

STONEY TRAIL AGGREGATE RESOURCE

BLV GROUP

Community Newsletter

January 2021

Overview of STAR Pit

The Stoney Trail Aggregate Resource (STAR) is one of six existing gravel operations in this area. These operations supply critical aggregate needs throughout Calgary and the surrounding area.

These lands are owned by the province and the STAR Pit is operated by the BLV Group, which is a joint venture of three of Calgary's most experienced sand and gravel pit operators, under a contract with Alberta Transportation (AT).

STAR site is a significant source of low cost, environmentally sustainable, high quality aggregates with an estimated future reserve life of 25 plus years.



Alberta Transportation Projects

In 2021, it is expected that several Alberta Transportation Contractors will utilize the STAR site to supply Aggregate and Asphalt for major provincial highway upgrades in the Calgary area. The additional onsite crushers and Portable Asphalt Plants for these projects are expected to meet STAR's high level of standards. One such project this year is the addition of new lanes on Stoney Trail located between 17 Avenue and 16th Avenue on the east side of Calgary.

Covid Challenges

The employees of the various on-site contractors and suppliers all worked hard to manage the effects of the pandemic. Despite a 15% drop in the overall volume produced at STAR in 2020, we were able to keep everyone safe while producing the essential aggregate products needed for the region's infrastructure. With vigorous health protocols, and the upcoming vaccinations, we should well prepared to help the province recover as the government accelerates infrastructure investments to stimulate the economy.

Atco Pipeline Installation along 85 Street

Atco has begun work to install a new natural gas pipe along the west side of 85th Street in front of the STAR site. Unfortunately this means temporary impacts to the mitigation berm STAR constructed as the pipe is installed between January and June. Atco has committed to repairing the berm in 2021 which includes replacing the trees on the berm which were removed in January.

For more project details go to: atco.com/en-ca/projects/northwest-calgary-connector.html

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Monitoring

Sound and air monitors are utilized to provide guidance on site performance. Monitoring data is compiled, compared to targets and published to STAR's website where 15 years worth of reports are available to the public. Performance is generally favorable to targets and data is reviewed monthly for improvements. For more details please visit our website.

Sound

- The mining sequence has been developed to allow for crushing operations to occur at points which are much lower than original ground level. This combined with perimeter berms and the orientation of product stockpiles creates natural barriers to limit sound for our neighbors.
- In addition, equipment that is used at STAR is kept in good operating condition and utilizes night time back up strobes instead of audible alarms. Care is taken in plant configuration, generators have specialized exhaust systems and the plants employ sound reduction technologies, such as enclosing pieces or lining components to further limit sound created at the source.

Air

- Dust is kept to a minimum through the seasonal use of full time water trucks, reclamation of unused areas, application of dust suppression products to internal gravel haul routes and the paving and sweeping of key roadway areas at the entrance of the site.
- Crushing plants have dust suppression systems utilizing water sprays at key drop points, utilize specialized stacking conveyors, and all crushing cease if wind speeds exceed a specified limit.

Traffic

- BLV Group and Alberta Transportation are working with the City of Calgary and other industry participants to improve traffic flow in the area. This includes special focus on the critical intersection at 112th Avenue and Country Hills Blvd shared by gravel trucks and the community.
- The STAR site contributes nearly a million dollars annually to the City of Calgary through a Community Aggregate Payment (CAP Levy) Bylaw. These funds are intended to be used for haul route maintenance and improvements for those communities most affected.
- Currently the CAP Levy funds nighttime sweeping of NW haul routes and the repaving of some truck routes throughout the City. The BLV Group together with the gravel industry continue to advocate for projects to improve the critical haul routes in the NW area.

What is "Aggregates"? The naturally occurring non-renewable resource of sand & gravel, which is essential to build and maintain the communities we live, work and play in. Gravel operations are tightly regulated in Alberta and, to limit environmental impacts and the cost to taxpayers, are ideally located as close to where the product is required as Mother Nature allows.

For more information and updates visit our Website at:
www.stoneytrailpit.ca

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