UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

BOARD OF REGENTS

April 11, 2008

Approval of a Resolution to Conduct an Environmental Review of Gravel Mining at UMore Park, as follows:

WHEREAS, The Board of Regents has adopted principles to guide the future development of UMore Park; and

WHEREAS, the principles require, among other things, that the University “plan in such a way so as to optimize the value of UMore Park utilizing short-term strategies without restricting options for long-term strategies; ensure that all planning and development activities are conducted with the highest standards of fairness, integrity, and sound business practice; and respect the needs of neighboring communities and local, regional and state governments”; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents authorized the Administration, as part of the planning process, to prepare “a plan for the extraction of sand and gravel from the site”; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that substantial sand and gravel resources of a quality that could be mined are present at UMore Park; and

WHEREAS, the mining of the sand and gravel is consistent with the principles adopted by the Board of Regents and public policy favoring the extraction of gravel resources; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the principles adopted by the Board of Regents it is desirable to assure that potentially significant environmental effects that could result from the mining of sand and gravel resources are identified and analyzed, that appropriate alternatives are discussed, and that methods by which the environmental effects of such mining can be mitigated are considered before the Board of Regents makes a final decision about mining at UMore Park; and
WHEREAS, the Board of Regents has responsibility for approving and supervising the project if it is undertaken;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that an environmental review process mandated by Minnesota Statutes Ch. 116D, which includes opportunities for input from the University community, the City of Rosemount, Empire Township, residents of adjacent neighborhoods, local businesses, and other public agencies, and is otherwise consistent with the principles previously adopted by the Board of Regents, shall be undertaken by the University, and the University shall be the Responsible Governmental Unit for that environmental review process.

The Board of Regents voted unanimously to approve the recommendations of the Facilities Committee.