

Otsego County Planning Commission

Minutes from 06-21-2010

- 1) Call to Order 6:00pm
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Roll Call

Present: Mr. Stults, Ms. Backenstose, Mr. Klee, Mrs. Jarecki, Mr. Mang, Mr. Arndt, Mr. Hilgendorf, Ms. Nowak, Mr. Borton

Absent: Mr. Colosimo

Zoning staff present: Mr. Ferrigan, Mrs. Bolinger

- 4) Consent Agenda: None
- 5) Approval of minutes from 5-17-2010

Motion to approve the minutes as written made by Mr. Klee. Supported by Mr. Borton.

Approval unanimous. Motion passes.

- 6) Other: None
- 7) Public participation for items not on the agenda.

Mr. Blumberg "My name is Elliott Blumberg, I represent Colleen Jozwiak I was here in the Month of May before this committee at that time there was motion made by Mr. Ernst that was approved unanimously that mandated that the Zoning Administrator should appropriately enforce the Zoning Ordinance as it relates to the Matelski operations. It is my understanding that over a month has gone by and nothing has been done. The furtherance of this board's directive to enforce the Zoning Ordinance. I ask the board at this point to inquire of the Zoning Administrator what has he done in reliance of the directions of this committee."

Mr. Stults "Thank you."

Mr. Ferrigan "Do you want me to answer now?"

Mr. Stults "You may sir."

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Mr. Ferrigan "I did exactly what they asked. I contacted Hider Kasim the Counties legal council, he directed me to site Ordinance language that said you're in violation of the ordinance, you have 30 days to respond and cease and desist, stop all operations. I sent it to him certified mail and I don't think they've picked it up. Do we have the card back?"

Mrs. Bolinger "We have not received the card back from the US Mail."

Mr. Ferrigan "That's where we're at. If they don't pick it up then that's as good as being served right?"

Mr. Blumberg "No, no actually it isn't. Then you have to get them served some other way."

Mr. Ferrigan "Ok."

Mr. Blumberg "So the committee's aware, he continues to operate the gravel pit, he continues to mine even though by his own acknowledgment that the production phase ended over a year ago. He's going to continue to do something until he's told he can't do it anymore, and I thought it was pretty clear back on May 17th as to what the committee's position was. I don't believe that there was any directive to the Zoning Administrator to contact the Counties attorney and I spoke to Mr. Ferrigan and I appreciate his concerns about taking steps that may not be approved by the Counties attorney. But the committee was pretty clear in its directive. The Special Use Permit has lapsed, they can't conduct any mining operations, they can't operate the gravel pit, and he's done that and he will continue to do that, so again all I'm asking you to do is to enforce the Zoning Ordinance. And that's what you guys directed the Zoning Administrator to do."

Mr. Stults "The Zoning Administrator is doing that. He's got every right to ask the County attorney the proper way and see that that happens, that's what he's done and he fully intends on following up on the time frame to see that it happens. So it's not an issue we're dropping, it's continuing."

Mr. Ferrigan "I did ask him, if I may..."

Mr. Stults "Yes."

Mr. Ferrigan "I did ask Mr. Kasim about placing the stop work order on the site to put it up and tell the no more. He said that's not what it says you have to do, you have to send them a notice of violation, you have do this, if they don't respond to it that they cease, then we ticket them with a misdemeanor ticket and court. That's what he said to do. That's how I read it too."

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Mr. Blumberg "And I guess what's apparent to me is that Mr. Matelski has no intentions of picking up the certified mail that was sent to him so I guess all that I would ask is that there are alternative means to effectuate service. I would just simply ask that the Zoning Administrator use that."

Mr. Stults "And I think we can get that done."

Mr. Blumberg "Thank you."

Mr. Stults "Are there any other Commission member comments? Any other public comments on items not on the agenda? Seeing none we will move onto unfinished business, which there is none. Public hearings."

8) Unfinished business: None

9) Public Hearings

1) SPR10-001 LC Redi-Mix will not be heard tonight. They asked to be tabled until next month's meeting due to lease agreement versus purchase of the property.

Motion made by Mr. Arndt to adjourn the LC Redi-Mix public hearing until the Planning Commissions July 19 2010 meeting at 6:00pm or as soon thereafter as possible.
Supported by Ms. Nowak.

