



Creating a new, sustainable community on the University's 5,000-acre property

Regents actions pave the way for new activities at UMore Park

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See details at www.umorepark.umn.edu

MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL (11/16/2010) – The University of Minnesota Board of Regents approved two actions related to the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project at its November 12 meeting; 1) a determination on the adequacy of the final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and 2) an authorization to execute a 40-year lease to Dakota Aggregates, LLC for phased gravel mining at UMore Park.

Sand and gravel Environmental Impact Statement. The University Board of Regents, as Responsible Governmental Unit for the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project, determined that the final EIS for proposed mining at UMore Park adequately addresses all potential environmental issues and concerns in accordance with Minnesota statutes. The assessment identifies a plan for phased gravel extraction and the location of ancillary facilities on approximately 1,722 acres on the western edge of the UMore Park property in the City of Rosemount and Empire Township, Minnesota. Evaluating dust, noise, traffic and fourteen other subjects, the final EIS identifies ways to minimize and avoid potential impacts of mining and responds to the public and agency comments submitted on the draft EIS. A notice will be published in the November 29, 2010 edition of the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) *Monitor* informing the public of the adequacy determination. The Record of Decision, which documents the EIS process to an adequacy determination, will be available through the project website at: <http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/planning/sand/>.

Agreement for phased gravel mining. The board also authorized the administration to execute a 40-year lease agreement to Dakota Aggregates, LLC, a partnership between Cemstone Products Company and Ames Construction, Inc., for 1,722 acres of the UMore Park property. Dakota Aggregates proposes to conduct phased gravel mining and locate ancillary facilities at UMore Park. The terms of the agreement limit gravel mining to a total of 160 acres at any given time. The lease agreement generates revenues for the University in royalties from the sale of materials. Net proceeds from mining will be placed in the Legacy Fund established by the board in October 2009 and will be designated for long-term support of special academic pursuits not adequately funded by state, federal or tuition resources. Based on tons of material mined, Dakota Aggregates will also contribute funds toward scholarships for students in geology, civil engineering, land use planning and related academic pursuits. Following local jurisdictional approvals, preparation activities for mining would tentatively commence in late 2011.

“With these two Regents approvals, we can proceed, in conjunction with the City of Rosemount and Empire Township, toward finalizing jurisdictional approvals,” said UMore Development LLC President Charles C. Muscoplat. “Dakota Aggregates will continue to be engaged with the city and township on ordinance and permitting processes to ensure local jurisdiction requirements are met.”