

STONEY TRAIL AGGREGATE RESOURCE

BLV GROUP

Spy Hill Lands Development Update May 10, 2005

Calgary's most experienced gravel operators to develop the Stoney Trail Aggregate Resource

The BLV Group, a joint venture of three of Calgary's most-experienced sand and gravel pit operators, has been awarded a contract by Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation to recover an extensive deposit of aggregates underlying Spy Hill lands on the City of Calgary's northwest boundary with the Municipal District of Rocky View. The companies in the group are BURNCO Rock Products Ltd., Lafarge Canada Inc. and Volker Stevin Contracting Ltd.

BURNCO is a Calgary-based family company with more than 90 years of experience operating sand and gravel pits and manufacturing asphalt, ready-mixed concrete and precast concrete products in Calgary and across the province. Lafarge Canada is a part of Lafarge North America, the continent's largest diversified construction materials company and a member of the international Lafarge Group which operates in 75 nations. Volker Stevin, of the world-wide Volker Wessels Companies, is a utilities construction and construction-materials company active in road and utility projects and producing gravel and asphalt in the Calgary area.

The combined experience of the members of the BLV Group ensures that the highest level of expertise will be applied to meet the high environmental and community standards expected by the province, the city, the MD of Rockyview, neighbouring residents and other businesses and institutions in the area.

The Stoney Trail Aggregate Resource will be located on two sections of land owned by Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation. The site contains an estimated 130 million tonnes of sand and gravel; however, not all will be recovered. The southern-most 305 acres will be left alone. The University will retain leases to 305 acres, including the present research facilities, and intends to use the remainder of cattle grazing and other research requirements. Some of the grazing land may be mined for gravel under a rotating land use agreement with the gravel partnership.

The site was named for the upcoming Stoney Trail ring road which is anticipated to use a significant amount of gravel from this site and then serve as the primary road network to distribute the gravel to other parts of the city in the future.

STONEY TRAIL AGGREGATE RESOURCE

BLV GROUP

Construction of landscaped berms marks the beginning of gravel operation

Work will commence in May on the construction of a 2.4-km landscaped berm along Rocky Ridge Road N.W. (101 Street) as the first step to mine the sand and gravel aggregate resources underlying the Spy Hill lands formally called Research Park, a parcel of approximately 900 acres of undeveloped land on the northwest city limit of Calgary.

The landscaped berm will be the project's landmark, and a symbol of a commitment to manage and minimize the impacts of this operation on its neighbours.

The berm will be constructed in a green space 20 to 30 metres wide and will be 3 to 4 metres high. When completed and landscaped, it will be open to recreational users for walking, bird watching and similar passive leisure activities.

Constructing the the berm is step one in site preparation that will begin in early May. Area residents will have already seen surveyors and other workers on the land this spring, getting ready for the start of work.

Preparation to be done includes removing 13.2 metres overburden on the first area set for gravel extraction and building road access to 85th Street N.W., on the southeast corner of the property.

The berm is being built to eliminate visual impact and mitigate noise and dust levels. It is just one measure to alleviate the concerns of the community expressed during more than a year of public communication and consultation. The issues also included hours of operation, truck traffic and the length of time for mining before the site is reclaimed and turned over to urban and residential development.

Noise and dust monitoring will be conducted and operational procedures such as the use of road sprinkling by water trucks to prevent dust generation will meet the goal of keeping the measurable impacts inside the property line.

The BLV Group is planning to hold an Open House this September to present the measures that will mitigate impacts and answer operating questions. Neighbours and other interested stakeholders will be invited to tour the operation and meet the staff responsible for the Stoney Trail Aggregate Resource.

STONEY TRAIL AGGREGATE RESOURCE

BLV GROUP

The One Billion Tonne Solution

Ensuring that Calgary and the surrounding municipalities have an adequate long-term supply of sand and gravel, aggregates requires thinking ahead-fifty years ahead.

Sand and gravel aggregates are, literally, the building blocks of a modern city; used in the asphalt, concrete and gravel needed in every road, LRT rail line, home, commercial or industrial building-and in every land and garden landscaping project.

In the next half-century, Calgary will need at least 700 million tonnes and perhaps as much as one billion tonnes of gravel, if actual population growth rates exceed the forecasts. Indeed, in the past ten years, population growth and economic growth have consistently exceeded forecasts. About one quarter of the gravel demand for the entire city and its metropolitan region in the surrounding towns, counties and municipal districts would come from the six Spy Hill area gravel operations, and 10 to 15 per cent could be supplied from the Stoney Trail facility.

A major local issue in Calgary is the need for new transportation infrastructure, and to upgrade and maintain existing facilities. Neither the pace of the economic population growth nor the popular demand for transportation and other infrastructure can be sustained without expansion of gravel operations in the city and on its boundaries.

Stoney Trail Aggregate Resource Highlights

- The site is bound by 144 Avenue N.W. on the north (the city limit), 112 Avenue N.W. on the south, 101 Street or Rocky Ridge Road N.W. (also the city limit) on the west and 85th Street N.W. on the east.
- This will be the sixth gravel extraction operation in the general Spy Hill area on Calgary's northwest corner.
- The mining operation will be carried out on a rotating basis, with site reclamation and restoration taking place as each block is mined out.
- Reclaimed land will be used for urban development land development consistent with the City's future land use planning.
- The gravel is needed mainly for road and infrastructure construction to accommodate Calgary's long-term population growth.
- From construction of the berm through the life of the operation, we will exercise due consideration and diligence for all aspects of wildlife protection.

As work on this project goes forward, the BLV Group will keep you advised of the progress in subsequent Newsletters and at our Open Houses.