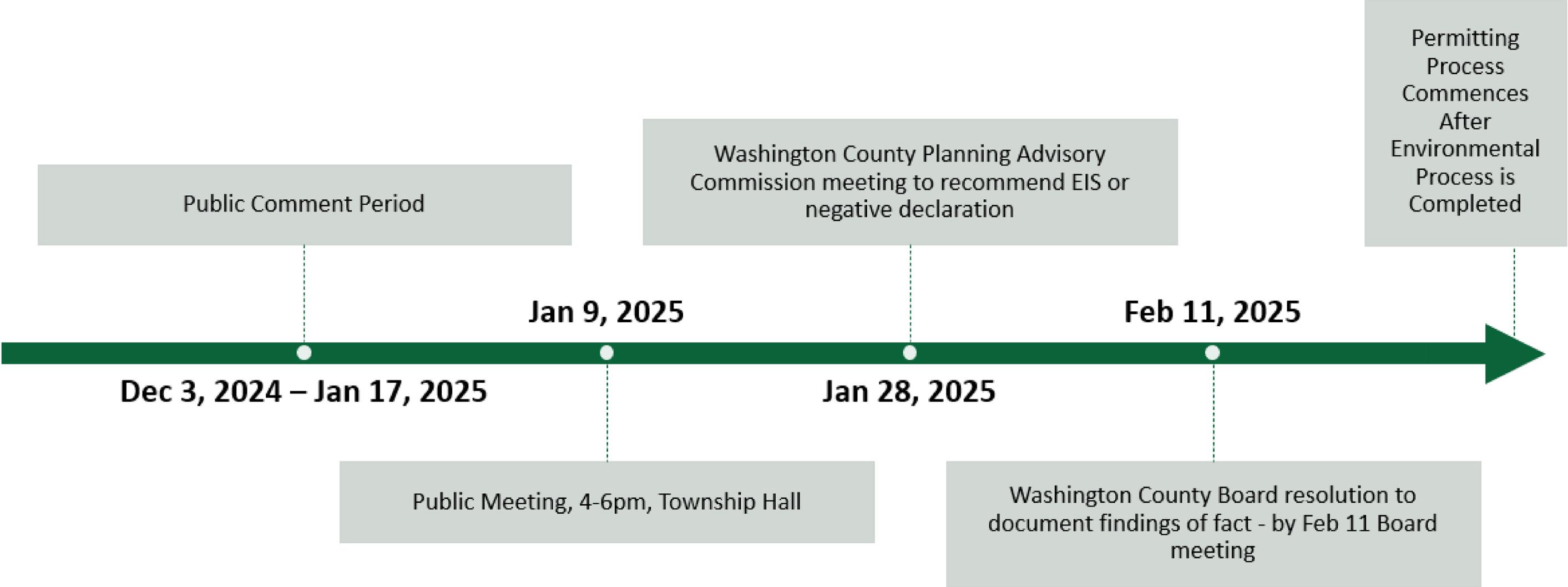


Welcome to the Holcim EAW Public Meeting

Please Sign In

EAW Process Timeline



Next Steps—Findings of Fact & Permitting

The environmental process does not approve or deny the project—the permit process will provide official approval actions.

In accordance with MN State Statute, if significant impacts are found through the EAW process, more environmental study will be required through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. Washington County staff will work with Holcim to determine the timeline to complete that document and process.

If no significant impacts are found through the EAW process, the permitting process for the expansion will commence. Potential next steps include:

Grey Cloud Island Township:

- Rezoning
- Additional Land Use Approvals, which may include, but not necessarily limited to:
 - Annual Mining Permit for any expansion area as identified in the EAW
 - Variance(s) as may be required (setbacks, activities, within setbacks, etc)
 - Site Plan Review
 - Road and intersection design (depending on final roadway jurisdiction)

Washington County:

- An amendment to include the expansion the 5-year Conditional Use Permit (CUP) will be prepared by Holcim and considered for approval by the Washington County Planning Advisory Committee (PAC).
- Issue Right-Of-Way and Access permits

Submit Comments on the EAW

Only written comments can be accepted by Washington County.

