

September 10, 2012

Anne Hurlburt  
Scandia City Administrator  
14727 209<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Scandia, MN 55073

RE: City of Scandia Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)  
Zavoral Property Mining and Reclamation  
Metropolitan Council District 12 (Harry Melander)  
Council Review File No. 20475-3

Dear Ms. Hurlburt:

The Metropolitan Council received the City's FEIS for the Zavoral Property Mining and Reclamation project on August 10, 2012. The proposed project involves mining and site restoration of 64 acres of the 114-acre site located east of State Trunk Highway (TH) 95 near its intersection with TH 97 in the City.

The following comments are offered on the final document:

4.7 – Water Use

The discussion of monitoring requirements, on page 31 of the Response to Comments document, notes that "Copies of the pumping records for the Zavoral Site Well would be provided to the City, Washington County, and MnDNR." This data is not particularly useful to observe and prevent impacts unless a reporting frequency is defined and implemented. Data should be provided quarterly or more frequently to evaluate impacts and take appropriate action, if needed. We disagree with the stated conclusion that "the collection of baseline data and monitoring during and post-Project would not be necessary" – installation of a groundwater level observation well on or near the site is recommended, to evaluate local trends in aquifer level during the Project. This would help identify effects of the Zavoral site well versus the effects of other nearby pumping wells.

The Metropolitan Council will take no formal action on the FEIS. If you have any questions or need further information on these comments, please contact Jim Larsen PE, Principal Reviewer in the Council's Regional Growth Strategy and Parks and Open Space Department, at 651-602-1159.

Sincerely,



Patrick Boylan, AICP  
Acting Manager, Local Planning Assistance

cc: Harry Melander, Metropolitan Council District 12  
Cheryl Olsen, Reviews Coordinator  
Lisa Barajas, Council Sector Representative  
Judy Sventek, Water Resources Assessment Manager

*N:\CommDev\LPA\Communities\Scandia\Letters\Scandia Zavoral Mine FEIS.docx*