

## Legal Notice

Notice of Application for an Amendment to Operating Permit No. 00189 for Venture Stone, LLC

Venture Stone, LLC (Venture Stone) filed an application for an amendment (001) with the Department of Environmental Quality to add five rock collecting sites to the operating permit which has five rock collecting sites and one processing site. Venture Stone is a decorative rock picking operation which collects surface minerals from slopes and hillsides throughout Cascade County, Montana, generally 13 miles south and west of Great Falls. The current operating permit consists of five sites and one processing site. The new sites are:

Site 7: Site 7 covers 763.3 acres and is located in Township 20 North, Range 01 East, Sections 3, 4, 9 and 10.

Site 8: Site 8 covers 161.3 acres and is located in Township 20 North, Range 01 East, Sections 14 and 23.

Site 9: Site 9 covers 295.1 acres and is located in Township 19 North, Range 02 East, Section 23.

Site 10: Site 10 covers 1,376.6 acres and is located in Township 18 North, Range 02 East, Sections 13 and 18.

Site 11: Site 11 covers 917.3 acres and is located in Township 19 N, Range 04 East, Sections 24, 25, and 26, and Township 19 North, Range 05 East, Section 19.

Mining on 7 through 11 will consist of harvesting surface sandstone rocks. The depressions left by rock removal will generally be about one foot deep. Surface rock would continue to be removed using hand tools, an excavator, or backhoe and transported to a palleting/staging area using a skid-steer loader. The palletted rock would be loaded onto trucks for shipping off-site.

The amendment would add about 3,514 acres to the current operating permit area of about 10,209 acres.

The application can be viewed by the public at the DEQ office located at 1520 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., in Helena, MT. For further information please contact:

Herb Rolfes  
Operating Permit Section Supervisor  
Hard Rock Mining Bureau  
Department of Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 200901  
Helena, MT 59620-0901  
(406) 444-3841 or e-mail at [hrolfes@mt.gov](mailto:hrolfes@mt.gov)

Requests for application material can be made electronically via the following website:

[https://montanadeq.govqa.us/WEBAPP/\\_rs/\(S\(yzboldobqmpogyeemtoa1ix\)\)/support/home.aspx](https://montanadeq.govqa.us/WEBAPP/_rs/(S(yzboldobqmpogyeemtoa1ix))/support/home.aspx).

General information about the application can be viewed at: <http://deq.mt.gov/Mining/hardrock> (the website for electronically requesting information is also linked from this page).