

Moratoria Madness

A Look At Wisconsin's Regulatory Climate

Sand Mining Moratoriums: An Update

Proppants Summit:

Overcoming the Shortage from Mine to Well

July 23-25, 2012

Presented By: Attorney John Robert Behling & Attorney Anders B. Helquist Weld, Riley, Prenn & Ricci sc

www.wrpr.com

"These are short-term jobs [that will only last 30 years.]" – County Board Supervisor

THINGS

ANTI-FRAC SAND PEOPLE

SAY:

"I think it's way too early to lift the moratorium when we haven't concluded what we've put the moratorium in for." — County Board Supervisor

"Well, the good news is this whole fracking thing will be over when Pennsylvania blows up." - County Board Supervisor



Status of Wisconsin Legislation



Photo by: Tom Lynn, Journal Sentinel February 2011





Photo by: Scott Olson, Getty Images 03/10/2011

Photo by: Nina Ham, The Daily Page 01/26/2012



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

Assembly



99 Members

59 Republicans

39 Democrats

Senate



33 Members

17 Democrats

16 Republicans

Governor Walker



Line Item Veto Authority



News Regarding Moratoria

A Look At Wisconsin

State

When asked for his opinion on frac sand mining, Governor Walker replied, "There is a miner on the Wisconsin flag for a reason."





Status of Wisconsin Legislation

Special Session on Mining





Status of Wisconsin Legislation

Senator Vinehout's Bills

2011 Senate Bill 405

- Would list frac sand mining as a conditional use which would require at least two hearings
- Would list frac sand mining as a prohibited use in residentially-zoned areas
- No application to unzoned townships

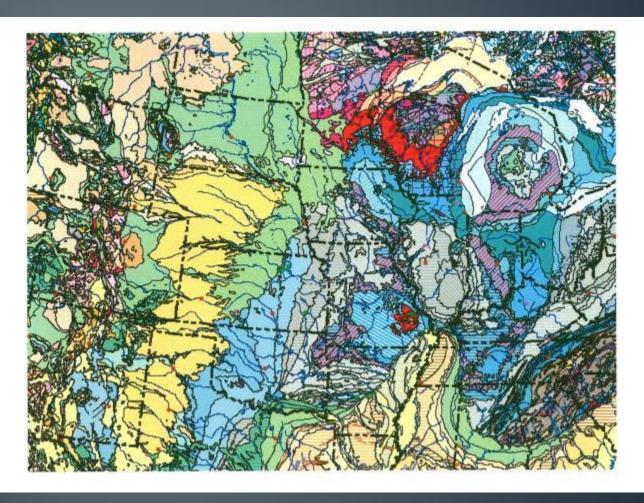
2011 Senate Bill 406

- Notice <u>at least 30 days prior</u> to a meeting where a political subdivision will take action on "an application for a frac sand mine"
- Send written notice to owners and occupants of any land within one mile of the proposed operation at least 30 days prior to a meeting
- No definition for "an application for a frac sand mine" creates questions regarding what type of application this Bill would apply to (e.g., CUP, rezone, building permit, variance, developer's agreement)

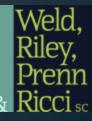




WHERE THE BEST FRAC SAND IS (RED)



Outcrop Areas of Cambrian Quartz Sandstones (USGS Geologic Map of USA)



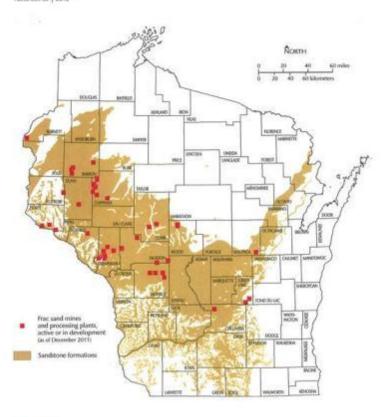
Locations of Frac Sand in Wisconsin

Principal Areas of Interest: Western Wisconsin

Frac sand in Wisconsin

Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey

Factsheet 05 | 2012





Wissessin Seelogical and Natural History Sarvey 3817 Minoral Point Road - Madison, Wilscomm 53705-5100 Tel 608.263.7389 - Fax 608.262.8086 - www.WiscompinGeologicalSurvey.org

