

**COMPREHENSIVE PROJECT REVIEW
INITIAL CASE TRANSMITTAL
RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT - RIVERSIDE
P.O. Box 1409
Riverside, CA 92502-1409**

DATE: August 10, 2007

TO:

Transportation Dept.
Environmental Health Dept.
Flood Control Dist.
Fire Department
Dept. of Bldg. & Safety (Grading)
Dept. of Bldg. & Safety-Dan Gregorio
Regional Parks & Open Space Dist.
Co. Geologist
Environmental Programs Dept.
P.D. Trails Coordinator-J. Jolliffe
Riv. Transit Agency

Riv. Sheriffs Dept.
Riv. Waste Management Dept.
CSA 126 c/o EDA
ALUC-John Guerin
City of Temecula
Temecula Valley Unified School Dist.
Murrieta Valley Unified School Dist.
WMWD
SCE
Southern California Gas
Caltrans Dist. #8

Office of Mine Reclamation
California Dept. of Fish & Game
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
National Forest Service
Army Corp. of Engineers
Pechanga Indian Tribe
Regional WQCB-Santa Ana
South Coast Air Quality Management
Dist.
EIC

SURFACE MINING PERMIT NO. 213, AMENDED NO. 1 AND CHANGE OF ZONE NO. 7508 – EA40147 – Applicant: Granite Construction Co. – Engineer/Representative: Lilburn Corporation - First Supervisorial District – Rancho California Zoning Area – Southwest Area Plan: Open Space: Conservation Habitat (OS: CH) and Rural: Rural Mountainous (R: RM) – Location: North of the San Diego County line, east of Rainbow Glen Road and west of Interstate 15 – 414 Gross Acres - Zoning: Rural Residential (R-R) - **REQUEST:** The quarry footprint will cover 155 acres with an additional 9 acres for roadways. Aggregate, asphalt, concrete batch and recycle plants will be constructed within the quarry area. Approximately 70 acres will remain undisturbed on the West side of the site and approximately 180 acres will remain undisturbed on the Northeast and Southeast boundaries to maintain the existing ridges to block views of the project. The estimated total volume of the proposed quarry is over 270 million tons, at a maximum extraction rate of 5 million tons per year, for a maximum of 75 years. Change of Zone No. 7508 requests a zone change from Rural Residential (R-R) to Mineral Resources and Related Manufacturing (M-R-A) on 14 parcels consisting of 110 acres in the center of the site where the processing plant shall be located – APNs: 918-090-007 through 042, 918-100-001 through 008, 918-110-001, 918-100-012, 918-110-028, 918-120-044, 918-130-043, 918-130-031 (County of San Diego APN 102-230-066) –RCL00166

Please review the attached exhibit(s) for the above-described project. This case is scheduled for a **CPR Meeting on August 30, 2007**. All County Agencies and Departments, please have draft conditions in the Land Management System by the above date. If you cannot clear the exhibit, please have corrections in the system and DENY the routing. Once the route is complete, and the approval screen is approved with or without corrections, the case can be scheduled for a public hearing. All other agencies, please have your comments/conditions to the Planning Department as soon as possible. Your comments/recommendations/ conditions are requested so that they may be incorporated in the staff report for this particular case.

Should you have any questions regarding this item, please do not hesitate to contact **Ebony McGee**, Project Planner, at (951) 955-5719 or email at emcgee@RCTLMA.org / MAILSTOP# 1070.

COMMENTS:

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

PLEASE PRINT NAME AND TITLE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

If you do not include this transmittal in your response, please include a reference to the case number and project planner's name. Thank you.

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION***Managing California's Working Lands***OFFICE OF MINE RECLAMATION**

801 K STREET • MS 09-06 • SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

PHONE 916 / 323-9198 • FAX 916 / 445-6066 • TDD 916 / 324-2555 • WEBSITE conservation.ca.gov

April 11, 2011

VIA EMAIL: dljones@rctlma.org
ORIGINAL SENT BY MAIL

David Jones
Riverside County Planning Department
PO Box 1409
Riverside, CA 92502-1409

Dear Mr. Jones:

**PROPOSED RESPONSES TO COMMENTS
RECLAMATION PLAN FOR LIBERTY QUARRY
SURFACE MINING PERMIT #213**

The Department of Conservation's Office of Mine Reclamation (OMR) has reviewed Riverside County's (County) Proposed Responses to Comments on the Reclamation Plan for the proposed Liberty Quarry dated March 16, 2011. These responses are intended to address OMR's official review comments on the December 2010 version of the reclamation plan that were provided to the County in a letter dated January 13, 2011.

The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) (Public Resources Code section 2710 et seq.) and the State Mining and Geology Board Regulations (California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14, Division 2, Chapter 8, Subchapter 1) require that specific items be addressed or included in reclamation plans. The proposed responses to comments adequately address most of OMR's comments; however, several comments require further clarification. We recommend that the reclamation plan be supplemented and/or revised to fully address these items.

Response to OMR Comment #1

Bullet #1 – Response indicates that OMR's comment will be adequately addressed. If changes are made to the quarry configuration, the reclamation plan must be revised and resubmitted for OMR's review prior to approval.

Bullet #2 – See "Response to OMR's Comment #3" below.

Bullet #3 – Response indicates that OMR's comment will be adequately addressed.

Bullet #4 – OMR's comment indicates that additional cross sections are needed, because the maps do not appear to clearly portray the proposed site development. As an example, OMR referred to what appears to be a cut slope on the south side of Pad 1670' that has symbols indicating it is a fill slope. The response does not refer to the slope on the south side of "Pad 1670' that OMR used as an example; however, the response indicates that another cross section of that Pad will be included if the project is approved. The maps should be revised to clearly depict slope types and the elevations of proposed contours.

Bullet #5 – Response indicates that OMR's comment will be adequately addressed.

Response to OMR Comment #2

Response indicates OMR's comment will be adequately addressed.

Response to OMR Comment #3

Additional clarification is needed to ensure that response adequately addresses OMR's comment. In the original comment, OMR paraphrased the reclamation standard, which states "Except those used solely for blasting or those that will be mined through within one year, all drill holes, water wells, and monitoring wells shall be completed or abandoned in accordance with each of the following: (1) Water Code sections 13700, et seq. and 13800, et seq.; (2) the applicable local ordinance adopted pursuant to Water Code section 13803; (3) the applicable Department of Water Resources report issued pursuant to Water Code section 13800; and (4) Subdivisions (1) and (2) of section 2511(g) of Chapter 15 of Title 23 regarding discharge of waste to land."

The response indicates that several exploratory drill holes already have been closed in accordance with applicable laws; however, three borings (MW-1, -2, and -3) remain open, and each are protected by a locking monument. The response states that these holes were drilled as "...exploratory holes" for the purpose of immediately evaluating the existing geological and/or hydrological conditions." This implies that the drill holes were completed for short-term exploratory purposes. However, the response also states that "...they were not backfilled so that subsequent data acquisition could be undertaken if required." Thus, the response also seems to indicate that their purpose is long-term monitoring. The plan should clarify whether these drill holes were completed as short-term exploratory drill holes or as long-term monitoring wells. If the boreholes have been retained for long-term monitoring, the plan should specify the monitoring purpose of the borings, what data will be acquired, and the reporting requirements for the data. If the drill holes were completed as short-term exploratory borings, the SMARA performance standard is clear that they should be destroyed in accordance with applicable State and local laws, if they will not be mined through in one year.

The response also indicates that the drill holes are exempt from the well destruction standards of Part III, Bulletin 74-90; however, OMR notes that Bulletin 74-90 specifically includes the destruction of exploratory borings, including those drilled in hard, competent rock. Page 52 of Bulletin 74-90 describes that exploratory borings outside of areas of known or suspected contamination shall, at a minimum, be backfilled with sealing materials to the minimum depths

David Jones
April 11, 2011
Page 3

specified in Section 23 of the Water Well Standards, which describes the requirements for sealing boreholes/wells in fractured and unfractured bedrock.

