

DECISION RECORD

EA LOG #: OR-010-2008-01
Project Name: Tucker Hill Quarry Plan of Operations Amendment
Applicant: Cornerstone Industrial Minerals, Inc.
Address: Highway 395 North
Lakeview, OR 97630
County: Lake
BLM Office: Lakeview District

Decision:

The following is the decision of the Bureau of Land Management: approve Cornerstone Industrial Minerals, Inc., proposed amendment to their existing plan of operations (POO) to use a new disposal site located in Lake County, Oregon, approximately 39 miles northwest of Lakeview (see Figure 1.1.1 of EA). This will include moving and stockpiling growth media from the site (a former gravel pit), transporting reject perlite material from the Tucker Hill Quarry and depositing it in the pit, covering the perlite material with the stockpiled growth media, and reseeding the area (see Figure 1.1.2 of EA). The project area is located in Sections 23 through 26, 34, and 35, Township 34 South, Range 19 East and covers approximately 9.2 acres.

Though use of the proposed disposal site is not consistent with the existing POO (as currently amended) for the Tucker Hill Quarry, my decision amends the POO to allow the use of the abandoned pit for disposal of reject perlite material.

Rationale:

The potential impacts of the project were evaluated within an environmental assessment (EA) which resulted in a finding of no significant impact (FONSI). The EA and FONSI were made available for a 30-day comment period. During that time no comment letters were received.

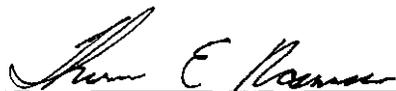
Approval of the proposed POO amendment is consistent with the mineral management goals in the *Lakeview Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision* (RMP/ROD; 2003). Specifically, the *Energy and Mineral Resources* section of the RMP/ROD states that, "within legal constraints, all federal mineral estate locatable, leasable, and salable mineral will be available for exploration, development, and production, subject to existing regulations and standard requirements and stipulations" (pages 88 to 89).

Mineral management goal 1 of the RMP/ROD is to "provide opportunity for the exploration, location, development, and production of locatable minerals in an environmentally sound manner" (page 89).

Map M-10 shows Tucker Hill and lands located immediately to the northeast are open to locatable mineral activity, but are subject to certain restrictions.

Appendix N-3, Attachment 1, further describes the guidelines and restrictions that would be applied to locatable mineral development activities (pages A-177 to A-179).

Perlite is a locatable mineral resource. Providing a new disposal site will allow for the continued operation of the existing perlite mine at Tucker Hill and is consistent with the locatable mineral goals and management direction described above.



Thomas E. Rasmussen, Manager
Lakeview Resource Area

2/21/08

Date