Approval unanimous. Motion passes.

2) V100003 Top-O' Michigan Reclaimers at 3065 East Dixon Lake Rd. Gaylord, MI 49735
Public hearing opened at 6:11pm.

Mr. Ferrigan introduced the case to the Commission.

Mr. Phil Mason introduced himself to the Commission and stated why he was requesting an extension of the mining Special Use permit.

Mr. Arndt stated that the Bagley Township board approved the permit application.

Mr. Jeff Marcott addressed the board with questions and concerns. He stated that he is strongly opposed to the renewal of the mining pit.

There were multiple discussion among the public and Planning Commission members.

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Julie Dewitt addressed the Commission. She had questions for the Commission. She stated that she is neither opposed or in favor of the mining operation.

There were more discussions with the public.

Public hearing closed at 6:35pm.

There were multiple discussions among the Commission members.

Mr. Ferrigan gave his opinion on how the gravel pit looks as of the last inspection.

There were more discussions among Commission members and Mr. Mason. Motion made by Mr. Mang in respect to case #V1000003 that the permit be issued for the continued operation of the Mason-Dixon pit for the next five (5) years per the ordinance, subject to condition set forth. Supported by Mr. Borton.

Approved unanimously. Motion passes.

There were multiple discussions on the conditions to set with the Special Use permit.

Motion made by Mr. Arndt to adopt the 23 conditions set forth with the Special Use permit. Supported by Mr. Klee.

Conditions for Special Use Permit for Gravel Mining V100003 Top-O-Michigan Reclaimers

1. Comply with the 10-14-09 inspection findings by Otsego County Zoning Dept.
2. Permit is from June 21, 2010 and expires June 21, 2015.
3. The area permitted for mining shall be marked with stakes at all corners before mining starts, and shall be maintained until the reclamation is complete and approved in writing by the Zoning Administrator.
4. The open mining area shall have no more than 8 acres of open mining surface at any one time.
5. Site shall display address in accordance with the Otsego County Ordinance and shall have the Owner/Operator contact information included on the sign which shall be located at the entrance to the site.

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6. The site Owner and or Operator shall accompany the Otsego County Land Use Services staff during all required inspections.
7. 18.25.8.1 Setbacks in which no part of the mining operation may take place except ingress and egress shall be as follows:
 - a. Excavation below the existing grade of adjacent roads or property lines shall not take place within fifty (50) feet minimum from any adjacent property line or road right-of-way line.

The above paragraph shall be interpreted to mean that no excavation including sloping/grading for reclamation shall take place within (50) feet minimum from any adjacent property line road right-of-way.
8. No machinery shall be erected or maintained within one hundred (100) feet of any property line or road right-of-way. Machinery shall be screened by tree cover or artificial barrier along a line shared with a dwelling in any direction.
9. No inoperable equipment shall be stored on site for a period longer than 90 days.
10. Interior roads, parking lots, haul road loading and unloading areas shall be maintained so as to limit the nuisance caused by windblown dust.
 - a. A dust control plan shall be submitted and approved by the Zoning Administrator and the approved plan shall be followed.
11. Mining operations on the site shall be restricted to 8:00am to 5:00pm Monday through Friday and from 9:00am to 12:00pm on Saturday. No crushing on Saturday and no activity on Sunday.
12. This Special Use permit is intended for sand and gravel mining/processing only. No other activities shall be allowed.
13. This permit is issued for a five (5) year period beginning on the date of approval and ending five (5) years from that date. All mining activity including reclamation shall be complete at the end of the five (5) year permit.
 - a. A completed plan for reclamation shall be provided to the leaser and the County no later than six (6) months prior to the termination of the leasee. The County shall solicit the approval of the lesser prior to approving the plan.
14. Noise levels from the site shall not routinely exceed sixty (60) decibels at any residence or permanent dwelling.

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15. Identify probable routs of travel for trucks using the facility.
16. No trucks shall be allowed to park beside any public road while waiting for the day's operations to begin or while waiting to be loaded or unloaded.
17. All junk and trash is to be removed.
18. A surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit in the amount of ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars, with an expiration date to coincide with terms of the permit plus one (1) year shall be provided to Otsego County.
19. Maintain topsoil berms of ten (10) foot in height.
20. A one hundred (100) greenbelt shall be maintained as in the original 2004 conditions.
21. The crusher shall be operated ten (10) feet below ground level as considered from the property borders.
22. The applicant will revise the restoration plan to address reuse of the bermed soil.
23. Pit gates shall be kept locked when the pit is not in operation.

