

NOTICE OF INTENT TO GRANT A PERMIT TO WITHDRAW
WATER FOR ROCK QUARRY PURPOSES
IN CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 455B, there is now on file with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Water Supply Engineering Section, 6200 Park Avenue, Suite '200'; Des Moines, Iowa 50321, an application as described below

Reding Gravel & Excavating, Iowa DNR Log #34,696, requests to withdraw water from one surface water intake on the "Walker Pit" located on land generally described as the E ½ of the SW ¼ of Section 23, T92N, R40W, Cherokee County, Iowa, in the maximum quantity of 100 million gallons per year at a maximum rate of 1,800 gallons per minute from the period of March 15 to December 15 of each year, all for dewatering, processing, and washing of sand and gravel from a quarry located on said land.

The Department has determined that this use of water conforms to the relevant criteria (Iowa Code Chapter 455B and Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 567) and recommends the permit be granted. A copy of the summary report for the application is available upon a request to the department at the address listed above. Comments on the report and on this use of water must be received by August 17, 2026, and should be addressed "ATTN: Chad Fields" and should specify the applicant's log number (34,696).

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
WATER USE PERMIT SUMMARY REPORT**

Applicant: Reding Gravel & Excavating – Walker Pit
2001 Oak Street
Algona, IA 50511

Application Log No.: 34,696

Permit Request

The Applicant, Reding Gravel & Excavating, Iowa DNR Log #34,696, requests a water use permit to withdraw water from one surface water intake on the “Walker Pit” located on land generally described as the E ½ of the SW ¼ of Section 23, T92N, R40W, Cherokee County, Iowa, in the maximum quantity of 100 million gallons per year at a maximum rate of 1,800 gallons per minute from the period of March 15 to December 15 of each year, all for dewatering, processing, and washing of sand and gravel from a quarry located on said land.

The Walker Pit land is located in the northeast corner of the City of Cherokee, Iowa, in the floodplain of the Little Sioux River, and is approximately 16 acres in size (Figure 1).

Beneficial Use Analysis

Water withdrawn under this permit is used for dewatering and for the production of sand and gravel. Reding Gravel and Excavating (RGE) plans to operate an above-ground sand and gravel quarry located in the same area listed in this authorization. Water is withdrawn for this purpose from one surface intake, located within the area (Figure 1).

Quarrying of earth materials is a recognized beneficial use under Iowa Code §455B.262 and Iowa Administrative Code 567-Chapter 50.2, which defines quarry water use as the extraction of stone, sand, minerals, or other geologic materials from the earth. The majority of the requested allocation is projected to support dewatering of the mined formation and drainage through the quarry and rail track dewatering basins.

No water uses other than dewatering and the washing and processing of earth materials will be authorized under this permit. Water use authorizations are limited to the listed uses within the permit.

Water Sources

The water source for this surface intake is anticipated to be surface exposed groundwater from the alluvial sand and gravel deposits from the Little Sioux River. The sand and gravel is estimated to be approximately 20 feet deep, based on geologic records from nearby well logs. There are interbedded units of sands and clays, generally between 15 to 25 feet thick.

Dewatering for the quarry is expected to be approximately 20 feet below current ground level. The current ground level is approximately 1,225-1,250 feet above sea level (ASL), which makes the water level dewatering elevation to be 1,205 feet ASL.

The bedrock below the alluvial sand and gravel is Cretaceous-period sandstone and shales, often called the Dakota aquifer. The Dakota bedrock aquifer is over 150 feet depth in the area. Most currently constructed wells in the area utilize the Dakota aquifer as the water source, not the Little Sioux River alluvium.



Figure 1. Map of the Reding Gravel and Excavating – Walker Pit and surrounding area, including private wells.

Nearby Water Users

According to Iowa DNR private well databases (IWIS), there are three wells located within 2,000 feet of the Walker Pit area (Figure 1). The wells to the southwest, south of Industrial Rd is a geothermal, closed loop well, approximately 350 feet deep, and should not be affected. The well to the northwest on 515th St. is a private household well that is estimated to be 150 feet deep. At that depth, this well utilizes sandstone from the Dakota aquifer as it's water source. The Dakota aquifer is not hydrologically connected to the Little Skouc River alluvial sand and gravels. To the northeast is a well that is estimated to be 28 feet deep, drilled in 1960, and could potentially be influenced by pumping. However, it is the judgement of the water use program that the well is likely no longer in service due to age and proximity to the sand and gravel pit to the north of 515th St.

Water rights are also protected for all possibly impacted private wells under 567 IAC Chapter 54.

