

7. MINERAL RESOURCES PLAN

7.1 Introduction

The Manchester Community Planning Area, along with a southwest to northeast cross-section of the County, is underlain by a band of interbedded marble, metabasalt, and chlorite phyllite. This area consists of complexly folded rocks that contain small lenses of marble near the surface. The depth and the amount of marble present is unknown. Historically, many of these marble outcroppings were quarried for lime for building stone and road construction.

7.2 Existing Resources

The small vein of interbedded marble, metabasalt, and chlorite phyllite found in the Manchester area runs southwest to northeast in the upper corner of the Community Planning Area. At its widest point it is estimated to be approximately 510 feet.

Northeast of the Manchester CPA there are numerous iron ores, many of which are underground mines. Most were operated in the late 1800's and early 1900's. The underground mines were reported to be as deep as 110 feet, with tunnels as long as 70 feet. Also, located just west of the Community Planning Area, there is an inactive lime kiln which is situated on a wider section of the marble vein.

More detailed information concerning mineral resources in Carroll County is contained in the Carroll County Comprehensive Mineral Resources Plan and Implementing Measures element of the County Master Plan, adopted February 27, 1992.

7.3 Planning Considerations

The Town of Manchester does not currently have mineral resource operations occurring within the corporate limits, nor are there any within the unincorporated environs of the Community Planning Area. In the event that operations would be proposed in the CPA, it would most likely occur outside of the Town and be governed by the County Zoning Ordinance, as Manchester's Zoning Ordinance does not allow for mineral mining.