Response to OMR Comment #4

Response adequately addresses Comment #4.

Response to OMR Comment #5

Response adequately addresses Comment #5.

Response to OMR Comment #6

Response adequately addresses Comment #6.

Response to OMR Comment #7

Response adequately addresses Comment #7.

Response to OMR Comment #8

Response adequately addresses Comment #8.

Response to OMR Comment #9

Response adequately addresses Comment #9.

Response to OMR Comment #10

Response adequately addresses Comment #10.

If you have any questions on these comments or require any assistance with other mine reclamation issues, please contact me at (916) 445-6175.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Beth Hendrickson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Beth Hendrickson
Acting Manager, Reclamation Unit

TERRA TRUCKING COMPANY, INC

CONSTRUCTION TRUCKING

1350 E. Barbour Street
Banning, CA 92220
Phone: (951) 849-1002
Fax: (951) 849-4404
Email: Fred@TerraTrucking.com

April 19, 2010

Riverside County Planning Department

4080 Lemon Street

Riverside, Calif. 92502-1409

ATTN: Mr. David Jones

RE: Liberty Quarry-Environmental Impact Report

Dear Mr. Jones,

My name is Fred ReCupido, and I am the President of Terra Trucking Company, Inc; located in Banning, Ca. Our company has been in business over 39 years, servicing San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino and Imperial Counties. Over the span of this time, we have hauled over 100 million tons of Asphalt, rock, sand and gravel for all types of construction related projects and plant to plant operations. We have extensive knowledge of the quarry, aggregate and asphalt markets in these counties, and the economies that affect them.

In the past 8-10 years we observed a larger and larger increase in traffic for these commodities going from The Coachella Valley, San Bernardino County and even Los Angeles County (Irwindale), to either Western Riverside or San Diego County. From these quarries, especially the 5 major quarries in the Coachella Valley and the Banning Pass area, along with several major quarries in Corona, millions of tons of aggregate and asphalt have moved through the communities of Temecula and Rancho California. We estimate in the past 10 years, at least 10 million tons have been shipped south from as far away as 100 miles.

We are of the opinion that Liberty Quarry would be a more logical, less expensive, and more environmentally sound project, compared to the thousands of truck loads passing through

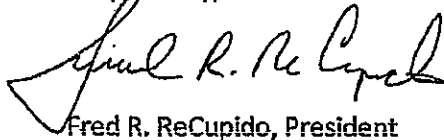
TERRA TRUCKING COMPANY, INC

CONSTRUCTION TRUCKING

1350 E. Barbour Street
Banning, CA 92220
Phone: (951) 849-1002
Fax: (951) 849-4404
Email: Fred@TerraTrucking.com

these communities. We implore the County of Riverside to have the foresight and long range thinking needed to preserve and promote high quality aggregate supply for our County in the future. In my years of experience, we do not want to end up in the same lurch as other Counties have found themselves because of a lack of vision and planning. Thank you for the opportunity to address this crucial decision.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred R. ReCupido". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Fred" being the most prominent.

Fred R. ReCupido, President

Lehigh Hanson
HEIDELBERGCEMENT Group

Lehigh Hanson Region West

12667 Alcosta Blvd., Ste 400
San Ramon, CA 94583
Phone 925 244 6500
Fax 925 244 6565

www.heidelbergcement.com

April 11, 2011

The Honorable Bob Buster
Chair of the Riverside county Board of Supervisors
4080 Lemon Street, 4th Floor
Riverside, CA 92502

Subject: Aggregate Demand and Supply and the Proposed Liberty Quarry

Dear Chairman Buster:

Lehigh Hanson operates 192 quarries and 111 readymix concrete plants in the United States. (http://www.heidelbergcement.com/global/en/company/group_areas/nam/usa.htm) We have a large presence in California including a hard rock quarry and readymix concrete plant in the City of Corona as well as 37 additional plants in Southern California.

