

2008 Mined Land Reclamation Awards

Outstanding Operator Division II - Cinder Butte Rock Products, Cinder Butte, Deschutes County. Contact CB Foss - 541-548-7607

Cinder Butte Rock Products was chosen as Outstanding Operator, Division II for the work they have accomplished to visually and sonically screen this historic mine site from adjacent properties, reclaim mine related disturbance that was exempt from the reclamation rules, develop the cinder pit in a more orderly and neat manner, and for offering aggregate recycling services to the area.

The Cinder Butte Pit is located 2 miles north of Redmond adjacent to Highway 97. Mining began at this site in 1948. In 1975, 31 acres were deemed eligible for Limited Exempt (LE) status. LE status allows an operator to mine within a pre 1972 defined boundary with unlimited annual production if they were permitted prior to 1972. Cinder Butte Rock Products has applied to Deschutes County for land use authority to expand this site beyond the exempt acres. The land use decision is pending. The site continues to operate under a valid LE.

Tetherow Butte, where the Cinder Butte Pit is located, is a prominent feature driving north out of Redmond. According to geologist Ellen Morris Bishop, Tetherow Butte is a small volcanic vent, 5.3 million years old. There are four separate DOGAMI permits for pumice or cinders that surround Tetherow Butte.

Cinder Butte bought this operation and the DOGAMI permit in 2001. Although natural topography limits screening of this site from public view, Cinder Butte Rock Products has established a berm around the perimeter of the pit that effectively screens the processing and stockpile areas. The berm also acts as a noise barrier along the southern edge of the pit where the closest off-site residence is located. The processing plant is located on the pit floor and is well screened.

Areas along the northern pit boundary have been reclaimed where mining is complete. Internal drainage is maintained with no stormwater discharge off-site. Cinder Butte has initiated a program of recycling old concrete and asphalt rather than just burying this resource.

A DOGAMI inspection report from 2002, states "the operator has cleaned up the site compared to prior operations."

800 NE Oregon Street
Suite 965, Portland, OR 97232
www.oregongeology.org
(971) 673-1555

Media Contact: James Roddey
Earth Sciences Information Officer
james.roddey@state.or.us
(971) 673-1543 (direct line)
(503) 807-8343 (cell)



Tetherow Butte, where the Cinder Butte Pit is located, is a small volcanic vent about 5.3 million years old.



Cinder Butte Rock Products has established a berm around the perimeter of the pit that effectively screens the processing and stockpile areas, and also acts as a noise barrier.

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

The Mineral Lands Regulation and Reclamation program at DOGAMI serves as a steward of the state's mineral production, while encouraging best practices within the industry. MLRR's goals include environmental protection, conservation, effective site reclamation, and operational guidance regarding other engineering and technical issues. Contact Gary Lynch, Assistant Director of Regulation, MLRR, at (541) 967-2053 for more information.

Detailed online information for each winner can be found on our website:

<http://www.oregongeology.org>

Media Contact: James Roddey
Earth Sciences Information Officer
james.roddey@state.or.us
(971) 673-1543 (direct line)
(503) 807-8343 (cell)

