the northern pit. The imagery indicates that the mine has conducted grading and mining activity within 50 feet of the neighboring property and potentially within 200 feet of an existing occupied structure. As such, they appear to be operating outside the approved mining area. County staff will be measuring the setback from the property line to either mining, stockpiling, or land disturbance.

A great place to live, work and play...today and tomorrow

Government Center | 14949 62nd Street North | P. O. Box 6 | Stillwater, MN 55082-0006
P: 651-430-6001 | F: 651-430-6017 | TTY: 651-430-6246
www.co.washington.mn.us

Washington County is an equal opportunity organization and employer

A great place to live, work and play...today and tomorrow

North Shop | 11660 Myeron Road North | Stillwater, MN 55082-9537
P: 651-430-4300 | F: 651-430-4350 | TTY: 651-430-6246
www.co.washington.mn.us

Washington County is an equal opportunity organization and employer