Written comments submitted at this meeting will be accepted.

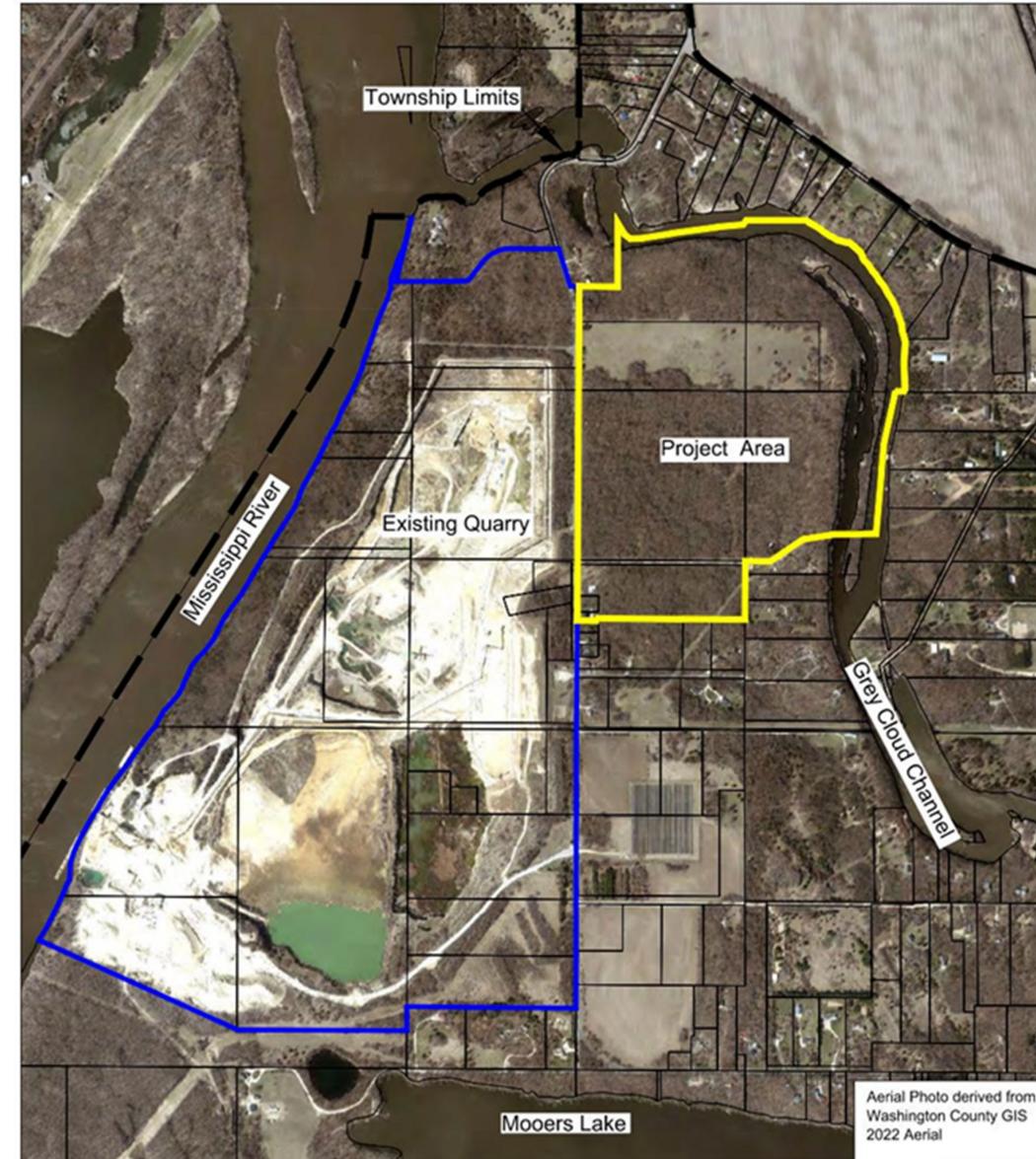
