

Huizenga Mineral Mining Renewal Request

Response to June 11, 2020 letter from Georgetown Township

July 2, 2020

Below please find the responses to the items as requested in the June 11, 2020 letter. The italicized print are the items in the letter, our responses are in bold print.

1. *A site plan showing the following (could be one site plan of the entire area or could be individual site plans):*

a. *The existing conditions on the site:*

The mineral mining plan submitted on March 20, 2020 was intended to illustrate the existing site conditions. Upon further review of the plan, the applicant has asked that some more information and detail be added to the plan. This plan (revision date 7/2/20) has been revised as follows:

- **Title block with address corrected & applicant name referenced (Huizenga Gravel).**
- **The possible future trail per the Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission (OCPRC) master plan has been modified just east of the existing processing area to more accurately reflect the location of the "land bridge" being constructed by Huizenga Gravel in coordination with the OCRPC.**
- **The existing processing area has been labelled future mining area as well. Once the mining is completed in all areas except this current processing area, the processing area will be relocated to the south side of the mining operation. The final phase of mining will then be able to be completed in the area of current processing operation.**
- **Limits of active and future mining areas have been clarified further on the revised plan. The majority of the active mining is taking place on parcel -200-002. In addition, the relocated haul road shown in yellow on parcel 200-001 along with the former haul road adjacent and to the east is also part of the active mining operation.**
- **General notes 6, 7, and 8, on the previously submitted plan have been removed. Huizenga Gravel only intends to process road gravel and no supplemental crushing operation is proposed. As part of Huizenga Gravel's coordination effort with the OCPRC to construct the land bridge to create the trail, some clay may be imported into the site to provide the necessary fill for this effort.**

b. *The areas remaining to be excavated, along with the estimated amount of materials remaining to be excavated:*

A separate 11" x 17" phasing map is included in this latest submittal that shows the areas actively being mined, as well as future mining phases. An estimated amount of material left to mine is indicated on the map for each phase. The actual amount of material mined will be based on the quality and quantity of the material encountered. Based on the average sales of 105,000 cubic yards of material per year over the last number of years, the remaining material to be mined/sold would require about 10 years to complete.

- c. *The areas of the land that have been restored or reclaimed as per the reclamation plan or as per the provisions in the Township Mining Ordinance.*
- d. *The areas remaining to be restored or reclaimed:*

(Response for c & d)

Because the active mining area continues in the areas noted, no formal restoration of these areas has been undertaken. Huizenga Gravel is aware of the requirements of Georgetown Township Mining Ordinance for final restoration, and is committed to having the site brought into compliance following completion of the mining operation.

- 2. *A detailed timeframe for the completion of mining operations on the site, including when the land will be reclaimed or at least restored to the Township Mining Ordinance standards.*

The active mining areas shown on the plan indicate a 5-year window (2020-2025). Although Huizenga Gravel is committed and eager to complete the mining operation, it is difficult to predict the factors that impact the demand for this resource. The economy from 2008-2010, the unusual high-water levels experienced during the last few years, and most recently, COVID-19 are just 3 examples that are totally out of Huizenga Gravel's control that impact the completion date of the mining. Huizenga Gravel will continue to keep the Township informed of the operation. However, based on the material left to be mined, Huizenga Gravel is requesting another 10 year extension of their mining permit.

A reference in the 6/11/20 letter to the required performance bond per Georgetown Mining ordinance, Section 26.81 is acknowledged. Huizenga Gravel will propose an appropriate amount for the restoration effort along with the basis of the amount determined. This will be provided in the next couple of weeks for staff review prior to the August 19, 2020 Mineral Mining Board.

In response to the comment of Huizenga Gravel accepting the Bend in The River Plan of 2000 as their reclamation plan, Huizenga Gravel continues to communicate with the representative(s) of the OCPRC in implementing this plan. In fact, Huizenga Gravel sold a portion of property they owned along the river to OCPRC. They have also negotiated a right of first refusal with the OCPRC for additional property with river frontage. In addition, as previously referenced Huizenga Gravel is working with OCPRC to construct the possible trail through the property as shown on the plans submitted. Aside from these items, the Huizenga property does not encompass improvements planned per the Bend in the River Plan as illustrated clearly in the updated 2010 report by Bauer & Ford.

We are confident that with submittal of this supplemental information, the Georgetown Township Mining Board will have all the information needed to approve the mining permit extension. A representative from Huizenga Gravel will be attending the August 19, 2020 meeting and will be more than happy to answer any questions the Mining Board may have.