

Public Informational Hearing
Superior Silica Sands – Auburn Mine
February 5, 2025

Item #1 – Convene Public Informational Hearing per Chippewa County Non-Metallic Mining Reclamation Ordinance and WI Admin. Code NR135.

The public hearing was called to order by L. Schweikert (LCFM) at 10:00 a.m. Agency staff present were K. Clow, L. Schweikert, T. Shutter, and J. Schemenauer - Recorder (LCFM).

Members of the public present were: B. Mittlestadt (Superior Silica Sands), K. Ludwigson (Chair, Town of Auburn), K. McLaughlin and R. Walls (DNR), D. Dobbs and K. Schmitt.

Item #2 – General Overview of Site Location and Physical Conditions, Non-Metallic Mining Reclamation Plan (received 9/19/24), Reclamation Plan Amendment Specifications and Standards Used in Plan Review and Permitting.

T. Shutter presented a Power Point report (on file). The report provides a general overview of the site location and physical conditions of the non-metallic mining reclamation plan and plan amendment.

Item #3 – Applicant Statement.

Representatives from Superior Silica Sands did not wish to make a statement.

Item #4 –Receive Public Comment and Testimony.

Two (2) members of the public provided oral testimony regarding the proposed amendment: K. Ludwigson and K. Schmitt.

K. Schmitt asked if there were enough materials on site to cap the pond, as proposed in the amendment, and if it has been done before in the State of Wisconsin. He also asked if the monitoring wells will remain intact.

K. Ludwigson asked if the 14:1 slope proposed could be changed to be flatter. He also asked if the wells will continue to be monitored for a certain amount of time.

T. Shutter explained the 14:1 slope proposal and DNR requirements.

K. Clow indicated that a 14:1 slope is considered relatively flat.

Item #5 – Close Hearing.

The hearing was closed at 10:12 a.m. by L. Schweikert. She stated the hearing record will remain open to accept written comments that are received or postmarked no later than 2/12/25 at 4:30 p.m.