Approved unanimously. Motion passes.

- 3) V100004 Reith Riley Construction request to continue sand and gravel mining operation at 3006 Martindale Rd. Gaylord, MI 49735

Note: The applicant is not present at this meeting.

Public hearing opened at 9:06pm.

Mr. Gary Smith addressed the Commission. He is opposed to the renewal of the gravel pit.

Mr. Ferrigan stated that there are no signs of rehabilitation on the site at the last inspection.

Public Hearing closed at 9:15pm.

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Motion made by Mr. Arndt to table case #V100004 for deliberation until next Planning Commission meeting. Supported by Ms. Nowak.

Approved unanimously. Motion passes.

10) Unfinished Commission Business: None

11) New Business

4) Election of new Planning Commission Secretary.

Nominations open at 9:12pm.

Nomination of Mr. Ken Borton by Ms. Backenstose.

Nominations closed at 9:13pm.

Nomination approved by unanimous vote.

12) Reports and Commission member comments.

Mr. Stults read the Resolution for Mr. John Ernst.

On next months agenda there will be a Public hearing for the Otsego County Capital Improvement plan for 2011 through 2016.

Mr. Stults read a letter from John Burt, Otsego County Administrator.

“At their June 9th 2010 regular meeting the Otsego County Board of Commissioners passed a motion to request the Planning Commission to review the Medical Marijuana Law to determine whether language is needed in the Zoning Ordinance, or as a separate ordinance, concerning medical Marijuana primary care givers which are now authorized by the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act. Primary caregivers are authorized to grow up to twelve (12) plants for each patient under their care and may have five (5) patients under their care resulting in them essentially becoming Marijuana dispensaries. Zoning for these Marijuana dispensaries has become an issue in several Michigan communities. The Board of Commissioners has not stated their opinion on the topic, but merely expressed that the Planning Commission should review the subject and decide whether any changes are needed. Thank you for your consideration on these matters. John M. Burt”

Mr. Stults asked Ms. Backenstose to request that Mr. Harkness come to the next Planning Commission meeting to elaborate on the medical marijuana subject.

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13) Meeting adjourned at 9:42pm.

Staff recommendations for V100004 Reith-Riley Construction Company Special Use Permit for mining, Gravel and Sand at 3006 Martindale Road, Gaylord MI.

1. Permit is from July 19, 2010 and expires July 19, 2015.
2. All mining activity including reclamation shall be complete at the end of the five (5) year permit. Unless an application for renewal of the Special Use Permit has been made and approval granted by the Otsego County Planning Commission prior to the expiration of the permit.
3. The area permitted for mining shall be marked with stakes at all corners before mining starts, and shall be maintained until the reclamation is complete and approved in writing by the Zoning Administrator.
4. The open mining area shall have no more than 8 acres of open mining surface at any one time.
5. 18.25.8.1 Setbacks in which no part of the mining operation may take place except ingress and egress shall be as follows:
 - a. Excavation below the existing grade of adjacent roads or property lines shall not take place within fifty (50) feet minimum from any adjacent property line or road right-of-way line.

The above paragraph shall be interpreted to mean that no excavation including sloping/grading for reclamation shall take place within (50) feet minimum from any adjacent property line road right-of-way.

6. Site shall display address in accordance with the Otsego County Ordinance and shall have the Owner/Operator contact information included on the sign which shall be located at the entrance to the site. Pit gates shall be kept locked when the pit is not in operation.
7. No machinery shall be erected or maintained within one hundred (100) feet of any property line or road right-of-way. Machinery shall be screened by tree cover or artificial barrier along a line shared with a dwelling in any direction.
8. Maintain topsoil berms of ten (10) foot in height.
9. The crusher shall be operated ten (10) feet below ground level as considered from the property borders.
10. Noise levels from the site shall not routinely exceed sixty (60) decibels at any residence or permanent dwelling.
11. No inoperable equipment shall be stored on site for a period longer than 90 days. All junk and trash is to be removed.
12. Interior roads, parking lots, haul road loading and unloading areas shall be maintained so as to limit the nuisance caused by windblown dust.
 - a. A dust control plan shall be submitted and approved by the Zoning Administrator and the approved plan shall be followed.