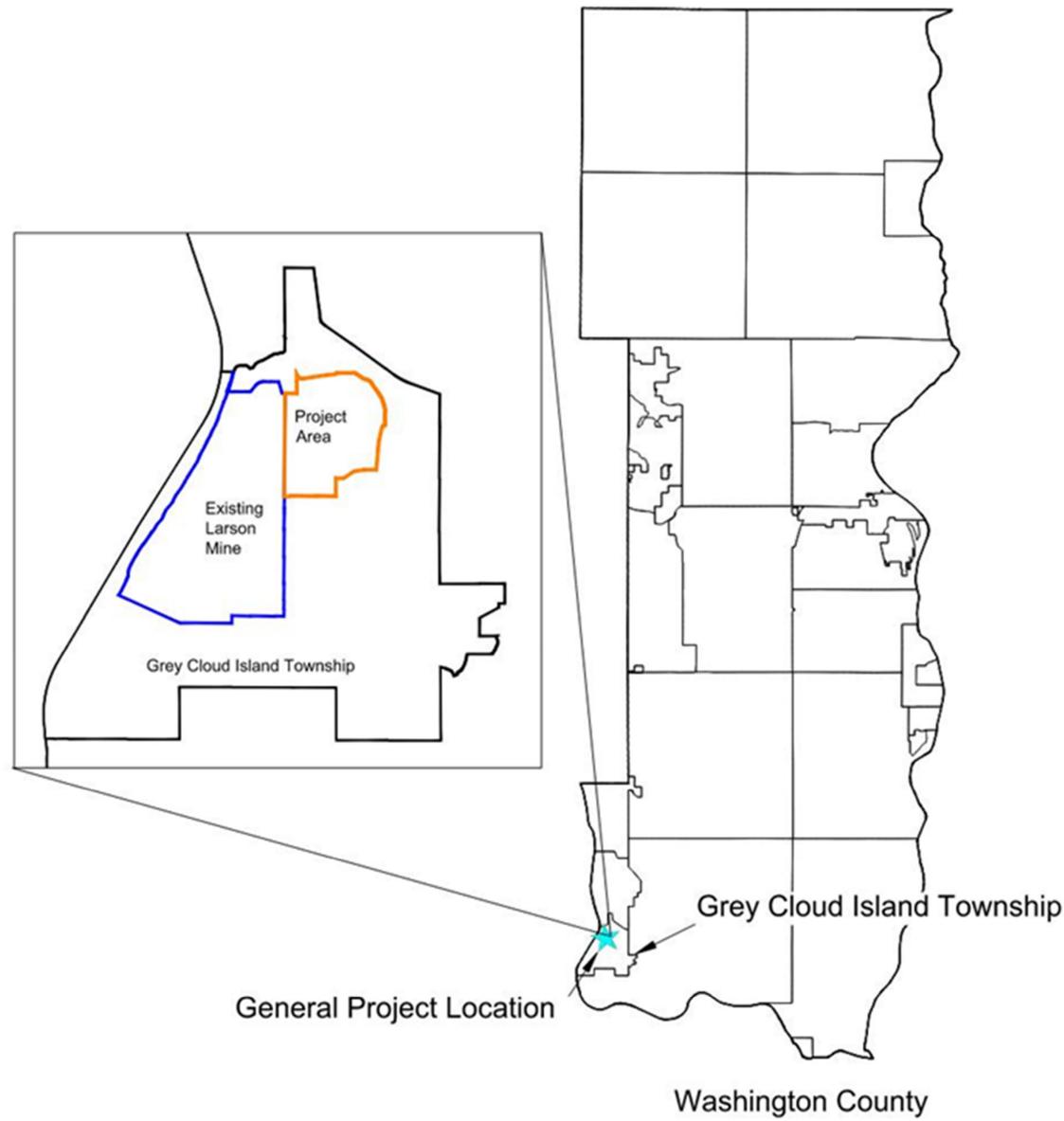
Need more time to submit comment(s)?

