

BARRICK, LLC

APPLICATION FOR ZONING MAP AMENDMENT
MINERAL/MINING OVERLAY

Justification Statement

Barrick, LLC owns the quarry known as SW Barrick Quarry, which is leased and operated by Laurel Sand & Gravel, Inc. t/a SW Barrick ("Laurel Sand & Gravel" or the "Company"). The Barrick Quarry has been in continuous operation since 1874, bringing jobs and economic vitality to the region. Laurel Sand & Gravel currently employs approximately 70 full-time employees at the Barrick Quarry, and 8 more at its Finksburg, Maryland rail terminal which is supplied exclusively by the Barrick Quarry. It is also one of the primary customers supporting the Maryland Midland Railroad, shipping upwards of 700,000 tons of stone products by rail each year.

As the quarry is currently configured and at its present rate of extraction, the quarry will exhaust its accessible limestone reserves in approximately two years. In accordance with the mining plan, the next bench of limestone reserves at the quarry that the Company should extract is located underneath the existing processing plant and stockpile area. The Company will need to relocate the plant and stockpiles in order to continue mining, and they need to bring additional property into the Mineral/Mining zone in order to do so. We believe this change in circumstances (exhaustion of accessible reserves) justifies the requested amendment.

Barrick, LLC owns an adjoining parcel which is zoned agricultural. The parcel is designated on Map 0033, parcel 0105. The entire parcel consists of 292 acres, more or less, most of which is already designated Mineral/Mining and used in the operation of the quarry. With this application, Barrick, LLC seeks to bring the remaining 72.8 acres (the 'Subject Property') into the Mineral/Mining zone.

The requested Map Amendment is consistent with the Comprehensive Concept Plan, which shows the entirety of parcel 0105 included in the Mineral/Mining zone.

The Grove Limestone seam extends under the surface of the Subject Property, and is a valuable mineral reserve. However, the Company does not presently intend to extract those reserves. Therefore, there are no changes to the existing mining and reclamation plan for the quarry by virtue of bringing the Subject Property into the Mineral/Mining zone. The Company's mining and reclamation plan is contained within the application for renewal/amendment of the mining permit. Copies of the Company's two most recent renewal applications are included with this application.

A copy of the Company's mining permit/license is also included with this submittal.

Compliance with General Development Standards

The intended use and site development plan will comply with the general development standards set forth in § 1-19-10.400.7 as described below.

1. On Site.

(a) Minimum Size. The Subject Property consists of 72.8 acres, which exceeds the required minimum lot size of 25 acres.

(b) Setbacks. The concept plan as proposed satisfies the 150' setback requirement set forth in §1-19-10.400.7.

(c) Blasting. Blasting activities shall be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations promulgated by the State of Maryland applicable to surface mining activities.

(d) Building Height Restrictions. Final plant design will ensure that the height of any principal use equipment shall not exceed 100 feet from grade; and accessory structures shall not exceed 60 feet from grade.

(e) Frontage. The site has adequate frontage on State Route 550 to serve the anticipated needs of the quarry.

(f) Lot Width. The concept plan primarily contemplates the erection of a processing plant and ancillary structures such as scale house, etc. To the extent that the minimum "front building line" would apply to these structures, the site development plan can accommodate the 300' minimum.

(g) Open Space/ Green Areas. As shown on the concept plan, the Company intends to build a berm along the property line, and all setback areas, including the berm, will be attractively landscaped and maintained as green spaces, except as otherwise permitted in subsection (h) for rail access.

(h) Exclusions from setbacks. As permitted by the zoning ordinance, the Company will create a berm along the property line within the setback area and may ultimately use the setback area for rail access to its stockpiles.

(i) Fencing. There will be a fence at the perimeter of the Subject Property joining the existing fence at the quarry.

(j). Lighting. Lighting will be minimal, and designed so as to not adversely impact adjoining properties.

(k) Access. Commercial/Industrial entrance standards will be utilized in the design of any point of access to a public road.

2. Off-Site.

(a) Primary access to the Subject Property will be from Woodsboro Pike (SR 550). No additional traffic will be generated by virtue of expanding the mineral/mining zone to this Subject Property, but the new layout will provide much needed room on site for queuing during times of high demand.

(b) Because the applicant intends to locate its plant and stockpiles on the Subject Property, there should be no impact upon the groundwater supply and quality of adjoining properties.

3. Additional Regulations. The Company has a long history of demonstrated compliance with federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations governing noise, dust, emissions, vibrations, water appropriations and discharge, etc. at the SW Barrick Quarry and several others throughout the State of Maryland. All operations at the SW Barrick Quarry will continue to be conducted in compliance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations.