



**Corporate Office:**

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**Tiller Corporation**  
*and its operating divisions*

Barton Sand & Gravel Co.  
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December 1, 2009

The Mayor and City Council Members of the City of Scandia  
14727 209<sup>th</sup> Street N.  
Scandia, MN 55073

Re: Zavoral Mining and Reclamation Project

Dear Mr. Mayor and City Council Members:

Tiller Corporation (Tiller) recently conducted additional exploration activities within the proposed mining limits of the Zavoral Mining and Reclamation Project (the Project). This was done to obtain a better understanding of the deposit and to develop a mining plan needed for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) being prepared for the Project. The exploration reconfirms that this is an excellent deposit of sand and gravel and after evaluating the Project deposit more thoroughly, we have determined the material meets the requirements of add rock for our existing Scandia facility. Most recently, add rock for this facility is being obtained from deposits in Chisago County, Minnesota and Polk County, Wisconsin.

Tiller has also heard the comments and concerns expressed by the Scandia community during the Environmental Assessment Worksheet process and EIS scoping process. Some of the concerns have focused on impacts to water resources from aggregate washing activities, impacts from noise and dust created by processing equipment and visual impacts from stockpiles and processing equipment. Tiller firmly believes these concerns and all other concerns can be adequately addressed through the EIS and City permitting processes.

However, we understand the community has concerns and after considering our need for add rock at our existing Scandia facility and understanding that the deposit contained within the Project can meet those needs, Tiller has decided to use this deposit as an add rock source. This decision will eliminate the need for processing at the Project site. In other words crushing, screening, aggregate washing, stockpiling of aggregate material and transporting finished aggregate materials internally for subsequent processing are being eliminated as proposed activities for the Project.

With this change, activities proposed at the Project site will primarily consist of clearing vegetation and overburden from the areas to be mined, excavation of raw aggregate materials, transporting the raw aggregate materials from the Project site and reclamation activities. These activities have always been proposed as part of the project.

Please understand, the decision to use the deposit from the Project site as an add rock source for our existing Scandia facility does not impact this existing facility. As stated above we currently obtain add rock from deposits north and northeast of the Project site. Add rock from the Project site will replace add rock from the other locations. Simply changing the source of add rock will not have an impact our existing Scandia facility. The amount and type of processing at our existing Scandia facility has always been determined by market demand and it will continue to be determined by market demand.

Tiller believes the decision to use this deposit as an add rock source is positive and beneficial to both the community and the Project. Please contact me if you have questions or need additional information. I may be reached at (763) 425-4191.

Respectfully,

Tiller Corporation



Michael Caron  
Director of Land Use Affairs

c: Anne Hurlburt, City Administrator