- Mail to Washington County Public Works: 11660 Myeron Road North, Stillwater, MN 55082
- Email comment to PublicWorks@co.washington.mn.us

The meeting materials from the public meeting will be available on Washington County's website, which can be accessed via the QR code:



Project Area



Project Overview

Proposer: Holcim - MWR, Inc.

Location: Grey Cloud Island Township, Washington County, Minnesota

Purpose: Expand the existing Larson Quarry to access additional 148-acres of limestone reserves east of County Road 75.

Duration: Extend the life of the mine by 20-25 years.

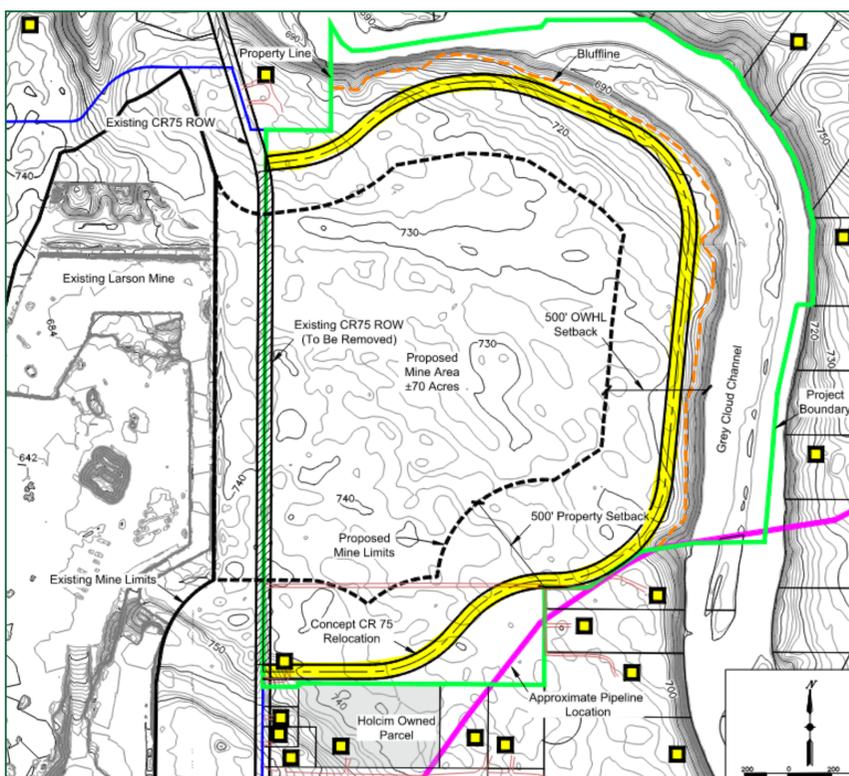
Mine Operations: The expansion area will have the same mining methods as the existing Larson Quarry, including dewatering, blasting, and material transport via conveyors.

Production Levels: No change in quarry operations or production levels is proposed.

Project Options:

