



September 13, 2013

Steve Hobbs
Minnesota Project Director
The Conservation Fund
7101 York Avenue South
Suite 340
Edina, MN 55435

Dear Steve,

After our discussion on the phone yesterday I felt compelled to send you a note regarding restoration of our gravel property in Empire Township. Our company which is over 86 year old 4th generation Minnesota based company has had a long history of partnering with groups and agencies to improve our properties during and after mining. In fact we worked with the local pheasants forever chapter on this site for habitat reclamation on the south part of the property and even won an association and chapter award in the process, so we feel really confident that working as we go with the agencies we can restore the property that is mined to a greater benefit for all. With us pledging to maintain only 80 acres of active mining once we transition to the new entrance we will be able to turn over to the agency the property in a orderly fashion allowing usage in a timely fashion. You know the DNR produced a handbook on gravel pit restoration several years ago so we believe that the DNR has a vested interest in this project even to the point of maybe updating their manual. We would be able to use it almost like a living lab. I know that mining properties close to the metro is the most environmentally correct method to supply needed materials with minimal transportation ensuring minimized environmental and economic cost and yet be just a temporary use of the land as it is transformed into its final use.

If you have any other questions please feel free to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Becken". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "T" and "B".

Timothy Becken
Senior Vice President of Operations