Findings

The applicant has demonstrated the ability and intent to use a reasonable quantity of water for beneficial purposes. No evidence suggests the proposed use would:

- Waste water resources.
- Conflict with Iowa's comprehensive water resource plan.
- Interfere with pollution control laws.
- Harm public interests or property owners with prior or superior water rights.

THEREFORE:

The requested water use conforms to Division III, Part 4, Chapter 455B of the Iowa Code and Chapter 50 of Part 567 of the Iowa Administrative Code. No adverse impacts on other water users are anticipated at this time. Subject to public notice and potential revisions based on comments received, a draft permit should be issued for a term of ten years

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

WATER USE PERMIT

Permit issued to:

REDING GRAVEL & EXCAVATING
WALKER PIT
2001 E OAK ST
ALTOONA IA, 50511

Permit Number: xxxxxxx

Effective: xx/xx/2026

Expires: xx/xx/2036

The Permittee is authorized to:

withdraw water from one surface water intake on the "Walker Pit" located on land generally described as the E ½ of the SW ¼ of Section 23, T92N, R40W, Cherokee County, Iowa, in the maximum quantity of 100 million gallons per year at a maximum rate of 1,800 gallons per minute from the period of March 15 to December 15 of each year, all for dewatering, processing, and washing of sand and gravel from a quarry located on said land..

This authorization to withdraw water has been granted pursuant to the provisions of Part 4 of Division III of Chapter 455B, Code of Iowa, and Chapter 50, Part 567, Iowa Administrative Code, and is further subject to the general permit conditions within this permit.

Conditions of this permit may be appealed as provided in rule 567--50.8(3), Iowa Administrative Code. Appeal must be in writing and must be received at the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Water Supply Engineering Section, 6200 Park Ave. Suite 200, Des Moines, Iowa 50321-1371 within thirty days of the date of the certification of the mailing of the permit.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

By: _____ Date Executed: xxxxxxx, 2026
cc: Permit File

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

On the date shown below, a copy of the foregoing permit was mailed to the Permittee and to each person entitled to receive a copy as provided by rule 567--50.8(2), Iowa Administrative Code.

Certified by (initials): _____ Date: _____

GENERAL PERMIT CONDITIONS

1. Permittee shall maintain accurate and up-to-date records of monthly water use from each authorized source and submit them annually to the Department.
2. Permittee may be required to submit other information related to the regulation of this use of water as directed by the Department.
3. This Permit is issued pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 455B.265(1) to authorize the withdrawal and use of water by the permittee, subject to the terms contained herein and to the laws and rules of the Department that regulate the withdrawal and use of water. Issuance of this permit does not relieve the permittee of the responsibility to comply with applicable local, state and federal laws, ordinances, regulations or other legal requirements.
4. Permittee shall be responsible for notifying the Department when there are changes to any conditions and authorizations given in this permit, including additional water source(s), well(s), intake(s), an expansion of the facility, or any other listed condition.
5. Permittee shall construct, maintain, and monitor observation wells as directed by the Department to define the effects of Permittee's water withdrawals on groundwater resources or on other water users who might be affected by the withdrawals authorized herein.
6. Permittee shall provide screening on water intakes as required in Section 481A.14, Code of Iowa, to protect fish and other aquatic life.
7. Permittee must apply to renew this water use permit using the appropriate DNR form prior to the expiration date of the current permit version.
8. If water withdrawals or uses authorized under this permit are determined by the Department, based on available monitoring data, field observations, or other credible evidence, to be the cause of adverse effects on surface water streams, springs, or ponds, or the ecosystems attached or adjacent thereto, then the Department shall notify the Permittee in writing and may require the Permittee to reduce withdrawal rates, conduct additional hydrogeologic investigations, or take other corrective measures deemed necessary to protect the ecological integrity of those surface waters. The Permittee shall respond to any such notice within 30 days with a proposed corrective action plan, subject to Department approval. For purposes of this condition, "adverse effects" include but are not limited to reductions in baseflow, degradation of cold-water or other designated uses, or harm to species or their habitat.
9. Permittee shall submit to the Department within 90 days of being notified by the Department or no later than the expiration date of this permit, whichever first occurs, a plan for implementing routine day-to-day water conservation measures and for implementing emergency water conservation measures during periods of water shortage. Until such a plan has been submitted to and approved by the Department, Permittee shall implement those emergency water conservation measures determined to be necessary by the Department pursuant to Iowa Code Sections 455B.265 and 455B.266.

CAVEAT

Permittee is advised that pursuant to Section 455B.271, Code of Iowa, the authority to withdraw water provided by this permit may be modified, canceled or suspended in case of any breach of the terms or conditions herein, in case of any violation of state law pertaining to the permit, or if found necessary to prevent substantial injury to private or public interests.