The State of California Department of Conservation and Caltrans have made it known to local government jurisdictions including Riverside County of the severe shortage of permitted aggregate reserves in certain markets in California including Western Riverside County, San Diego County and Orange County.

Shortages of permitted reserves in local markets necessitates the need to import aggregate from other markets creating unnecessary traffic and air emissions; road and highway maintenance costs; and higher construction costs. Presently, aggregate is imported through Western Riverside County from distances as great as 60 miles, to southwest Riverside and San Diego Counties creating adverse impacts to residents in Temecula, Murrieta, Corona, Lake Elsinore, Eastvale, Hemet, Banning, Beaumont, Perris, Moreno Valley and Riverside. This is not a sustainable practice in the long-term.

We are aware of a proposal by Granite Construction Co. to develop the Liberty Quarry project on land that is already zoned for mining and classified by the State Mining and Geology Board as an important mineral resource in Southwest Riverside County. If this project was approved and developed it would help reduce the reliance on shipping aggregate long distances into this market.

We encourage the County and the cities in the County to weigh this benefit as they consider this project.

Sincerely,



Kari D. Saragusa
President
Lehigh Hanson – Region West

CAL PORTLAND

May 28, 2010

David L. Jones, County Geologist
Riverside County
4080 Lemon Street
9th Floor
Riverside, California 92592-1409

Subject: Liberty Quarry, Draft Environmental Impact Report

Dear Mr. Jones,

CalPortland Inc. provides construction materials - aggregate, cement, concrete and asphalt - throughout the Western United States and Canada. Our first concrete plant was established in Colton in 1891. We now have 15 concrete plants in Southern California. The aggregate for these plants comes from a number of different quarries in the Southern California, including some in the Coachella Valley area of Riverside County.

Over the last 10 years we have seen a trend of aggregate being moved longer distances to concrete plants and asphalt plants throughout Southern California. This is particularly true for the Southwest Riverside County and San Diego County markets. Aggregate is now imported from Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties into San Diego and Southwest Riverside County due to the lack of enough locally permitted aggregate sources in these markets. In the last 10 years as much as 5 million tons per year were shipped by truck through Western Riverside County to San Diego County and Southwest Riverside County.

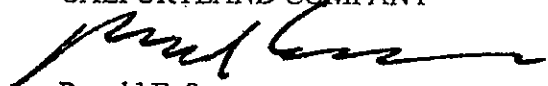
The State of California (Department of Conservation) has provided public information that shows conclusively that Western Riverside and San Diego County have critical shortages of permitted aggregate supplies to meet the 50-year demand.

Caltrans has stated that it does not make sense economically or environmentally to continue to ship aggregate long distances, especially when there are viable alternatives like Liberty Quarry. Based on our knowledge of the industry over a period of 100 years, if Liberty Quarry is developed it will reduce the need to move aggregate long distances through Riverside County.

That just makes sense for everyone.

Sincerely,

CALPORTLAND COMPANY



Ronald E. Summers
Vice-President, Materials Division

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 8

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR
464 WEST 4TH STREET, 6TH FLOOR, MS 1201
SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401-1400
PHONE (909) 383-4055
FAX (909) 383-6239
TTY 711



*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

May 13, 2009

Mr. Russell Kitahara
Chair, Riverside Local Agency Formation Commission
3850 Vine Street, Suite 110
Riverside, CA 92507-4277

Dear Mr. Kitahara,

I am writing to you on behalf of the California Department of Transportation (Department) in support of the proposed Liberty Quarry south of the Temecula city limits, pending environmental review by the County of Riverside. It is my understanding that the Riverside Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) will consider a resolution supporting the City of Temecula's efforts to annex the property encompassing the proposed Liberty Quarry. I would like to provide some critical information relative to the importance of this quarry, as well as other proposed quarries across the State. The Department has been vocal in support of local aggregate sources in recent years. This is due to the dwindling supply of aggregate in our great State. Aggregate, rock, crushed rock, and sand, are a major element of all public works construction projects; including roads, highways, housing, and schools.