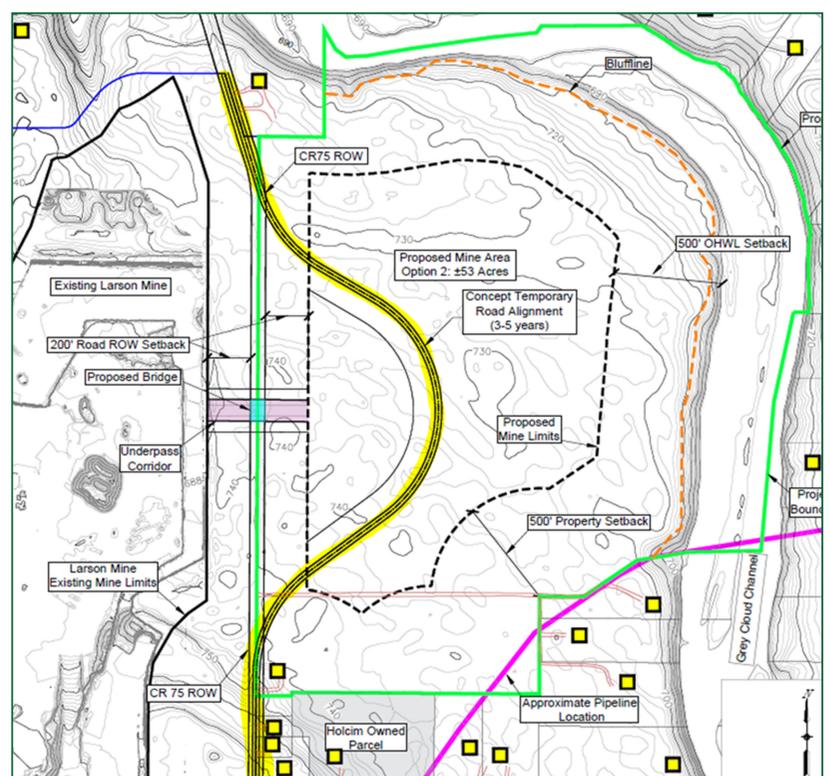
Option 1:

Relocate County Road 75 to the east, creating direct access to the expansion area.



Option 2:

Construct an underpass to County Road 75 for quarry access. This does include a temporary road realignment to mine under the current location of County Road 75.



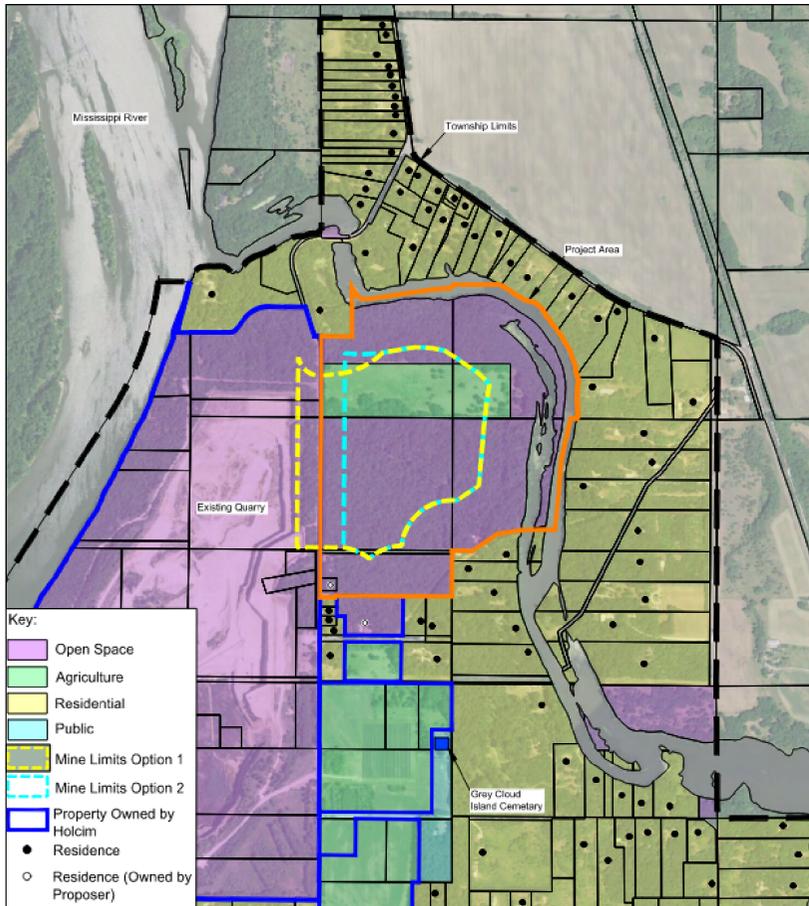
Land Use & Zoning

The EAW states that the project aligns with local land use plans, which designate the area for mining and future residential development.

