

PROJECT STATEMENT

"0" 68th Street – Removal and Processing of Sand

Date: 9-6-2022 Revised

Date: 1-23-2023 Revised

Introduction

The applicant is requesting a Special Use approval for the removal and processing of sand at an existing property on 68th Street in Casco Township.

The following information is provided in response to the Specific Use Regulations of the Casco Township Zoning Ordinance Sec. 15.03. Specific Use Standards DD. Removal and Processing of sand.

1. Application:

a. **Parcel Size:** 80 acres

b. **Legal Description:**

Tax description:

The North 2/3 of the South ¾ of the Northeast ¼ of Section 20 T1N R16W
Parcel No. 03-02-020-002-00

c. **Plan:**

1) thru 5). (see plans)

6) A map showing the haul access route between the subject lands and the nearest county primary road is included (C-204)

7) Estimated total sand removal of 779,000 cubic yards (project total).
Estimated annual sand removal of 77,900 cubic yards (total amount / 10 years)

Estimated annual haul days = 140 (7 months at 5 days a week)

Estimated daily sand removal of 556 cubic yards per day (77,900 CY / 140 days)

Estimated Truck trips per day of 14 (556 cubic yards / 40 yards per truck).

Owner Anticipates a range of 10 to 20 trucks per day on average.

8) Typical cross-sections showing the estimated extent of overburden, estimated extent of mineral material location in or on the lands. This information is provided on plan C-400 including the existing topsoil depth.

9) A reclamation plan including landscaping details has been provided (see C-600).

10) Geological and Engineering survey and data prepare by a geologist or civil engineer licensed by the State of Michigan, indicating:

a) The estimated ground water table throughout the planned mining area is ranges between 605.0 & 606.0 This level is determined by checking levels in existing well casings on site and via piezometers installed in December of 2022.

b) Excavation is proposed to stop 3 feet above the seasonal high-water table as determined by geotechnical analysis. No impact to the water table is anticipated.

c) Benchmark datum is NGVD88.

d) Impact to quality of surface water, groundwater and watershed are anticipated to be minimal.

e) No exposure of subterranean waters or impoundment of surface waters is proposed. The entire site does become a basin.

- f) The excavation will create a natural basin to capture the drainage runoff on site. No impact to existing drains or water courses is anticipated. Any stormwater runoff will be released by infiltration on site.

d. Public Safety:

A berm with evergreen trees will be constructed along 68th Street to provide screening prior to excavation reaching within 500 feet of the existing residences located on the East side of 68th Street. 200 feet of buffer will remain undisturbed adjacent to property lines on all sides. The adjacent property to the south is wooded. A proposed 6 foot tall security fence will be constructed around the perimeter of the active mining area (approx. 11 acres) with "no trespassing" signs located every 200 feet (max). The fence will be relocated as mining progresses. The entrance to the mine will be gated and locked.

e. Road Maintenance:

The public roads which are part of the proposed haul route are adequate to handle truck loading. All posted weight limits (including seasonal) will be followed. The applicant will enter an agreement with Casco Township for operation of the sand mine which will specify how road maintenance and repair will be managed. The applicant will maintain a security deposit of an amount satisfactory to the township for so long as the sand mine is in operation. If the security deposit is ever drawn upon by the Township, the applicant shall replenish it immediately to the agreed upon level.

f. Estimated Escrow to assure Casco Township adequate resources for inspections, monitoring and enforcement, etc.:

An escrow of \$1000 per year is proposed to assure the township has resources for inspections, monitoring and enforcement (for fees from attorneys, engineers or other experts).

g. End Use:

This site is located in a rural area and has been utilized primarily for agriculture in the past. The proposed end use is to continue agricultural activity which will help maintain the agricultural character of this site and blend with the general vicinity. To accomplish this the maximum proposed excavated slope is 1 on 10. This will provide a gentle enough slope to allow agricultural equipment to operate. A reclamation plan including landscaping details has been provided (see C-600).

h. Other Permits Required:

- 1) A soil and sedimentation control permit from the Allegan County Health Department will be required.
- 2) EGLE Part 301 (N/A)
- 3) NPDES (only if more than 5 acres of disturbance)
- 4) EPA permits (N/A)
- 5) Wetlands (N/A)
- 6) Any other permits required by law

i. Business Transfer or early closeout protections

Assurances of compliance for business transfer or early closeout will be provided as required by the township.

- 2. General Review Standards:** The planning commission will consider standards a. through i. when reviewing the application. Note that approval by an independent Michigan registered professional engineer is a precondition to site plan and permit approval.
- 3. Nuisance abatement:** Each application for removal or processing of ..sand, shall also meet the following nuisance abatement requirements:
- a. Hours of operation, amount and frequency of material removed:**
Proposed hours of operation will be 8:00am through 5:00pm, Monday-Friday. Saturday hours will be allowed for equipment maintenance and repair only (8:00am-3:00pm). No planned removal will occur during weekends major holidays including New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas See Item 1.c. 7) above for amount and frequency of material removed.
 - b. No business or industrial buildings , structures, etc.**
No buildings are proposed
 - c. Setbacks to mineral stockpiles, machinery storage , truck parking etc...**
Current plan meets required setbacks.
 - d. Setback to excavation and berms...**
Current plan meets required setbacks.
 - e. All of the operations shall be fenced....**
Current plan meets fence requirements.
 - f. Measures determined by planning commission to minimize nuisance....**
 - 1) Site landscaping**
 - 2) Screening**
 - 3) & 4) Protection of existing Trees**
A county soil erosion and sedimentation control permit will be required.
The existing tree buffer will remain in place on the west side.
A berm and tree buffer is proposed on the east side adjacent to 68th Street.
 - g. Noise**
Noise levels will meet the required limit of 60 decibels at the property line.
 - h. Silica**
Silica levels will be monitored using EPA standards
 - i. No mineral .. shall be brought to the site for processing storage or disposal.**
Only clean soils used as part of site stabilization and the end use reclamation process will be imported and disposed on site.
 - j. Lighting**
No permanent lighting is proposed. Safety lighting on mining equipment is allowed
 - k. Truck routes**
A proposed truck route plan has been provided (C-204) which shows the shortest route to a county primary and routes that safely navigate the existing bridge system nearby.
 - l. Mine access roads:**
Proposed mine access roads within the area of operation will be maintained to control dust generation. The applicant requests a waiver allowing to construct the access road of gravel or crushed concrete for the first 200 feet from its intersection with the perimeter road (68th Street) due to the fact that 68th street itself is not paved.
 - m. The planning commission may require an environmental impact statement, engineering data, or other additional information concerning the need for and consequences of the extraction if it is believed that such extraction may have an adverse impact on natural topography**
An environmental impact assessment has been provided by Nederveld dated 1-18-2023.
A one-time escrow deposit of \$5000 is proposed for an independent engineering review of the environmental impact assessment.

4. Additional Information:

a. Project Schedule:

The extraction of mineral would begin immediately upon issuance of the Special Use approval.

b. Description of extraction and processing methods:

The sand extraction will be done with traditional means and methods of mechanical excavation. Excavation would generally start on the west and work east. An excavator and loader will be used to dig material and then load it into a dump truck. The dump truck will then transfer the material off site via 68th Street. Some temporary stockpiling may occur on site in the designated area for equipment and processing only. The 20' wide access road will be used to run the dump truck back and forth between the excavation location and 68th Street. Trucks will also occasionally haul topsoil or clay from off site to replace some of the excavated sand. Slopes on the excavation site will be graded as excavation continues to the east. A final slope of 1 on 10 maximum is proposed.