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MAR 14 2003

MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

MO Land Reclamation Commission
PO Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102.

Dear Land Reclamation Commission:

Time is fast approaching where the LRC must decide on strong regulations to protect Missouri's clear streams from potential damage by unregulated gravel mining.

Missouri is one of the leading producers of gravel in the nation. I have no problem with gravel mining but it must be done in a reasonable manner. The streams of Missouri are a huge resource. Allowing any size operator to continue removing resources without complying with the accepted practices that protect those resources is negligent.

Numerous scientific studies have indicated that gravel mining actually is a negative economic influence when all aspects are considered. The U.S. Department of Interior reported stream fishing accounted for \$170 million in direct expenditures in 1996. Just think what kind of revenue was produced from the other tourism resulting from use of Missouri streams.

The streams are a renewable resource. They exist forever without cost IF left in their own environment. Destroying the integrity of the resource with unregulated gravel mining will have a negative impact on the entire area for years, not just the small area with the scar of the mining operation.

As a fisherman I contribute to the resource by releasing most of the fish I catch. I respect the landowners rights and carry out litter whenever possible. I fish according to the applicable regulations. It is through strong regulations that Missouri has an outstanding reputation as a smallmouth fishery. I spend money on equipment, lodging, food, an occasional guide, gasoline and other local expenses. If the streams of Missouri are defiled I will spend my fishing dollars in another state.

Missouri has one of the best conservation departments in the nation but it is at the mercy of others that control the land and streams. Recent improvements in fishing regulations have already started to attract anglers across the nation because of the improved smallmouth bass populations and size in Missouri streams. Don't let such a successful program be undermined by an unregulated industry. Mining and stream use can coexist if there are rules in place that are enforced.

Realistic rules and enforcement will provide for economic stability of the gravel mining industry and protection of water quality and stream resources for future generations. Please enact strong regulations to protect our streams from gravel mining.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this issue.

Linda Vinjasa
1540 Bluebonnet Ave
Glasgow, MO 63031

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Forrest W. Oment
2109 REDWOOD DR
HIGH RIDGE MO
63049

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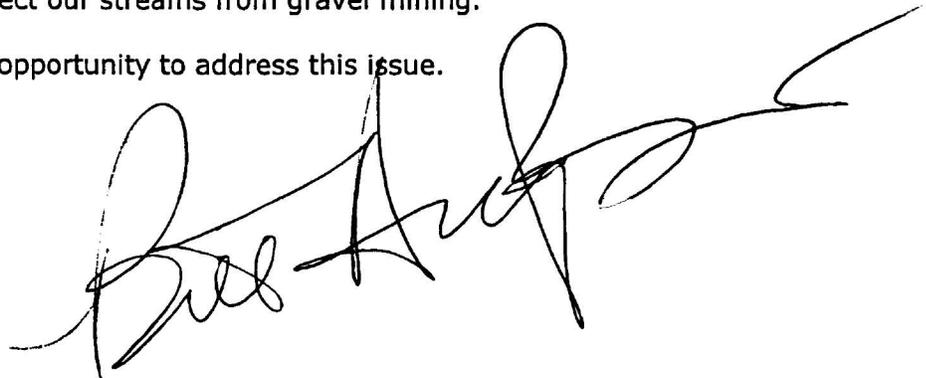
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A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Anderson". The signature is written over the bottom portion of the letter, extending across the width of the page.

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Matt Luman

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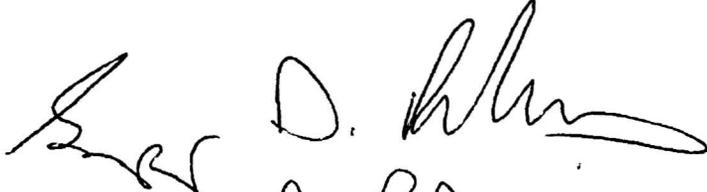
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GREGORY A. ROBINSON
11255 JERRIES LAKE
ST LOUIS MO 63136

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10600 Mc. Dart
St. Louis Mo. 63137

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9539 Edmund Ave.
St. Louis MO 63114

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Patrick AuBuchon
411 S STATE ST
DESLOVE MO 63601.