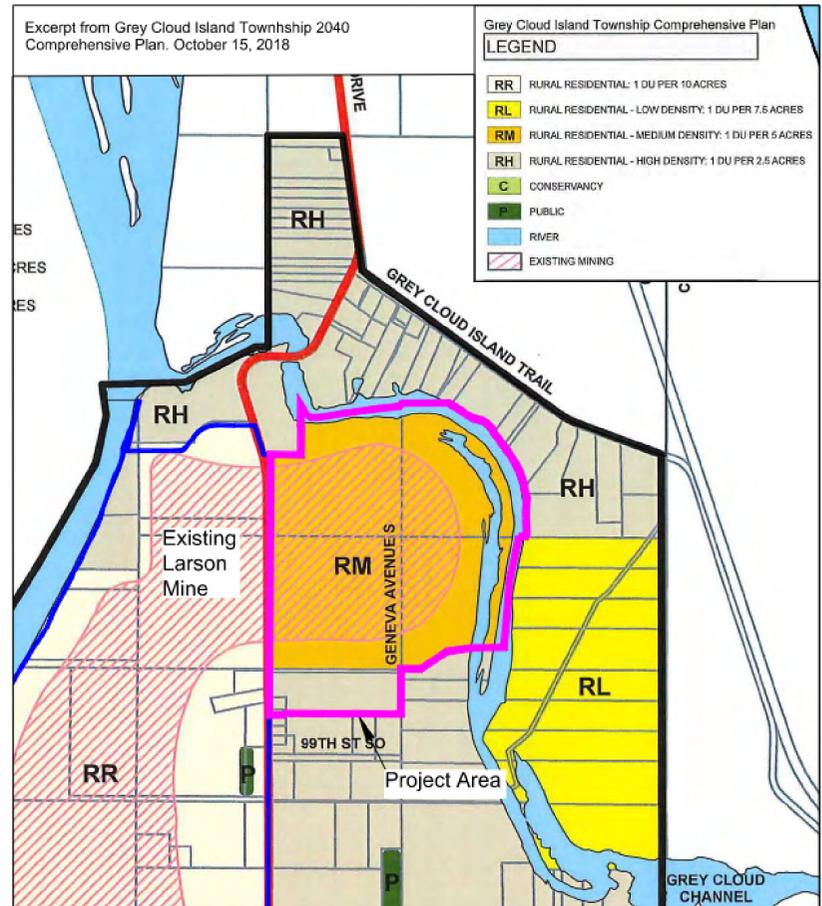
-Existing Land Use/Zoning: Undeveloped land, wooded and pasture. Current zoning is rural residential.

-Planned Land Use/Zoning: Consistent with local comprehensive plan that indicates the area as mining and future residential development. Township will determine if project requires zoning action.

-Special Districts: Project area falls within the Mississippi River Critical Corridor Area (MRCCA). Mining is allowed subject to permits and adherence to setbacks and environmental protection measures.



Existing Land Use



Grey Cloud Island Township Planned Land Use

Water Resources

The EAW states that although the project is situated near several significant water resources, it avoids direct impact on them. The water resources considerations included in the EAW are:

-Surface Waters:

