

State Environmental Quality Review
Notice of Completion of Draft / Final EIS

Project Number 7-1122-00043

Date: December 4, 2024

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

A Draft or Final (check one) Environmental Impact Statement has been completed and accepted by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation as lead agency, for the proposed action described below.

If a Draft EIS: Comments on the Draft EIS are requested and will be accepted by the contact person until _____

Name of Action:

RT 13 Rocks, LLC
 Cortlandville Sand & Gravel Mine - Vertical and Horizontal Expansion

Description of Action:

RT 13 Rocks, LLC, operates the Cortlandville Sand & Gravel Mine, which consists of a 66.8-acre Life-of-Mine area on approximately 120 acres of land. Mining below the water table is not currently permitted. The applicant proposes to modify the existing Mined Land Reclamation Permit to allow the following: vertical expansion of the existing mine that would include mining sand and gravel up to 100 feet below the local water table; a lateral expansion of 10.1 acres in the southeast portion of the property; and the removal of 0.4 acres of unaffected land from the existing Life-of-Mine area in the northwest.

As proposed, the total area of the mine will be 76.5 acres. Surface mining will continue utilizing standard mechanical equipment, however, as mining proceeds below the water table, mining equipment will include a wireline dredge, a hydraulic dredge, and a long stick excavator operating from the banks of the resulting pond. A total of approximately 10.5 million cubic yards of aggregate sand and gravel is estimated to be removed from the site. Material will be stockpiled as unprocessed "run-of-bank" material or processed with portable screens and crushers. Once sand and gravel resources are exhausted from the outwash deposit, the site will be reclaimed as a 52.4-acre pond with graded, revegetated slopes.

Location: (Include street address and the name of the municipality/county. A location map of appropriate scale is also recommended.)

The mine is located at 765 State Route 13, Cortland, New York, 13045, in the Town of Cortlandville, Cortland County, southwest of the City of Cortland, west of Route 13 and south of Lime Hollow Road. Lime Hollow Nature Center is located west of the mine.

Potential Environmental Impacts:

The proposed action includes the vertical expansion of the existing mine and mining sand and gravel up to 100 feet below the local water table, a lateral expansion of 10.1 acres in the southeast portion of the property, and the removal of 0.4 acres of unaffected land from the existing Life-of-Mine area in the northwest. The following potential impacts were identified in the positive declaration issued on April 26, 2021:

1. Potential that mine pond water could enter the wellheads at Lime Hollow wells and potential risk to the quantity of the municipal potable water supply,
2. Assuming the mine pond water could enter the wellheads at Lime Hollow wells, potential risk to the quality of the municipal potable water supply,
3. Potential for the mine pond to negatively impact the unique flora and fauna of the adjacent marl ponds, and
4. Potential for impact on recreation, scientific education, and scientific research opportunities that are dependent on the unique flora and fauna of the marl ponds.

Copies of the Final EIS may be viewed at:

1. In person review: NYSDEC - Region 7 Sub-Office, 1285 Fisher Avenue, Cortland, New York, 13045
2. On-line for viewing and downloading at: <https://cortlandvillesandandgravel.com>

Or a copy of the Draft / Final EIS may be obtained from:

Contact Person: Jonathan Stercho

Address: NYSDEC Region 7, 5786 Widewaters Parkway, Syracuse, NY 13214

Telephone Number: (315) 426-7438

A copy of this notice must be sent to:

Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-1750

Chief Executive Officer, Town/City/Village of Cortlandville

Any person who has requested a copy of the Draft / Final EIS

Any other involved agencies

Environmental Notice Bulletin, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-1750

Copies of the Draft/Final EIS must be distributed according to 6NYCRR 617.12(b).