

October 6, 2006

Ms. Mary Merlie, Chairperson
Town of Spring Green Plan Commission
E45827 Horseshoe Road
Spring Green, WI 53588

Re: The Kraemer Company Proposal for The Hausner Sand Pit

Ms. Merlie:

The River Valley Concerned Citizens have produced the following list of questions and issues for the Kraemer Co. regarding their proposal for the operation of a non-metallic mine within the Town of Spring Green. As the Town does not have a framework for evaluating proposals for this land-use, the Plan Commission has previously suggested that the Kraemer Co. provide information similar to that required for the Sauk County Board of Adjustment permitting process.

This document is based upon the Kraemer Co. *Permit Application Checklist* dated 8/14/2006 and supplemental documents titled:

1. *Information in Support of a Special Exception Permit for the Hausner Property, September 2006*
2. *Addendum to: Information in Support of a Special Exception Permit for the Hausner Property, September 2006*

We would like the Kraemer Co. to supplement their proposal with written responses to these questions and issues.

Shown below are informational items required by the Sauk County Board of Adjustment as a part of their permitting process, as detailed on the Sauk County website. Based upon our analysis, items inadequately or incompletely addressed are shown in bold type.

- A timetable for the commencement and cessation of mining operations and if seasonal operations are intended, **the months of operation shall be identified.**
- Estimated quantity in tons per year to be extracted shall be specified by phase.
- The anticipated number of years of operation.
- Proposed location, acreage and **depth** of intended operation.
- Proposed location of mineral extraction site, waste dumps, tailing ponds, sediment basins, stockpiles, structures, roads, railroad lines, utilities, or other permanent or temporary facilities used in the mining process. **(Overview supplied but not in adequate detail for site planning purposes.)**
- A description of the extraction and processing procedures, phasing and equipment to be used.
- **A description of operating hours, days of operation, blasting and crushing hours as well as hauling hours.**
- Proposed plan shall include the effect of the operation on the quality and quantity of groundwater.
- Surface drainage of the property.
- **Location and names of all streams, roads, railroads, utility lines, and pipelines on or adjacent to the proposed site.**
- A description of the surface land use and vegetation, including all pertinent physical characteristics, of the extraction site and adjacent properties including agricultural, **archaeological, historical and educational features.**
- A description of the measures to be taken to control dust, **noise and vibration. (See item 14 below.)**

- A description of the plans for topsoil salvage and storage. Topsoil is the upper part of the soil, which is the most favorable for plant growth.
- The mode and primary travel routes to be used to transport the extracted material for processing or markets away from the property. **(Alternative routes and site-specific highway access concerns are not fully addressed.)**
- A description of measures to be taken to screen the operation from view, where necessary and practical. **(See item 10 below.)**
- Identify all state and/or federal permits required for the proposed operation. **(Is the presented permit list all-inclusive? i.e. NR 151, NR 415, etc.)**
- A description of safety measures to be utilized on-site relative to fencing, signing, etc. **(Locking gate is mentioned, but safety measures such as signing and fencing are not addressed).**
- All maps are to be at a scale of 1" = 100' or appropriate scale for the site.

In addition to the issues detailed above, The River Valley Concerned Citizens submit the following items to be addressed by The Kraemer Company.

1. Is there to be any blasting or drilling involved in operations?
2. Will there be an asphalt or cement plant at any time on the site?
3. Are any proposed structures permanent in nature?
4. What is the setback for excavation operations from property lines and highway right-of-way boundaries?
5. Are any chemical additives used in water used for washing aggregate or controlling dust?
6. Will all trucks and excavation equipment be equipped with muffler systems that meet or exceed current industry standards for noise abatement?
7. Will a spill prevention plan apply to all site operations?
8. Is there a plan for groundwater quality monitoring and remediation, both onsite and neighboring residential?
9. Will any material be brought to the site for washing or processing?
10. Are their provisions for screening the operation from the view of adjacent residential properties? As pit operations expand, will berming/screening be altered to maintain or improve visual appearance?
11. Are there provisions for addressing water stagnation within the pit?
12. Will haul trucks loads be covered by tarps? If not, what maintenance/clean-up provisions will exist (especially at the site entrance)?
13. Will haul trucks be washed of dust, sand, and gravel upon exiting the site?
14. Apart from meeting OSHA requirements, is there a plan for noise mitigation, including site traffic management to minimize equipment backup?
15. Will subcontractors involved in site operation or hauling be contractually required to comply with all operational conditions and requirements?
16. Is the Kraemer Co. prepared to compensate or remedy potential private well, septic system, or basement problems caused by sandpit operations?
17. Is the Kraemer Co. prepared to compensate private property owners for property valuation losses incurred resulting from sandpit operations?

In closing, we appreciate the time and energy that the Plan Commission has put into this issue; and sincerely hope that the issues we raise will help to clarify The Kraemer Company's proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

The River Valley Concerned Citizens
Spring Green, WI