The excavation activities will intersect the water table of the surficial aquifer; however, the underlying clayey soil will not be excavated, meaning the excavation will not impinge on the underlying Floridan aquifer. Dewatering will not be conducted without first obtaining a Water Use Permit from the SWFWMD.

The material will not be sorted or graded onsite, so process water will not be generated. Water treatment chemicals (e.g., flocculants) will not be used during mining.

## **Potential for Impact**

The mining operation is not expected to significantly affect groundwater levels onsite or offsite. For this reason, water levels in nearby wetlands and drinking water or irrigation wells will not be impacted.

The mining operation will not introduce any chemicals to the aquifer. For this reason, there is no significant potential for contaminating nearby wells.

The contaminated sites that are almost two miles to the southwest of the project site will not have any effect on or be affected by the mining operation due to the long distance away and the direction of groundwater flow.

## **Mitigation Plan**

The applicant is fully prepared to investigate any complaints of offsite impacts. If offsite impacts related to mining are confirmed, the mining plan will be modified to eliminate the impacts.

## **Professional Geologist Certification**

This document has been reviewed by George K. Foster of Creative Environmental Solutions, Inc. (CES), Brooksville, Florida, and appears to comply with the current standards and practices in the field of geology in the State of Florida. CES's professional services have been performed using the degree of care and skill ordinarily exercised under similar circumstances by other professionals practicing in this field. The certification of geologic work contained herein applies only to the original sealed document(s), and specifically does not pertain to any copies of this document or any portion thereof including mylars, linen, sepia or other materials which can be changed by the entity or entities with