There are currently approximately 5.3 billion tons of aggregate available for mining under permits issued by cities and counties. This translates to approximately 7.2% of the estimated supply according to the California Geological Survey. At the current rate of production of 177 million tons per year, the permitted reserves will be exhausted in 30 years or less. This will force escalation of the price of concrete and asphalt to cover the expense of shipping aggregates to the project site from out of state. The State and other public works entities will bear the direct costs of transportation in project item increases. Additionally, our infrastructure will suffer from excessive, unplanned use by trucks, which are the primary mode of transporting aggregates to jobsites. Providing local aggregate sources will have the positive impact of reducing truck traffic on our congested highways, reduce diesel fuel consumption and subsequently reduce emissions, significantly. Finally, project costs will not escalate for asphalt and concrete, allowing public entities such as your city the ability to leverage public monies to address more needs.

Over the past three years, the Department has delivered 754 major projects with a construction value exceeding \$8.3 billion. Without additional reliable and accessible aggregate sites, we will be unable to maintain this delivery pace. Importing aggregate from outside the region greatly increases costs and reduces the number of projects. Please support the State's position on the need of local aggregate sources; it will benefit Riverside County in the long run.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND W. WOLFE, PhD
District Director

c: Gary Johnson

Construction Aggregate Supply Limitations

Estimates of Economic Impact

- Since transportation is a major element in the cost of delivered aggregate, and the cost depends on the distance of the delivery, permitting new aggregate sites would lead to shorter haul distance to minimize transport/shipping cost. According to the industry, shipping costs for aggregates can outweigh production costs if the material is trucked more than 20 miles.¹
- A recent UC Berkeley study² confirms that the most likely, and dominant, effect of the opening of new sites for the production of construction aggregates would be a *reduction in truck miles of travel for hauling aggregates* (i.e., new quarry will be located closer to the users to minimize transportation costs), *thus a reduction in emissions from trucks*.
- According to the California Geological Survey (CGS), California has an estimated **74 billion tons** of aggregate resources underlying mineral lands classified by the State Geologist. However, only about **5.3 billion tons** of aggregate (7.2 percent) have actually been permitted by cities and counties for mining activities. Permitting of mining sites takes between five and ten years. At the current rate of production of 177 million tons per year, the permitted reserves will be exhausted in about 30 years.
- According to the CGS, the state produced 176.4 million tons of construction sand and gravel in 2005, valued at \$1,269 million. The production of crushed stone in 2005 was estimated at *58.87 million tons*, valued at \$361.5 million. According to the same source, California imported about 2.4 million tons of sand and gravel during 2005 from Canada and Mexico, a fairly small portion of the total use.
- The total aggregate production (or demand) in 2005, therefore, exceeded **235.3 million tons** (176.4 + 58.87). This production level would *generate about 9.4 million truckloads (@ 25 tons per truck), or a total of 18.8 million truck trips a year (including empty trucks returning to the aggregate sites)* related to the transportation of construction aggregate in the state.
- According to the Teichert Construction and West Coast Aggregates, Inc. the average hauling distance for aggregates in California may be as high as 50 miles. Truck transportation accounts for about 99 percent of shipping aggregates for 40 miles or less.³ At an average 50-mile distance, the total aggregate-truck VMT would be **940 million miles** per year (18.8 million trucks x 50 miles). This would account for 4% of total truck trips, or 6% of all truck miles of travel on the state highways.
- Let us assume that additional aggregate production resulting from permitting additional mining facilities would reduce the average hauling distance from 50 to 35 miles statewide. Using an average hauling distance of 35 miles, the total annual aggregate-truck miles of travel would be **658 million miles** (18.8 million trucks X 35 miles). The 15-mile shorter hauling distance would reduce aggregate-truck miles of travel by **282 million miles per year** (940 - 658), and annual diesel fuel consumption by **44 million gallons** (using CARB diesel fuel consumption rate of 0.153 gallons per vehicle-mile at 55-60 mph speed).