Director and State Geologist: James M. Robertson





Weld, Riley, Prenn & Ricci sc

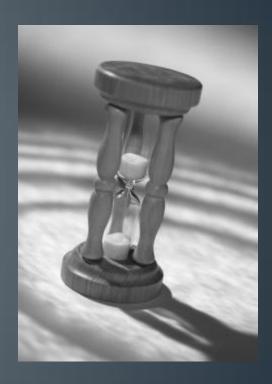
A. Examples of a "Moratorium"

"[T]he county board of supervisors hereby <u>prohibits the expansion of any nonmetallic mining operation beyond its physical dimensions as identified in the reclamation plan</u> on file as of the date of adoption of the ordinance and further prohibits the processing of applications for new nonmetallic mine reclamation permits or new conditional use permits for nonmetallic mines, the issuance of new nonmetallic mine reclamation permits or new conditional use permits for nonmetallic mines and creation of any new nonmetallic mining operation during the pendency of the moratorium..." - Eau Claire County Nonmetallic Mining Moratorium Ordinance

"...Nor shall any of the committees [of the Pepin County Board of Supervisors. . . grant any . . . <u>exemption or variance for frac sand mining</u> if it would be contrary to the purposes of this section." - Pepin County Nonmetallic Mining Moratorium Ordinance

B. Longevity

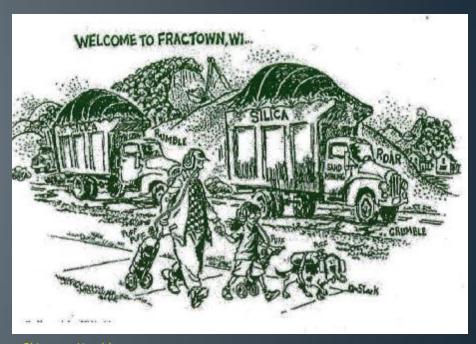
- Temporary
- Three months to two years





C. Stated Intentions

Allow local government adequate time to study impacts on the health, safety and welfare of the public.



Chippewa Herald March 24, 2012



C. Stated Intentions

- Allow local government adequate time to study impacts on the health, safety and welfare of the public
- Assess infrastructure needs





C. Stated Intentions

- Allow local government adequate time to study impacts on the health, safety and welfare of the public
- Assess infrastructure needs
- Allow governments time to enact ordinances and policies that will protect the public



B. Unstated Intentions



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Legal Basis For Moratoria

Legal Basis For Moratoria

County-Wide

- Planning and Zoning Powers(Wis. Stats. § 59.69)
 - Purposes of Wis. Stats. § 59.69 include promoting public health, safety, and general welfare; ensuring adequate highway facilities; encouraging uses of land and other natural resources which are in accordance with their character; providing adequate light and air; encourage protection of groundwater resources; preserving wetlands; and conserving soil and water resources
 - For the purpose of promoting the public health, safety, and general welfare, a county board may adopt an ordinance best suited to carry out the purposes of Wis. Stats. § 59.69. This ordinance can determine, establish, regulate, and restrict areas within which mining may be conducted and designated certain areas or uses which may be subject to special regulation.



Legal Basis For Moratoria

- County-Wide
 - Planning and Zoning Powers(Wis. Stats. § 59.69)
- Municipalities (City, Village, or Town)
 - Interim Zoning for Planning Purposes (Wis. Stats. $\S 62.23(7)(da)$)
 - Development Moratoria for rezoning, approving subdivision or other land division (Wis. Stats. \S 66.1002)



Moratoria Statistics

Currently in Northwest Wisconsin:

- 3 counties have a frac sand mine moratorium in place
- Weld Riley is the first firm to obtain an exemption to a frac sand mine moratorium (Eau Claire County on behalf of Hi-Crush)
- 17 townships have a frac sand mine moratorium in place
- All of the moratoriums enacted have a duration between 3 months to 1 year, with the exception of the Town of Stockholm, Pierce County, Wisconsin
- The Town of Stockholm has a moratorium in place for no longer than 2 years