13. No trucks shall be allowed to park beside any public road while waiting for the day's operations to begin or while waiting to be loaded or unloaded.
14. Mining operations on the site shall be restricted to 8:00am to 5:00pm Monday through Friday and from 9:00am to 12:00pm on Saturday. No crushing on Saturday and no activity on Sunday.
15. This Special Use permit is intended for sand and gravel mining/processing and the sale of material mined and processed from this site only. No other activities shall be allowed without Planning Commission approval.
16. The site Owner and or Operator shall accompany the Otsego County Land Use Services staff during all required inspections.
17. Comply with the 10-15-09 inspection findings by Otsego County Zoning Dept.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.
- 21.
- 22.
- 23.
- 24.
- 25.

Otsego County Land Use Services
1066 CROSS STREET
GAYLORD, MI 49735

(989) 731 7400 *Fax (989) 731 7419

David M. Delaney
P.O. Box 1771
Gaylord, MI 49734

Wednesday, April 7, 2010

Mr. Delaney,

As you are aware at the Otsego County Planning Commission meeting held on 12-21-09 a motion was made, supported and approved stating the following:

Mr. Ernst: Ok. Motion by Ernst that based on the fact that no acceptable restoration plan has been submitted the Otsego County Planning Commission finds that Northern Processing is in violation of the conditions of the Special Use permit and the Otsego County Zoning Ordinance.

During the 12-21-09 meeting the Otsego County Planning Commission was informed by our legal counsel, Haider Kazim that due to an opinion issued by Judge Janet M. Allen that no reclamation plan was required to be submitted. The Otsego County Planning Commission could not require Northern Processing to submit a plan.

I am now in receipt of Judge Allen's opinion and order dated 01-12-10 regarding Plaintiff's motion for reconsideration regarding filing reclamation plan. Judge Allen concludes the motion with the following statement "After considering the additional information, the Court grants Plaintiff's motion to compel Northern Processing to file a reclamation plan regarding the subject property".

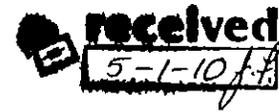
We are now requesting that your client (Northern Processing) comply with Judge Allen's order and the request of the Otsego County Planning Commission by submitting a reclamation plan for the mining operation located at the corner of Pyke School and Winters Road. The completed reclamation plan should be received by the Otsego County Land Use Services department on or before May 3, 2010.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Joseph S. Ferrigan
Director, Otsego County Land Use

Randy Stults
Chairperson, Otsego County Planning Commission

NORTHERN PROCESSING, LLC
P.O. Box 2
Vanderbilt, MI 49795
(989) 983-2600



PIT RESTORATION PLAN (18.25.7)

Prior to mining operations, topsoil shall be stripped from the area to be mined and stockpiled initially to provide additional sight and sound barriers. Topsoil will be taken from these stockpiles and placed in the mined area after all extraction operations are completed and the area graded. Topsoil shall be placed at a depth of 2" to 4". All slopes around the mined perimeter shall be reclaimed to a maximum angle of one (1) foot vertical to three (3) foot horizontal before the topsoil is placed on them. All reclaimed areas shall be seeded, planted with red pine seedlings, or stabilized with some other acceptable form of turf establishment. Our intent will be to shape the mined area in a manner that will make it harmonious with the surrounding terrain. (16.3.1.4.6)

Screening will be accomplished by leaving a fifty (50) foot minimum wide belt of natural and existing vegetation along the property and public road right-of-way lines. According to our timber management agreement, only selective timber cutting will continue within the fifty (50) foot buffer zone, as it has over the past several years.

It is the intent of Northern Processing, LLC, to restore the entire property in such a manner as to leave it in a condition that will make it compatible with forest/recreational/residential land uses. All restoration practices will be done with this goal in mind. (16.3.1.4.5)

Final rehabilitation shall proceed in a progressive manner as areas become mined out.

Otsego County Land Use Services
1066 CROSS STREET
GAYLORD, MI. 49735

(989) 731 7400 *Fax (989) 731 7419

COPY

David M. Delaney
P.O. Box 1771
Gaylord, MI. 49734

Monday, June 7, 2010

Mr. Delaney

At the May 17, 2010 meeting of the Otsego County Planning Commission the following motion was made and passed.

