

March 3, 2010

Environmental protection order issued to gravel pit operator

Edmonton... The Government of Alberta has issued an environmental protection order against Battle River Rock and Gravel Inc. for failing to reclaim a gravel pit in the Ferintosh area, approximately 100 kilometres southeast of Edmonton.

In June 2009, Alberta Environment staff inspected and identified several deficiencies at the gravel pit operated by the company, including unauthorized storage of stockpiles and failure to register the pit. The operator submitted a letter to the department stating that the company would not be returning to the pit. Alberta's law requires that when an operation ceases at a pit, reclamation must commence.

Under the order, the operator must cease removal of gravel from the pit and develop and implement a reclamation plan outlining clean-up and monitoring activities for the site. The operator has submitted a reclamation plan to Alberta Environment but has failed to implement the plan at the site.

Through inspections, education, and strict enforcement measures, Alberta Environment's compliance team ensures individuals and companies adhere to the acts and regulations Alberta has in place to protect human health and the environment.

Environmental protection orders are issued under the authority of Alberta's *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*. The orders are designed to ensure immediate action is taken to correct a situation.

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