



**April 20, 2007**

**Lake County Leader, Daily Interlake, Sanders County Ledger, The Western News**

RE: Notice of Availability of a Draft Checklist Environmental Assessment for a Rock Collecting and Quarry Site in Sanders County

Dear Editor:

Please place the following notice in the legal publication section of your newspaper for one time.

#### Legal Notice

Notice of Availability of Draft Checklist Environmental Assessment for a rock collecting and quarry site Operating Permit (pursuant to the Metal Mine Reclamation Act, Section 82-4-353 (1), MCA).

Montana Solid Rock Quarry, Inc., 14 Larch Creek Lane, Trout Creek, MT 59874 filed an application on April 9, 2007 for a General Quarry Operating Permit from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Environmental Management Bureau in Helena. Montana Solid Rock Quarry has mineral leases from private landowners to pick surface rock with some subsurface harvesting and blasting. An excavator and/or loader or other suitable equipment will be used to remove sandstone or quartzite for landscaping. The operation would be located at Section 1, Township 20 North and Range 27 West, about 5 miles northwest of Plains, MT in Sanders County.

The proposed operation has been reviewed for compliance under a Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Assessment (SPEA) for a General Quarry Operating Permit published by the DEQ in February 2004. DEQ has determined that this operation falls under the requirements listed in the SPEA except that the area of disturbance cannot be kept under five acres. Therefore, a supplemental draft environmental assessment is required. A checklist draft environmental assessment has been completed. If

Montana Solid Stone Quarry develops additional lease agreements on other sites in the future, they would have to apply for an amendment or revision to the operating permit.

The applicant seeks approval for an operating permit of approximately 37 permit acres. The operating plan calls for the reclamation of all surface disturbances.

Copies of the application can be reviewed by the public at DEQ offices at 1520 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., in Helena, MT. Please submit comments or questions on the proposal by June 27, 2007. For information on the project and to submit comments on the proposal, contact:

Herb Rolfes  
Operating Permit Section Supervisor  
Environmental Management Bureau  
Department of Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 200901  
Helena, MT 59620-0901  
(406) 444-3841 or e-mail at [hrolfes@mt.gov](mailto:hrolfes@mt.gov)

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To expedite payment, please send your *invoice, original tear sheet, and affidavit of publication* to DEQ at the address above to the attention of Sue Fairchild. Please indicate that the bill applies to Doc # EMB 5037 143.  
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Herb Rolfes  
Hard Rock Section Supervisor  
Hard Rock Operating Permit Section  
Environmental Management Bureau  
Phone (406) 444-3841  
Fax (406) 444-1499  
[hrolfes@mt.gov](mailto:hrolfes@mt.gov)