- Nonmetallic Mining Ordinances
 - A. Town of Cooks Valley Nonmetallic Mining Ordinance

"The Town Board shall grant the permit, whether with or without conditions, if it is determined that the development and operation of the nonmetallic mine is in the best interests of the citizens of the Town, and will be consistent with the protection of the public health, safety and general welfare." - Town of Cooks Valley Nonmetallic Mining Ordinance



Nonmetallic Mining Ordinances

- A. Town of Cooks Valley Nonmetallic Mining Ordinance continued
 - 1. Conditions the Town can impose include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Financial security for town road maintenance and repair
 - b. Restrictions on hours of operation
 - c. Restrictions on truck routes on town roads
 - d. Restrictions on truck and traffic volume into and out of the mine site
 - e. Restrictions to protect groundwater quantity and quality
 - f. Restrictions to safeguard public and private drinking and agricultural wells
 - g. Restrictions to control air emissions and dust from the mine and its operations
 - h. Any other restrictions deemed necessary or appropriate by the Town board to protect public health and safety and promote the general welfare of the Town and its citizens



- Conditional Use Permits and Rezoning
 - A. Rezoning
 - 1. Nonmetallic Mining Overlay Districts
 - a. In Eau Claire County, must get rezoned into the Overlay District before applying for a conditional use permit (nonmetallic mining is a conditional use in the Overlay District)
 - 2. Hearings before Town Board, County Zoning Committee, and full County Board
 - 3. Strict rezoning standards in certain districts, such as Shoreland District
 - 4. Concurrent permitting prohibited



- Conditional Use Permits and Rezoning
 - B. CUP Conditions and Informational Requirements
 - 1. Eau Claire County CUP Application Post-Moratorium (for zoned townships)
 - a. Requires over 30 separate informational items, including:
 - i. Reclamation Plan
 - ii. Operational Plan
 - iii. Proof of application for local, state and federal permits required to operate the nonmetallic mining operation (e.g., construction air permit, wetland permit(s), other Chapter 30 permits regarding waterways)
 - iv. A map of all residential, agricultural and municipal wells within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of the proposed mine site boundaries



- Conditional Use Permits and Rezoning
 - B. CUP Conditions and Informational Requirements
 - 1. Eau Claire County CUP Application Post-Moratorium (for zoned townships)
 - a. Requires over 30 separate informational items, including continued:
 - v. Maps of proposed transportation routes
 - vi. Description of all chemicals used in the manufacturing or processing operations
 - vii. Hydrogeologic studies that include groundwater modeling



- Conditional Use Permits and Rezoning
 - B. CUP Conditions and Informational Requirements
 - Eau Claire County CUP Application Post-Moratorium (for zoned townships) continued
 - b. Mandatory Conditions/Requirements for CUPs
 - i. Restrictive Hours of Operation
 - ii. Groundwater Monitoring Program
 - iii. Other County approvals (erosion control, stormwater, road agreements, driveway) become part of the CUP



- Conditional Use Permits and Rezoning
 - B. CUP Conditions and Informational Requirements
 - 1. Eau Claire County CUP Application Post-Moratorium (for zoned townships)
 - continued
 - c. Unduly Harsh Consequences With Little To No Due Process
 - i. "Failure to comply with this [ordinance] automatically terminates this permit."





- Legal
 - A. Pre-Moratorium
 - 1. File applications grandfathering
 - Registration of Marketable Nonmetallic Mineral Deposit





- Legal
 - B. During the Moratorium
 - 1. Litigation
 - a. Litigation is not always the best approach (GASP!)
 - i. "Good neighbors don't sue." Eau Claire County Supervisor
 - ii. Severs constructive relations with government officials
 - iii. Harms future permitting
 - iv. Bad public relations
 - v. Notice of Claim requirement is 6 months prior to suing a town or county
 - vi. Mandamus action optional



Legal

- B. During the Moratorium
 - 1. Litigation
 - a. Litigation is not always the best approach (GASP!)
 - b. Violation of NR 135 and the local reclamation ordinance
 - i. High Country Sand Co.'s litigation in Eau Claire County
 - ii. Reclamation permit under NR 135 is a "shall issue" permit by the County which requires following certain timelines, whether town zoned or unzoned
 - iii. NR135 only allows reclamation plan denial on certain grounds moratoria expand the reasons beyond those permitted by the regulation
 - iv. NR 135.46 provides "A county or municipality may not amend its nonmetallic mining reclamation ordinance in a manner which makes it more or less restrictive than this chapter."