A motion by John Ernst:

Following review of Northern Processing LLC, Pit Restoration Plan the Otsego County Planning Commission finds the following additional information is required to be included in the plan before it can be accepted.

1. Turf restoration shall be per the recommendations of the Otsego Conservation District as stated in condition #3 of the November 2, 2001 permit approval. Please attach recommendations from Otsego Conservation District specific to this site restoration.
2. Date, name and signature of Mr. Matelski or an authorized member of Northern Processing LLC is required.
3. Reference to a "Timber Management Plan" does not appear to apply to this gravel pit and must be clarified.
4. Given that the permit is expired a date for completion of reclamation is required.

Support by: Mr. Mang

Voice vote was unanimous, motion carries

Please address the concerns and resubmit the restoration plan to Otsego County Land Use Services, and I will forward the reclamation plan to the planning Commission.

At the same meeting the following motion was made and passed.

A motion by John Ernst:

As Tom Matelski operating as Northern Processing obtained a Special Use Permit for Mining Sand & Gravel at parcel 042-033-300-005-03 under permit numbers SUP2001-9-4-CH and PC-2003-09-CH-SUP

And as this permit and all extensions have expired as of January 2009

And as the commercial operations have continued through May of 2010

And as this operation is in violation of the Otsego County Zoning Ordinance

It moved that appropriate enforcement actions should commence as soon as found practical by the Zoning Administrator.

Support by: Ken Borton

Voice vote was unanimous, motion carries

CCNY

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Pursuant to the above motion I am citing your client (Thomas Matelski / Northern processing) with a violation of the Otsego County Zoning Ordinance in accordance with Section 22.4 of the Otsego County Zoning Ordinance.

Specific violation:

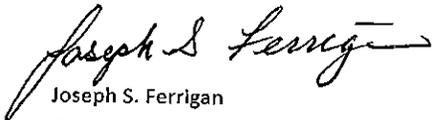
1. Special Use Permit PC-2003-09-CH-SUP issued on parcel # 042-033-300-005-03 expired in January 2009
2. Mining operations have since stopped but the sale of processed materials has continued it is a violation of the Otsego County Zoning Ordinance to carry on this type of activity without a valid Special Use Permit granted by the Otsego County Planning Commission.

Corrective Action:

Upon receipt of this Notice of Violation Thomas Matelski / Northern Processing shall stop any activity that is in violation of the Otsego County Zoning Ordinance (the sale of processed materials).

In accordance with the Otsego County Zoning Ordinance you or your client must appear at the Otsego County Municipal Violations Bureau on or before 6-28-2010 no later than 4:00pm. If you or your client do not appear or do not admit responsibility I shall issue a Civil Infraction Citation.

If you have any questions regarding this notice please do not hesitate to contact me



Joseph S. Ferrigan
Director Otsego County Land Use Services

DAVID M. DELANEY, PLC
ATTORNEY AT LAW
113 N. ILLINOIS AVENUE, P.O. BOX 1771
GAYLORD, MICHIGAN 49734
PHONE (989) 731-1508 * FAX (989) 731-6968
E-mail dmdlawyer@gmail.com

July 12, 2010

Honorable Janet M. Allen
800 Livingston Blvd., Ste 3-B
Gaylord, MI 49735

Sent Via Fax
731-0221

Re: Jozwiak v Northern Processing
Case No. 08-12785-CH
Otsego County Circuit Court

Dear Judge Allen,

This letter is pursuant to the court's directive at the July 7, 2010 hearing for Northern Processing LLC to provide a time frame for reclamation of the gravel pit located at Winters and Pykeschool Road in Vanderbilt Michigan.

The 60 acre site has been progressively restored since 1991. Approximately 18 acres require restoration. Existing product occupies less than 2 acres.

In Phase I reclamation is commenced, with the dissevering of the embankments. The grade must be departed from the true vertical or horizontal to establish proper slopes. All slopes around the mined perimeter shall be reclaimed to a maximum angle of one (1) foot vertical to three (3) foot horizontal before the topsoil is placed on them.

