



Hillsborough County Florida

A report presented to the
Board of County Commissioners
on April 12, 2022
from
Public Utilities Department
Environmental Services Division

Regarding

HOPEWELL MINE
OPERATING PERMIT #82-1
2020-2021
ANNUAL REPORT OF OPERATIONS
AND
STAFF REVIEW OF COMPLIANCE

Sign-Off Approvals Kevin Moran	3/22/22
Department Director Kevin Brickey	Date 3/23/22
Management and Budget – Approved as to Financial Impact Accuracy	Date
Nancy Takemori	3/23/2022
County Attorney – Approved as to Legal Sufficiency	Date
Assistant County Administrator	Date

- Consent Section – Informational purposes only. *(No discussion anticipated)*
- Consent Section – Board requested report. *(No discussion anticipated)*
- Staff Reports Section

ANNUAL REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT ORDER COMPLIANCE

The Hopewell Mine Operating Permit 82-1 was approved by the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners on June 23, 1982. The development encompasses 4,083 acres and is located in southeast Hillsborough County. The project is approved for Phosphate Mining and the project's build out date was 2018.

Pursuant to Section 8.02.09 of the Hillsborough County Land Development Code, a phosphate mining permittee is required to submit an Annual Report of Operations containing a general review of mining operations and reclamation during the preceding reporting year and identifying expected activity for the subsequent reporting year. The Annual Report of Operations submitted for the Hopewell Mine project has been reviewed by the County and other applicable agencies for compliance with the terms and conditions of the Development Order, Operating Permit and approved plans. The review generated no adverse comments or recommendations and resulted in a finding that the Hopewell Mine project is operating in compliance with all applicable requirements.

Project Status

The developer of record is Mosaic Fertilizer LLC, (Mosaic). The authorized agent is Russell T. Schweiss. The Operating Permit has been amended six times and was valid through June 23, 2018. Phosphate mining was concluded at the Hopewell Mine on January 16, 2011. The Plant site demolition was completed as of December 2011, and all product removal from the plant stockpile was completed as of April 2012. The plant site and stockpile areas have been contoured and grassed as of June 2012.

Development this Reporting Year:

During this reporting year, the following development was reported:

Each year, Mosaic is required to furnish to the BOCC evidence of financial responsibility. Mosaic's current year 2021/2022 proposed comprehensive (Hillsborough Consolidated Mines, Big Four Mine, and Hopewell Mine) financial responsibility agreement was reviewed, negotiated, and approved by Hillsborough County's Office of Management and Budget. This comprehensive financial responsibility agreement includes the following: (1) a Reclamation Surety Bond equal or greater than \$83,689,546.20 (2) an Environmental Liability Insurance Policy in the minimum amount of \$43,000,000, and (3) a Corporate Guarantee from the Mosaic Company of Delaware in the amount of \$9,658,080.00 to cover EPC wetland mitigation constructed but not yet released at \$6,354 per acre. The total amount of \$136,347,626.20 reported is based on the current level of the Reclamation Bond and Corporate Guarantee.

Phosphate mining was completed in the Hopewell Mine on January 16, 2011. All mine cut contouring and re-vegetation for the Hopewell Mine has been completed. Maintenance of the reclamation in establishment will continue in all areas as required by the County, Hillsborough County Environmental Protection Commission (HCEPC), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE). Only routine maintenance and supplemental plantings where required is proposed when required.

Since 1982, Mosaic Fertilizer, LLC and its predecessors, Mosaic Phosphates Company and IMC Phosphates Company have requested and obtained written releases from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for certain FDEP Reclamation and Restoration Program Units in the Hopewell Mine. Per the 2019/2020 Annual Report, the FDEP has not provided any reclamation release letters in this reporting period, and Mosaic is not requesting any reclamation releases and the 2020-2021 County total cumulative released acreage remains 1,594.5 acres at the Hopewell Mine, Operating Permit 82-1.

Projected Development:

There is no mining in the Hopewell Mine. Reclamation activities expected during the report year 2021/2022 include maintenance of reclamation as required by the County, Hillsborough County Environmental Protection Commission, Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Army Corps of Engineers.

Reclamation for the HL-1 and HL-2 Clay Settling Areas is complete and the HL-1 and HL-2 CSAs have received FDEP release. Reclamation of HL-3 was completed in April 2016, and abandonment was obtained from the FDEP Industrial Wastewater Group. All contouring and revegetation is completed in HL-4.

Project History

1. On June 23, 1982, the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) approved and issued Community Unit Rezoning Resolution No. C-U #82-223, and Mine Operating Permit No. 82-1 for the Hopewell Mine to the Hopewell Land Corporation. The Operating Permit and Zoning approvals authorized mining and mining related activities at the Hopewell Mine.
2. On July 6, 1983, the BOCC adopted Resolution No. R83-0079, amending provision 2 of Operating Permit No. 82-1 to read as follows:

"This Operating Permit shall remain in effect for a period of thirty (30) years from and after the date of its issuance provided that this term may be extended by this Board upon findings of excusable delay in any proposed mining or reclamation."

3. On October 3, 1989, IMC Fertilizer (Mosaic Fertilizer LLC predecessor in interest, hereinafter collectively referred to as "IMC") purchased most of the Hopewell Mine and entered into a lease for the remaining portion of the Hopewell Mine.
4. On October 12, 1989, the BOCC approved the transfer of the Hopewell Mine Operating Permit, as amended, from Hopewell Land Corporation to IMC.
5. On July 10, 1990, the BOCC approved Personal Appearance PRS #90-0102 request to amend the General Site Plan (CU 82-223) to realign the phosphate mining boundary for the Hopewell Mine.
6. On June 13, 1991, the BOCC approved Personal Appearance PRS #90-0168 request to amend the General Site Plan (CU 82-223) to realign the phosphate mining boundary for the Hopewell Mine.
7. On June 10, 1997, the BOCC approved Resolution #R97-125 approving Major Modification MM #97-0070 request to amend the General Site Plan (CU 82-223) to allow development of a portion of the property for residential and commercial uses.
8. On December 12, 1999, the Zoning Administrator approved Minor Change #MC00-0229 request and on April 25, 2000, the BOCC approved an amendment to the Operating Permit #82-1 to add a 40-acre parcel zoned AM, which was not included in the CU zoning for the Hopewell Mine.
9. On March 12, 2002, the BOCC approved Resolution #R02-042 approving Personal Appearance PRS #01-0009 and the Phosphate Mining Application #1000.13P requests to amend the General Site Plan (CU 82-223) and the Operating Permit #82-1 to allow inbound and outbound truck shipments of phosphate product.
10. On October 25, 2004, IMC Phosphates Company merged with Cargill Crop Nutrition and was renamed Mosaic Phosphates Company.
11. On July 29, 2005, Mosaic Phosphates Company was renamed Mosaic Fertilizer, LLC.
12. On October 24, 2006, the BOCC approved Resolution Number R06-249, amending the Operating Permit #82-1, allowing the addition of a 532-acre parcel

to the Hopewell Mine, extending the build out date from 2013 to 2018, increasing the allowable acres to be mined to 2,971, and increase the total phosphatic clay production. On October 24, 2006, the BOCC also approved PRS #05-1370, incorporating the changes to the Operating Permit #82-1, including allowing mining of areas formerly designated as mining setback areas.