



January 30, 2008

The Lake County Leader, Harlowton Times/Times Clarion, The Sanders County Ledger, The Missoulian,

RE: DEQ Approves Rock Quarries in Flathead and Wheatland Counties.

Dear Editor:

Please place the following notice in the legal publication section of your newspaper once each week for three consecutive weeks:

LEGAL NOTICE

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has approved an operating permit for Montana Rockworks LLP of Kalispell, MT. Montana Rockworks applied to DEQ in July 2005 for an operating permit to quarry rock products on five sites in Flathead and Wheatland counties. The operating permit application is available for review at the DEQ offices in Helena.

The operating permit would allow Montana Rockworks to quarry rock products in a 2,221-acre permit area covering five sites. Two sites are west of Kalispell and the other three sites are west of Harlowton. The total disturbance at the quarry sites would be 860 acres over the 20-year permit life. Montana Rockworks has proposed to limit total unreclaimed disturbance at any one time to less than 200 acres.

A Draft Checklist Environmental Assessment (CEA) was published on April 12, 2007 which analyzed the potential impacts of the Proposed Action as well as the potential impacts of two alternatives: 1) No Action (Denial of Proposed Action) and 2) Agency Modifications to the Proposed Action. The Draft CEA addressed issues and concerns raised during agency scoping. Comments received on the Draft CEA did not change the Draft CEA conclusions. DEQ published a Final CEA on December 28, 2007. DEQ has selected the Agency Modifications to the Proposed Action Alternative and has approved the operating permit. Montana Rockworks has posted a \$382,083 reclamation bond.

The Draft and Final CEA's are posted on the DEQ website at www.deq.mt.us. If you would like a CD or hard copy of the Draft or Final CEA or have questions concerning the agency's decision, please contact Herb Rolfes at hrolfes@mt.gov or call (406) 444-3841.

Please send your ***invoice, affidavit of publication, and original tear sheet*** to DEQ at the address below to the attention of Sue Fairchild. Please indicate that the bill applies to # EMB 5038 070. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Herb Rolfes
Operating Permit Section Supervisor
Environmental Management Bureau

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