Prior to mining operations, topsoil is stripped from the area to be mined and stockpiled initially to provide additional sight and sound barriers. In Phase II, topsoil is taken from these stockpiles and placed in the mined area after all extraction operations are completed and the area graded. Topsoil shall be placed at a depth of 2" to 4".

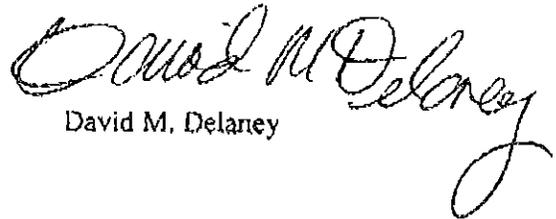
In Phase III all reclaimed areas shall be seeded or stabilized with other acceptable form of turf establishment. The intent will be to shape the mined area in a manner that will make it harmonious with the surrounding terrain. (Otsego County Zoning Ordinance sections 18.25.4 and 18.25.7)

On July 19, 2010 the Otsego County Planning Commission is scheduled to address reclamation. Northern Processing will advise the commission that 90 days will be necessary to complete Phase I, slopping of the embankments. Phase II, replacement of top soil and phase III seeding, will not be immediately commenced since the embankments must be stabilized to avoid erosion. Top soil replacement and seeding is not commenced during fall and winter months due to temperature of the ground which does not allow seeding to germinate and proliferate.

Phase I will be completed in October 2010. Phase II and III will be completed following the dissipation of frost from the ground in spring 2011.

It is the intent of Northern Processing, to restore the entire property in such a manner as to leave it in a condition that will make it compatible with forest land uses. All restoration practices will be conducted with this goal in mind. (Otsego County Zoning Ordinance article 8 Forestry Recreation)

Very Truly,



David M. Delaney

cc: Joe Ferrigan
Elliot Blumberg



Otsego County Planning Commission

Request to be placed on the Planning Commission Meeting Agenda

All requests for consideration to be on the agenda for a Planning Commission meeting not required by the Zoning Ordinance must complete this form and receive approval from the Planning Commission Chairperson.

Date of request: 7/8/10
 Organization/Name: Colleen Marie Jozwiak
 Presenter: (Elliot Blumberg, Kim Gibson) Title: (Legal Counsel; expert on)
 Address: Gaylord (Boyne City) (gravel pit restoration)
 Meeting date: July 19, 2010
 Purpose: To present information of proper restoration of gravel pit (Jozwiak gravel pit).

Type of Presentation: Oral + visual
 Approximate Length: ?
 Pass out material*: Don't know - perhaps.

* Please have pass out material available for commissioners (12 copies/sets) at the Land Use Services office seven days prior to the meeting date.

Desired decision/action by Planning Commission: _____

Other interested individuals to be present:

Name: _____ Title: _____
 Name: _____ Title: _____
 Name: _____ Title: _____
 Name: _____ Title: _____

Signature of requestor/presenter: Colleen Marie Jozwiak

Director of Land Use Services

Return completed from to: 1608 Cross Street
1068 Gaylord, Michigan 49735

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Date received by Land Use Services: _____
 Planning Commission Chairperson approval for placement on agenda: Randy Stuffs
 Signature of Chairperson

Date of approval: 7-12-2010



Otsego County Planning Commission

Request to be placed on the Planning Commission Meeting Agenda

All requests for consideration to be on the agenda for a Planning Commission meeting not required by the Zoning Ordinance must complete this form and receive approval from the Planning Commission Chairperson.

Date of request: July 12, 2010

Organization/Name: Northern Processing, LLC

Presenter: David M. Delaney

Title: Attorney

Address: P.O. Box 1771, Gaylord, MI 49734

Meeting Date: July 19, 2010

Purpose: SUP2001-9-4-CH and PC-2003-09-CH-SUP

Approximate Length: 1 Hour

Desired decision/action

by Planning Commission: Review reclamation plan; May 17, 2010 decision of Planning Commission.

Other interested individuals to be present:

Name: Thomas Matelski

Title: Member of Northern Processing

Signature of requestor/presenter:

Return completed from to:

Director of Land Use Services
1608 Cross Street
Gaylord, Michigan 49735

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY	
Date received by Land Use Services:	
Planning Commission Chairperson approval for placement on agenda:	
	Signature of Chairperson
Date of approval:	7-12-2010