- Legal
 - B. During the Moratorium
 - 1. Litigation
 - a. Litigation is not always the best approach (GASP!)
 - b. Violation of NR 135 and the local reclamation ordinance
 - c. No express statutory authority in Wis. Stats. \S 59.69 for counties to enact moratoria



- Legal
 - B. During the Moratorium
 - 1. Litigation
 - 2. Continue Other Application and Permitting Processes



Legal

Political





- Political
 - A. Pre-Moratorium Political Advocacy
 - 1. Discussions with local elected officials and information sharing



- B. During the Moratorium
 - 1. Discussions with local elected officials and local governmental staff
 - 2. Utilize other local connections with community leaders



Utilization of Local Connections

What Community Leaders think about Hi-Crush's Business Plan to Create Jobs and Economic Opportunity

As Chippewa Vallay business and community leaders, we support sensible economic development and ressonable governmental regulation. Reasonable governmental regulation allows for economic development which results in new jobs, tax support for our schools and governmental services, financial support for charitable organizations, new business partners for existing Eau Claire County businesses and an overall better community.

For that reason, we urge the Eau Claire County Board to vote in favor of the proposed ordinance amendment on March 6, 2012, which will allow the application review process to begin for the proposed Hi-Crush Propparts LLC frac sand mining and processing facility in Eastern Eau Claire County. By obtaining the unanimous support of the Bridge Creek Town Board and Augusta City Council, where these facilities will be located, and by working cooperatively with regulatory agencies, Hi-Crush has demonstrated that this proposed facility will provide significant economic benefit to Eau Claire County in an environmentally-sound fashion.

We believe that experienced, dedicated and knowledgeable Eau Claire County staff members will capably process the Hi-Crush application so that the proposed facility complies with all applicable regulations. Given the strong, local support for this project, and the obvious economic need, now is the time to act. Any further delay leaves this project at risk.

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Weld, Riley, Prenn & Ricci so

- B. During the Moratorium
 - 1. Discussions with local elected officials and local governmental staff
 - 2. Utilize other local connections with community leaders
 - 3. Hold a press conference



Hi-Crush Makes \$25,000 Donation to Augusta School District



WQOW February 23, 2012 Weld, Riley, Prenn & Ricci so

- B. During the Moratorium
 - 1. Discussions with local elected officials and local governmental staff
 - 2. Utilize other local connections with community leaders
 - 3. Hold a press conference
 - 4. Host a job fair









Job Fair - February 28th

As we plan our operations in Eastern Eau Claire County, we are looking for intelligent, dedicated, hardworking employees to join our team. We are a leader in the frac sand mining industry implementing state-of-the-art technology for environmentally friendly mining. We offer quality well-paying jobs with a strong benefits package.

Positions:

We have 50-75 positions available for plant operators, engineers, administrative support professionals and

general laborers.

Date:

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Time:

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Where:

Augusta Senior Center 601 Main Street Augusta, WI 54722

What to bring: Please bring a resume with a cover letter. Job applications will be available.

Hi-Crush Proppants LLC is an equal opportunity employer, committed to promoting equal employment apportunities for all applicants and employees, regardless of age, race, color, national origin, religion, creed, handicap, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, physical condition, political affiliation, membership in the national guard, state defense force or any other reserve component of the military of the United States or this state, and any other status protected under applicable federal or state law.

Photo by: Corey Bauch The Pulse February 29, 2012





- B. During the Moratorium
 - 1. Discussions with local elected officials and local governmental staff
 - 2. Utilize other local connections with community leaders
 - 3. Hold a press conference
 - 4. Host a job fair
 - 5. Have an Open House and give away t-shirts





Weld, Riley, Prenn Ricci sc

- B. During the Moratorium
 - 1. Discussions with local elected officials and local governmental staff
 - 2. Utilize other local connections with community leaders
 - 3. Hold a press conference
 - 4. Host a job fair
 - 5. Have an Open House and give away t-shirts
 - Meet with the environmentalists



"...Some Kind of Meeting or Town Hall Forum Is In Order..."

