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DATE: MAY 29, 1990

FROM: FRANK R. HLADKY

SUBJECT: CRATER SAND AND GRAVEL INC.: OPERATIONS ALONG BEAR CREEK

### Introduction

On May 23 Tom Wiley and I visited Crater Sand and Gravel Inc., accompanied by owner Don Savage.

### Location

Crater Sand and Gravel is located along Bear Creek at 7260 Blackwell Road, Central Point. The present main operations are just south of LTM's Kirtland Road plant.

### Current Status

Active. Currently mining from a single 5- to 7-acre (visual estimate) pit about 50 feet deep. A temporarily abandoned pit about 7-10 acres (visual estimate) in area and approximately 20 feet deep lies adjacent to the active pit.

### History

The company is a family-owned operation that has been in existence for at least 20 years. The original residence of the Savage family, still located on the property, was present during the 1964 flood.

### Regional Geology

The sand and gravel deposits are located on the floodplain of Bear Creek between the metamorphic-dominated Klamath terrane and the volcanic-dominated Western Cascades.

### Local Geology

The sand and gravel deposits include upper and lower Quaternary floodplain deposits, which are progressively more compact with depth. Current channel deposits of Bear Creek are about 10-15 feet in thickness, underlain by more compact gravels, presumably of the agate desert.

### Ore Bodies

Holocene and Pleistocene(?) fluvial sand and gravel greater than feet thick comprise Crater's resource. Deeper gravels are considered the down-dip extension of the agate desert

which comprise the older gravel terrace underlying White City. Mining is currently proceeding to about 50 foot depths.

Mica-rich specialty sands derived from granite are a high-demand product and found only in the uppermost 15 feet, some of the most recent sediments of Bear Creek. These sands are desired by architects for their bright sheen.

#### **Reserves and Production Figures--CONFIDENTIAL**

Crater possesses 25 acres of gravels drilled out to 60-foot depths at its Blackwell Road location. The company recently acquired 19 acres of nearby property of unknown but presumably similar gravel depths.

Crater produced about 50,000 tons of sand and gravel in 1989 and expects to produce about 75,000 tons in 1990.

#### **Equipment**

A D-8 cat is used to rip the more compact gravels. A belly scraper is used for stripping. A drag-line is used to clear settling ponds and move stockpiles.

Crater maintains a plant to size and scrub various sand and gravel sizes and also produces topsoil. Operations are not sufficiently developed at present to simultaneously produce its varied product line.

#### **Plan**

Current orders exceed production capabilities. Current production facilities are tightly constrained by property boundaries, pits, settling ponds, and Bear Creek. Encroachment of Bear Creek into the active pit during flooding is a concern because Bear Creek is filling in its bed. Future expansion is expected to allow more room for operation and simultaneous production of multiple products, however, equipment acquisition is awaiting liquidation of a foreclosed competitor.

#### **References**

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