¹ Therese Dunphy, "Evening the Playing Field," *Aggregates Manager*, August 2006.

² Peter Berck, "A Note on the Environmental Costs of Aggregates," *Working Paper No. 994*, Dept. of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Policy, University of California, Berkeley, January 2005.

³ Tina Grady Barbaccia, "Off-highway Transportation," *Aggregates Manager*, July 2006.

- Based on the California Air Resources Board emission factors estimates, and assuming an average 55-60 miles per hour speed, a reduction of 282 million miles of truck travel (or 44 million gallons of diesel fuel consumption) would reduce truck emissions (CO, NOx, PM10, SOx, VOC) by about **835.4 tons a year**.
- The total transportation cost of aggregates (at \$.10 per ton per mile) shipped 35-miles average distance throughout California would be \$1.6 billion (18.8 mil trucks x 25 tons x 35 miles x \$.10), and over \$2.3 billion if shipped an average 50 miles. The statewide transportation cost savings of reduced hauling distance would amount to **\$705 million a year** (or a 43% cost savings).
- The California Department of Transportation estimates that on average, about \$2.55 billion is spent on state and local capital outlay projects each year, and on average, aggregates account for **8-10%** of total project costs, or **\$250 million** annually. A 43% increase/decrease in shipping cost of aggregates would increase/decrease the total annual project costs by **\$108 million per year**.
- The reduction in aggregate-related truck miles of travel would also reduce traffic congestion and traffic accidents on roads, but these impacts would be difficult to estimate. An additional benefit from truck trip reduction would be reduced pavement deterioration. The Department of Transportation on average spends about \$500 million annually on pavement rehabilitation projects. Assuming trucks account for 60% of the pavement damage on the state highways, and aggregate-trucks account for 4%-6% of all truck travel on the state highways (depending on the average distance of 35 or 50 miles), the trucks shipping aggregates would account for about **\$12-18 million** of potential savings in the cost of pavement rehabilitation each year.
- Project delays due to lack of aggregate supply in the area, would also result in project cost escalation and reduced user benefits (reduced travel time and accidents) that would have otherwise been generated. A delay of 10% of the projects (or \$255 million in capital outlay expenditures) for one year would increase the cost of the state and local capital outlay program by **\$9 million a year** (at 3.5% average cost escalation factor). It should be noted that the highway construction cost index in recent years has grown at much higher rates than the historical average of 3.5%. Therefore, the project cost escalation due to lack of aggregate supply and project delays could potentially be much higher than the figure above.
- Generalizing, and pro rating, the user benefits estimated for the 2006 Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) projects, a delay of 10% of the capital outlay program for one year would also cost California about **\$97 million** in increased roadway congestion and traffic accidents.

In conclusion, permitting and expansion of additional construction aggregate supply sources in California suggests potentially significant benefits and cost savings that would provide a high payoff and worthwhile effort for the state to undertake. Again, those benefits include:

- A reduction in emissions from trucks with the reduction in truck miles of travel for hauling aggregates
- Shorter hauling distance reducing aggregate-truck miles of travel and the cost of the materials
- Reduction of pavement deterioration from fewer truck miles traveled
- Reduction in project delays due to lack of aggregate supply in the area, which leads to increased project costs
- Reduction in aggregate-related truck miles of travel would also reduce traffic congestion and potentially reduce traffic accidents on roads

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
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TTY 711

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*Flex your power!
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September 30, 2008

Dear Transportation Partners:

In February 2006, I sent a letter to you stressing the need for permitting new aggregate resources within California. As you are aware, these materials are one of the critical resources required to meet current and expected infrastructure improvement needs for transportation improvements, flood protection, and public and private facilities in the State of California. Toward this effort, I want to again highlight the tremendous need to increase the supply of aggregate resource materials in the State.