YOUR VIEWS

How about a town hall forum?

Representatives of EOG Resources, Inc., the new owners of land and mining permits formerly owned by Canadian Sand and Proppants, have have been in town briefly to meet with the local media and at least one member of the city council to explain their goals and answer questions.

Appearing at the June 3 council meeting, Curt Parsons from EOG told the members of the council and citizens who were present that the mining/gas and oil company plans to be a good neighbor.

Good neighbors talk to each other, yet no effort has been made to date by EOG to provide an opportunity for the people in the city and surrounding areas to ask questions and receive answers. Some kind of meeting or town hall forum is in order - and soon.

> Patricia J. Popple Chippewa Falls

Letter to Editor Chippewa Herald June 13, 2010



Response to Meeting Request



Attorneya Al Law

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A Wisconson Limited Liability Entity

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June 15, 2010

VIA EMAIL

Mayor Greg Hoffman City of Chippewa Falls 30 W. Central Street Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

RE: EOG Resources, Inc.

Dear Mayor Hoffman:

As you already know, our firm serves as local counsel to EOG Resources, Inc.

With this in mind, I wanted to provide a quick note to update you on an important matter between some concerned citizens and the EOG company. As you know, Patricia J. Popple sent a letter to the Chippewa Herald which ran in Sunday's edition of the paper. The writer was critical to EOG for not "reaching out to its neighbors" and for a lack of communication.

Ms. Popple's letter stated, "good neighbors talk to each other, yet no effort has been made to date by EOG to provide an opportunity for the people of the City and surrounding areas to ask questions." Although I though it dod that a neighbor would attempt to arrange a meeting through the media versus just contacting our office or EOG directly; we read her letter and want to respond accordingly.

Please kindly know Mr. Curtis Parsons, the lead person on this project for EOG, is currently traveling on a two-week international trip. Therefore, he has authorized Mr. Eric Dillé, the head of the Government Relations Division of EOG, to travel to Wisconsin to meet with Ms. Popple. Thus, our office contacted the airlines and made the necessary travel arrangements in order to respond to Ms. Popple in an expedient manner.

I contacted Ms. Popple on Monday, June 14, 2010, and indicated Mr. Dillé, Attorney Brian Nodolf (who is from Chippewa Falls) and myself would like to have a cup of coffee with her to discuss her concerns. Ms. Popple indicated she would like to have additional people present. I responded that she was welcome to bring her "executive group" of the CCC and we could sit down, have coffee and a nice discussion.

Ms. Popple then indicated she believed we should have a public forum rather than a casual meeting. I informed her the proverbial "door" was open regarding a public Mayor Greg Hoffman June 15, 2010 Page 2

meeting. Nonetheless, in order to make the meeting productive, we want to know what her concerns are prior to committing to a Town Hall-type meeting so it can be effective, informative and educational. I also let Ms. Popple know this could be the beginning of a series of meetings and EOG has an "open door" to allow many discussions.

With this in mind, we confirmed we would meet in a local restaurant on Thursday, June 17, 2010, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. EOG and our office looked forward to this meeting and having a good discussion with Ms. Popple and some of her colleagues.

I was disappointed this morning when I was contacted by Ms. Popple notifying me that she is cancelling that meeting. Ms. Popple made it clear she is unwilling to meet with us. She also indicated she is not willing to sit down with us at any time regarding her concerns. I conveyed our disappointment, but let her know she can contact us in the future if she changes her mind. I realfirmed that EOG will maintain an open door to hearing her concerns. When Ms. Popple heard we had an open door to meeting with her anytime, she responded with disinterest.

I thought it important to convey this to you as an example of EOG's willingness to engage in communicating with all of Chippewa's residents. Further, since Ms. Popple is unwilling to meet with us, in order to get value out of the airline and hotel accommodations we have purchassed, we immediately contacted Dr. Steve Cook. Dr. Cook has agreed to meet with us and have a cup of coffee and share his concerns regarding the planned project. We look forward to meeting with Dr. Cook and will provide your office with a follow-up report at the completion of our meeting.

