

STATE OF MISSOURI  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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Matt Blunt, Governor • Doyle Childers, Director

April 8, 2008

Senator Chuck Purgason  
33<sup>rd</sup> Senatorial District  
State Capitol, Room 420  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Senator Purgason:

Yesterday we received your letter recording your opposition to the permit for Magruder Limestone to quarry near Woodriver Road in Miller County. We also received the letters to the Land Reclamation Commissioners, and we forwarded those letters to those individuals for you.

I want to thank you for expressing your stand on this issue, and assure you that your letter will be on file and will be available to the Land Reclamation Commission when they make their final decision on this matter.

I also want to provide you with a brief description of how this decision process works. Once a mining company has filed an application for a permit, and the affected public objects, the petitioners have an opportunity to convince the Land Reclamation Commission to hold a formal hearing prior to the issuance of the permit. The Commission did order that hearing at their September meeting last fall. The hearing is like going to court, and therefore considerable time is taken to gather information for the hearing which is scheduled to be conducted from April 28<sup>th</sup> to May 2<sup>nd</sup>, later this month. At the hearing, the petitioners, the company and the state will all be given time to put forward their information and arguments for the hearing officer to consider when he recommends a draft decision back to the Land Reclamation Commission. The Commission then, will make the final decision, based on the hearing officer's recommendation, and the actual record transcript of the hearing.

Again, the hearing will not conclude before May 2<sup>nd</sup>, so the hearing officer will deliver a recommendation and a transcript of the hearing to the Land Reclamation Commission in late May or early June, at best. The Commission then must read and understand those documents before they can deliberate and conclude with a final decision. I expect that their earliest opportunity to make that decision will be at their July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. I will be

glad to keep you informed of the process if it changes from what I have outlined, and I will notify you of the Land Reclamation Commission's eventual decision.

Thank you again for your personal interest in this matter. Please feel free to contact me here in the Department of Natural Resources at 573-751-4041 if you have other questions about the process of deciding on mining permits.

Sincerely,

LAND RECLAMATION COMMISISON

*(Original signed by Larry P. Coen, RG, Staff Director)*

Larry P. Coen, RG, Staff Director

C: Jim McNichols, DNR Director's Office  
Dan Schuette, DEQ Director

LC:ts