

Town of Cooks Valley
Public Hearing-PurFrac Non-Metallic Mining Application Permit
February 22, 2017

The public hearing concerning PurFrac Non-Metallic Mining application permit was opened at 8:00 pm by plan commission chairman Doug Zwiefelhofer at the Cooks Valley Town Hall located at 15751 40th Street. Plan commission members present were Stanley Sarauer, Thomas Short, Calvin Swartz, and Damian Prince.

Chairman Doug Zwiefelhofer commenced the meeting with plan commission members and PurFrac Representatives-Shawn Rosenbrook, David Rosenbrook, and Bruce Durand introducing themselves and giving a brief description of their backgrounds. Conducting the power point presentation was John Taustman with the primary author of the reclamation plan, Nancy Benz, both with Summit Envirosolutions located in St. Paul, MN.

John Dustman described the area to be mined with aerial photos and a geographic representation of the location showing the various elevations. The site consists of 690 acres of which contemporaneous mining and reclamation will take place on approximately 420 acres in 20 acres or less phases in succession. There are four sections in the plan. There will be 12 ft. berm to screen the mine site from the roads of 135th Avenue and County Highway DD. The wet plant will be constructed in area 4 using a flocculent to clarify the sand with water from a high capacity well. The water will be recycled and water run-off from the EOG mine and the hill will be siphoned into the mine site for use in clarification of the sand. Eventually a 40 ft. tower will be erected to enclose the wash plant.

Q. Why was the wet plant located near 135th Avenue when neighbors had requested it be placed further north and PurFrac agreed to consider it? A. The reclamation permit was approved with the wash plant in the present location and to change it would take another year in the reclamation process.

There will be storm water ponds to accommodate a 100 year/24 hour rain event with 6.8 inch rainfall.

Q. Chris Harmon, adjoining property owner-What are you going to do with the property owners that want nothing to with the mine site? A. There will be property guarantees for property owners 10% about the market values. Q. Should property owners take pictures of the walls in their homes prior to blasting? PurFrac does not want to conduct blasting but would like the option. If blasting is doing properly there will be no shaking in neighboring homes. Chris Harmon informed the plan commission board that his house shook from blasting from the EOG mine and in the last two years he has to change the screen on his water system due to sand flowing in. This problem did not exist prior to blasting in the EOG mine.

Mark Berge-adjoining property owner- The mine application is incomplete. The references to the reclamation plan were not clear and do not inform the reader where to find the reclamation plan. He would like to have his water tested prior to any mine production. Water testing is required by the county if the property is 660 feet from the mine site, but PurFrac is testing within a ¼ mile. Gary Yakesh expressed concern that he is within that radius but is not listed on the reclamation plan. He was assured he would be on the list.

Chad Berge- Do you have any more storm water management plans for the other areas? PurFrac would have the plans approved as they move into another area to mine.

At this time, questions by the plan commission members revealed conflicting information on the reclamation plans they were given for the meeting. It was discovered different plans from different years were submitted by PurFrac and those two plans were not the final plan being referenced by Nancy Benz.

Chairman Doug Zwiefelhofer decided these issues needed to be resolved before any further discussion should take place. PurFrac must supply copies of a correct, complete and uniform reclamation plan and application permit to the members of the plan commission, board, and adjoining land owners before another meeting of the plan commission can be scheduled.

Chairman Doug Zwiefelhofer closed the public hearing at 9:17 pm.

A public comment by Glory Adams, an attendee of the public hearing, was submitted and is attached to this filing of the public hearing minutes.

Typed: February 23, 2017

Victoria Trinko, clerk