Thank you in advance for your time, and please let us know if you have any further advice regarding this important project. EOG very much looks forward to ongoing construction and assisting your office in bringing jobs and opportunity to the great City of Chippewa Falls.

Very truly yours,

WELD; TYLEY, PRENN & RICCI, S.C.

John Robert Behling

JRB/knn

ce: City Council City Clerk

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Meeting Offer Declined – Who Looks Unreasonable Now?

Popple declines meeting with EOG

The owners of a sand processing plant in Chippewa Falls say they have been rebuffed in an attempt to meet with the woman leading opposition to the plant.

EOG Resources' efforts to set up a meeting with Patricia Popple of Concerned Chippewa Citizens are spelled out in a letter Tuesday to Chippewa Falls Mayor Greg Hoffman from attorney John R. Behling of the Eau Claire law firm of Weld, Riley, Prenn and Ricci.



Behling, whose firm is representing EOG, noted a letter by Popple that the Herald published Sunday criticized EOG Resources for a lack of communication.

In that letter, Popple mentioned that Curt Parsons, the company's lead person on the sand plant project, had publicly stated that the company plans to be a good neigh-

"Good neighbors talk to each other, yet no effort has been made to date by EOG to provide an opportunity for the city and surrounding areas to ask questions," Popple

She concluded. "Some kind of meeting or town hall forum is in order - and soon,"

Behling said he contacted Popple on Monday and offered to sit down with her over a cup of coffee and discuss her concerns. Behling said he

would be joined in the meeting by attorney Brian Nodolf and Eric Dille.

Dille, the head of EOG's government relations division, would be flying to Chippewa Falls at the request of Parsons, who was on a two-week trip overseas.

"Ms. Popple indicated she would like to have additional people present. I responded that she was welcome to bring her 'executive group' of the CCC and we could sit down, have coffee and a nice discussion," Behling wrote in his letter to the mayor.

MEETING

From Page A1

Popple repeated what she had said in the Herald, that the company should instead hold a public forum.

"We have asked for a town-hall meeting - not just me, but many - for two years," Popple said Wednesday,

She would like EOG, Canadian Sand & Proppants (the previous owners and current plant operators), the city council, and area residents to get together for a public forum "to hear why this is such a good thing."

Behling said a town hall-type meeting was possible, but prior to committing to that, an initial meeting with her and a few other CCC members would give EOG a better idea of their concerns.

"I also let Ms. Popple know this could be the beginning of a series of meetings, and EOG has an 'open door' to allow many discussions," Behling said.

Behling said he confirmed a meeting with Popple for a local restaurant on Thursday.

"He finally agreed I could have two other people with me. He pushed for a time and I set up a time," Popple said.

But upon thinking it over, she changed

"Because this isn't just about me. I felt it was inappropriate," she said, defining EOG's strategy of "one of trying to divide and conquer. That's what they're doing with the council."

Popple called back Tuesday to cancel the meeting.

"Ms. Popple made it clear she is unwilling to meet with us. She also indicated she is not willing to sit down with us at any time regarding her concerns." Behling said. "I conveyed our disappointment, but let her know she can contact us in the future if she changes her

Behling said because arrangements had already been made to bring Dille to town. they called Dr. Steven Cook and set up a Thursday meeting with him.

Cook is one of about 30 doctors who in May signed a letter to the council listing their health concerns about a sand processing plant. He also spoke again on the subject at last Thursday's Chippewa Falls Public Safety Committee meeting.

City council member Bill Hicks has also agreed to a Thursday meeting with EOG

Ross Evavold contributed to this story.

June 17-18, 2010

"Because this

isn't just about

me. I felt it was

inappopriate."

Patricia Popple

Chippews Concerned

Citores president

The Bad Press Continues...

Discussion: Leader of anti-sand group cancels meeting with EOG

http://chippewa.com/news/local/article 2ebe3470-7a27-11df-93eb-...

