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BRITISH COLUMBIA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

ASHGROVE CEMENT TED THOMPSON 486-7715 1/10/96

ORIGINAL

• Texada limestone operation.

## SOCIAL ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

- Approximately 2 million tonnes of limestone shipped (1.99 million tonnes actual and 3.5 million mined) in 1995. This is up 38% from last year.
  Increase production trend expected to continue.
- Sales increased 23% last year. The general trend is up.
- Ashgrove product is an important export and provides feedstock to a number of strategic industries:
  - 850 thousand tonnes (kt) shipped to Seattle cement plant.
  - 250 kt to Portland chemical plant.
  - 150 kt to Portland as agricultural lime.
  - 200 kt to (competition's) chemical lime plant in Tacoma.
  - 40 kt to the pulp industry in BC.
  - 500 kt mainly to Lower Mainland as high spec. aggregate (Vancouver Airport and Port development, etc.).
- 57 total employees (up from 43 people 5 years ago). Employment is increasing and they feel they will maximise out at 65 employees before needing substantial capital additions to current plant.
- \$1 to \$3 million per year of on-going capital expenditure.