

#### IV. Environmental Performance – Tier 1 Applicant

Badger Mining Corporation (BMC) is a family owned corporation that manufactures high quality industrial sand used in multiple industrial, environmental and construction related applications. The origins of BMC began in 1949 when Clifford A. Chier opened a single sand mining operation near Fairwater, Wisconsin; originally called the C.A. Chier Sand Company. In 1979, Clifford retired and his son, Russell Chier, and son-in-law, George Hess, formed a new partnership and incorporated as Badger Mining. The company currently employs about 375 associates, including members of the fourth generation of the Chier and Hess families.

On April 1 2015, Atlas Resin Proppants, LLC merged into Badger Mining Corporation. This merger brought resin coated sand into BMC's product portfolio.

On April 13, 2015, BMC completed the purchase of the production facility of Northern Frac Proppants II, LLC (NFP) located in Alma Center, WI. The site is now referred to as Badger Mining Corporation – Alma Center Plant.

BMC offices are located in Berlin (C.A. Chier Resource Center) and Taylor, WI. Our three sand processing facilities are located in Fairwater, Taylor and Alma Center, WI; and our three coating facilities are located in Taylor and Merrilan, WI. Additionally, we operate our own transloading facility in George West, TX and several others throughout North America through a network of sub-contractors.

On January 25, 2013, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) welcomed our BMC Fairwater Plant, Taylor Plant and C.A. Chier Resource Center into Green Tier. On December 15, 2014, BSI issued an Environmental Management System – ISO 14001:2004 Certificate of Registration for these three BMC facilities. Certificate of Registration sights are now on our new Alma Center Plant and coating plants.

The fact that BMC is in the non-metallic mining business creates some unique opportunities. One of these opportunities is the ability to reclaim mine sites to whatever is the best for the environment AND surrounding communities. Our reclamation efforts go well beyond the minimum requirements. BMC was awarded the Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce (WMC) 2014 Business Friend of the Environment Award for our environmental innovation efforts for the geomorphic land reclamation at our Taylor Plant. Geomorphic land reclamation is a landscape reconstruction technique that mimics original surface forms and drainage patterns of the natural landscape surrounding a mined area. It reduces erosion and water pollution, minimizes long-term maintenance and allows for a seamless transition into the surrounding landscape.

Another unique opportunity is our knowledge, skills and abilities to extend good stewardship practices beyond the regulated mine site to all of our land holdings. Only a small percentage of our properties are mined at any one time and at some locations we own a great deal of property that will never be mined. We also have the unique opportunity to utilize our heavy equipment, which allows us to complete projects on a grand scale.

To say that Badger Mining Associates have the support of ownership and management to protect and enhance the environment is an understatement! At BMC, environmental responsibility and stewardship are What We Value. We are driven to provide superior value to all of our stakeholders.

#### **Badger Mining Corporation – Alma Center Plant**

##### Past and Ongoing Environmental Activities:

1. Mine and Reclamation Planning – Mine and reclamation plans are put together well in advance of any land disturbing activities to ensure environmental responsibility. To build the final reclamation surface, computer modeling software is utilized to generate contour information which is downloaded into earth moving equipment with GPS technology. This process allows us to create a post-mining land surface that simulates and blends into the natural landscapes and that are better suited to resist erosion than traditionally reclaimed surfaces.



**Ongoing Environmental Performance Commitments**

- Monitor the regulatory landscape and take appropriate steps to exceed environmental, health and safety requirements.
- Focus on energy conservation, sustainable water resource management, air quality, waste reduction, health and safety.
- Integrate responsible natural resource management planning and stewardship activities.
- Educate stakeholders regarding environmentally responsible mining, including processing and reclamation.
- Empower Associates to promote environmental stewardship.



**VI. Public Notice / Stakeholder Identification**

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<p>Jerry Schmidt District 18 – Jackson County Board Supervisor N9167 Flood Road Black River Falls, WI 54615 (715) 896-5478</p>	<p>Charles Smith Town of Alma Chairman, Jackson County 142 W. Clark Street Alma Center, WI 54611</p>
<p>James Hoffman BMC Alma Center Plant Neighbor 123 County Road A Black River Falls, WI 54615 (715) 284-2512 <a href="mailto:jhoffman@hoffcons.com">jhoffman@hoffcons.com</a></p>	<p>Blake Heller BMC Alma Center Plant Neighbor W12465 State Highway 95 Alma Center, WI 54611 (715) 964-6782</p>
<p>Roberta Walls WDNR Industrial Sand Sector Specialist 3550 Mormon Coulee Road La Crosse, WI 54601 (608) 785-9272 <a href="mailto:roberta.walls@wisconsin.gov">roberta.walls@wisconsin.gov</a></p>	<p>Brad Johnson WDNR Stormwater Specialist 5301 Rib Mountain Road Wausau, WI 54401 (715) 359-2872 <a href="mailto:bradleva.johnson@wisconsin.gov">bradleva.johnson@wisconsin.gov</a></p>
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