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Kathy Merreick
6650 Timberland Rd
Cedar Hill MO 63016

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Monica Jackson

636-938-3490

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Time is fast approaching where the LRC must decide on strong regulations to protect Missouri's clear streams from potential damage by unregulated gravel mining.

Missouri is one of the leading producers of gravel in the nation. I have no problem with gravel mining but it must be done in a reasonable manner. The streams of Missouri are a huge resource. Allowing any size operator to continue removing resources without complying with the accepted practices that protect those resources is negligent.

Numerous scientific studies have indicated that gravel mining actually is a negative economic influence when all aspects are considered. The U.S. Department of Interior reported stream fishing accounted for \$170 million in direct expenditures in 1996. Just think what kind of revenue was produced from the other tourism resulting from use of Missouri streams.

The streams are a renewable resource. They exist forever without cost IF left in their own environment. Destroying the integrity of the resource with unregulated gravel mining will have a negative impact on the entire area for years, not just the small area with the scar of the mining operation.

As a fisherman I contribute to the resource by releasing most of the fish I catch. I respect the landowners rights and carry out litter whenever possible. I fish according to the applicable regulations. It is through strong regulations that Missouri has an outstanding reputation as a smallmouth fishery. I spend money on equipment, lodging, food, an occasional guide, gasoline and other local expenses. If the streams of Missouri are defiled I will spend my fishing dollars in another state.

Missouri has one of the best conservation departments in the nation but it is at the mercy of others that control the land and streams. Recent improvements in fishing regulations have already started to attract anglers across the nation because of the improved smallmouth bass populations and size in Missouri streams. Don't let such a successful program be undermined by an unregulated industry. Mining and stream use can coexist if there are rules in place that are enforced.

Realistic rules and enforcement will provide for economic stability of the gravel mining industry and protection of water quality and stream resources for future generations. Please enact strong regulations to protect our streams from gravel mining.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this issue.

James S. Carter
9921 Newcross Dr
ST Louis MO 63126

RECEIVED

MAR 14 2003

MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

MO Land Reclamation Commission
PO Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102.

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Spate M. Kindley Lovel
6564 Deerwood Dr.
Acclar Hill, Mo 63016

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Thank you,
Donald R. Colingsworth

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Jessi R. Kalhorn

Terri R. Kalhorn

C. RUSSELL WOOD

Rte. 1 Box 95A
Mountain Grove, Mo 65711
Ozark Property Rights Congress

RECEIVED

MAR 14 2003

MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

**Land Reclamation Commission
C/O Larry Coen, Staff Director**

Dear Commissioners,

Following your February board meeting which I attended, a Land Reclamation employee approached me with a question. He asked me why we keep opposing regulations concerning mining sand and gravel. He pointed out that landowners were exempt from the proposed regulations, and why did we not seem to understand that?

I made it clear to him that we fully understood the exemption. We understood that as landowners we could remove sand and gravel for our own use, but if we wanted to sell it we came under the proposed regulations. We oppose being regulated as to what we can do with renewable resources from our own property.

I told him this was the same as if we were told we could cut timber from anywhere in our woodlands as long as we used it ourselves. However, if we wanted to have a logger come in and harvest timber to sell for lumber, we would come under state regulations and they would tell us where and what could be cut. To parallel the gravel regulations, timber harvest would be allowed only 50 feet back from the edge of the forest. No cutting would be allowed in the center of the tree stand where most of the trees are. Mature trees must be left to rot and clog the forest floor. To further this analogy, the land owner would not be allowed to cut the trees as they matured or grew too thick. Neither commercial nor management considerations would guide tree harvest. Only pre-set rules drawn up by state regulators on what could be harvested and from where would determine the management of resources from private property.

I hope this parallel helps you understand why we take the position in opposition to regulations.

However, if rules are to be adopted, as your notice sent out concerning the March 26th meeting makes clear that the commission will proceed with the filing of proposed rules, then we urge you to adopt the 10 rules which came out of the work group with the wording as approved by the majority.

Sincerely,



C. Russell Wood