Home / News / Local

Leader of anti-sand group cancels meeting with EOG

- · Story
- · Discussion

(12) Comments



Keepin it Real said on: June 18, 2010, 5:57 am

Patricia and Hank have been griping for over 2 years about meetings and transparency and now they have it but yet they choose to pass up an opportunity to have discussions with EOG officials (tops executives of the Company even). Pat the former educator should have been open minded enough to at least have 1 meeting and express her concerns once and for all especially being a former educator. You blew this one and now your credibility is gone among the residents of Chippewa Falls.

Ouote This Report Abuse



2

Alpine said on: June 17, 2010, 2:37 pm "Lima said on: June 11, 2010, 9:08 am Wake up CCCer's!

I was on the fence on this issue for a long time, the more I've looked at it the more I am in favor of it. Most of the reason is it's becoming more clear how this business truly poses no threat. The other reason is the paranoid delusion these CCCer's seem to operate under! They are hurting their own mistaken cause.

Yes to jobs and no I don't own any sand, I live in downtown Chippewa Falls!" Quote This Report Abuse Discussion: Leader of anti-sand group cancels meeting with EOG

http://chippewa.com/news/local/article_2obe3470-7a27-11df-93e0-...



Alpine said on: June 17, 2010, 11:08 am Typical.

What these moonbats want is a mob scene. They want to be able to invade a meeting and take it over with hysteria. They don't want communication. This plant will be full steam ahead operational by this time next year, no matter what. The fact is though, a great majority of people in the Chippewa Valley fully support this business. Maybe it's time for we that support this business and others to form our own group.....

Quote This Report Abuse

Comments on Popple Declines Meeting with EOG article Chippewa Herald



Legal

Political

Agreements



- Agreements
 - A. Mining
 - 1. Town of Bridge Creek Mining Agreement
 - 2. Town of Howard
 - 3. SIDE NOTE: Even if a town does not have a nonmetallic mining ordinance, it is our opinion a town can voluntarily enter into a mining agreement.



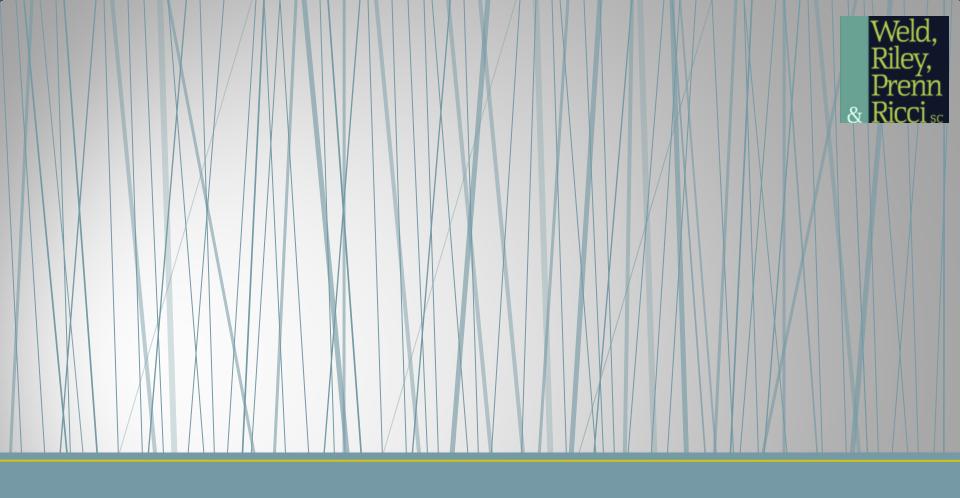
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B. Road Use

- 1. Chippewa County Road Use Agreement
 - a. Identity of routes
 - b. Identity of operators and authorized users
 - c. Payment terms for road improvements and long-term maintenance
 - d. Standards for improvements and maintenance
 - e. Continuing cooperation with County
 - f. Assignability
 - g. Duration





Post-Moratorium Issues

Post-Moratorium Issues

Communication

- A. Town, Village, or City Officials
- B. County Officials and Staff



Post-Moratorium Issues

- Communication
 - A. Town, Village, or City Officials
 - B. County Officials and Staff
- Expediting Permit Approvals





Questions?

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