- .Grey Cloud Channel
- .Mississippi River
- .Mooers Lake

-Wetlands: None

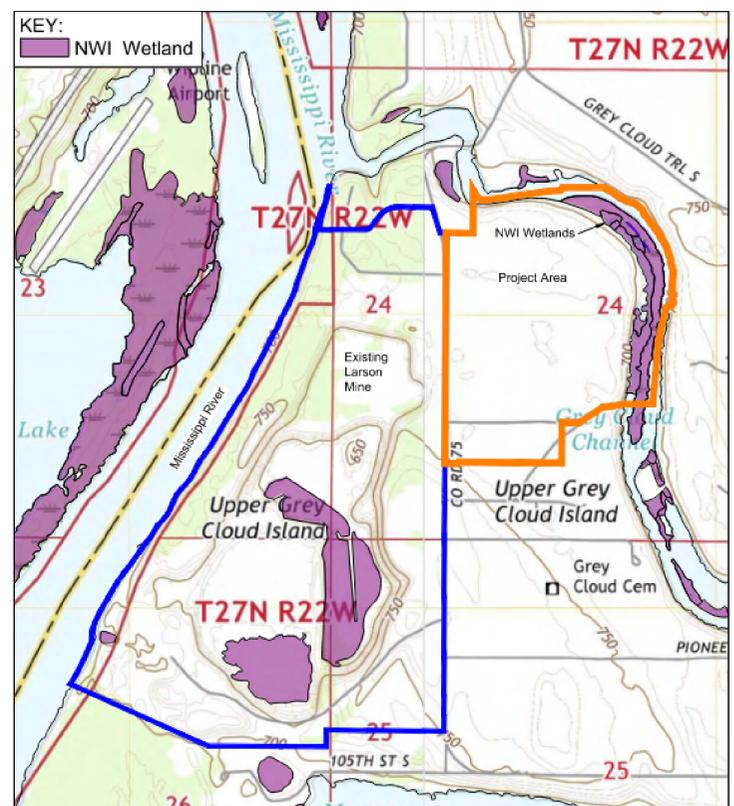
-Floodplains: Project area is located outside of regulatory floodway and 100-year floodplain.

-Groundwater: Project area is located within the Prairie du Chien Aquifer.

-Wellhead Protection Area: N/A

-Dewatering: A dewatering process will be necessary for mining operations in the project area.

-Shoreland Management District: Project area is located within the Grey Cloud Island Township Shoreland Management District.



National Wetland Inventory Wetlands

Environmental Considerations & Ecological Resources

Environmental Considerations:

The EAW acknowledges potential environmental impacts and outlines various mitigation strategies.

- **Climate Change:** Warmer and wetter climate conditions may affect dewatering needs and vegetation establishment.
- **Stormwater:** Changes in surface hydrology due to land cover alteration will be managed with stormwater best management practices (BMPs).
- **Water Appropriation:** Dewatering will be conducted within permitted limits and monitored for impacts.
- **Air Quality:** Dust, odors, and emissions will be controlled through various mitigation measures.
- **Noise:** Blasting and quarry operations will be monitored and managed to minimize noise pollution.

Ecological Resources:

The EAW acknowledges the presence of various ecological resources and sensitive species.

- **Fish and Wildlife:** The project may cause the potential displacement of woodland creatures. No anticipated impact on aquatic species.
- **Vegetation:** The project will be removing mature forest and pastureland where invasive species are present.
- **Rare Features:** The project area is identified as having potential local conservation value as there is a presence of state-listed endangered and threatened species.
- **Invasive Species:** The EAW states that potential spread of invasive species will be mitigated through control measures and restoration efforts.

Historical Properties, Archeological Sites, & Cultural Considerations

The Grey Cloud Township 2040 Comprehensive Plan (2040 Plan) indicates that historic sites have been identified on Grey Cloud Island. These sites are located well outside the expansion area and the limits of disturbance of both options.

The EAW states that an Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey (ARS) was conducted in 2004 and found that archaeological sites have been recorded on the Upper island and have mainly been discovered along the shorelines and bluffs. The archeological sites that have been found in the general vicinity of the project include a Euromerican town site, Woodland-period campsites, and several burial mounds. None are within the project area.

Based on the 2004 ARS, the Minnesota State Heritage Preservation Office (SHPO) recommended additional investigation via shovel testing was warranted. The field investigation was completed (2,016 shovel test units over 125 acres) and no cultural resources were observed. The results were submitted to SHPO and SHPO provided a review letter dated August 2, 2024 concluding that there are no properties listed in the National or State Registers of Historic Places or known or suspected archaeological resources in the area that will be affected by the project.

The EAW states that the 2004 ARS investigation included visual assessment of the proposed project area to check for the possible presence of cultural features, particularly mounds. The results of the survey found no historic, archeological, or cultural resources located within the Project Area itself and concluded “Results of the archaeological review proved negative, indicating that the proposed undertaking can proceed without any danger to archaeological resources.”