Over the past three years, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) delivered 754 major projects with a construction value of more than \$8.3 billion. I want to continue this success rate with reasonably expected cost effectiveness. This is why it is critical to increase California's permitted aggregate resource reserves.

In the last two years, Caltrans has taken a number of steps to promote aggregate resource needs throughout the State. Caltrans and the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency have provided decision makers with information on the need to increase California's aggregate resource supply and will continue to do so in the future.

To date, Caltrans personnel have made presentations to several local decision makers in the State, including Nevada, Butte, and Fresno counties, the San Joaquin Valley, and communities in the Bay Area. Caltrans has also coordinated with the construction industry, public decision-makers, and government officials in discussing potential opportunities to increase California's aggregate resource supply. Caltrans' work and partnerships in the *GoCalifornia* Construction Industry Capacity Expansion (ICE) action Action Plan has also played a significant role. This work included several workshops and meetings with stakeholders, including the ICE Workshop and Materials Summit held in April. The summit provided a means to communicate with those that are involved with the permit process in order to identify the key issues that arise when attempting to permit a mining facility. Caltrans will continue that collaborative effort. Other collaborative efforts have included developing cooperative partnerships with the California Department of Conservation and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, on mining, reclamation, and permitting issues.

"Caltrans improves mobility across California"

Caltrans also is providing grant funds for the Regional Blueprint Planning Program to promote regional collaboration and integrated planning strategies. This program has enabled regions to plan to accommodate all their future growth while identifying and preserving:

- Mining and material resources.
- Farm and agriculture lands.
- Natural resources.
- Greenbelts and buffer zones.

While all of these efforts have helped to gain approval of new aggregate resources at selected locations in California, we are still well below the amount of reserve required to address expected infrastructure needs over the next 50 years. As we deliver infrastructure improvements with the voter-approved Proposition 1B Bond funds, I want to urge you to continue to examine methods to increase the aggregate resources within each of your cities, counties, and regions. Enclosed for your use is an economic assessment of aggregate supply prepared by our Division of Transportation Planning's Office of Transportation Economics.

This provides information on the potential economic, social, air quality, and environmental impacts when transporting aggregate materials for infrastructure projects farther than 350 miles each way. I believe this is a good source of information for you and your local decision-makers to utilize.

Lastly, I want to encourage you to contact representatives from your local Caltrans district office. They are available, upon request, to appear at public meetings and hearings in your areas to speak on the importance of increasing California's aggregate supply. We encourage the development of new sources for aggregate reserves within California, but we also recognize that the permitting of new mining locations must be done in accordance with environmental sensitivity and in accordance with federal, State, and local laws.

Please share this information with your planning commissions, city councils, and county board of supervisors.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in helping to improve mobility across California.

Sincerely,



WILL KEMPTON
Director

Enclosure

Transportation Partners
September 30, 2008
Page 3

c: Gary Hambly, California Construction and Industrial Materials Association
Charlie Rea, California Construction and Industrial Materials Association
Sam Hassoun, Associated General Contractors of California
Tara McGovern, Engineering and Utilities Contractors Association
Patrick D. Leathers, The Gualco Group, Inc.
RTPAs
MPOs
County Transportation Commissions

**COURTNEY ANN COYLE
ATTORNEY AT LAW**

HELD-PALMER HOUSE
1609 SOLEDAD AVENUE
LA JOLLA, CA USA 92037-3817

TELEPHONE: 858-454-8687

E-MAIL: COURTCOYLE@AOL.COM

FACSIMILE: 858-454-8493

Matt Straite
Project Planner
Riverside County Planning Department
P.O. Box 1409
Riverside, CA 92501
MSTRAITE@RCTLMA.ORG

By Mail and Email

March 25, 2011

Re: DEIR/FEIR No. 475 Liberty Quarry Surface Mining Permit #213

Dear Mr. Straite,

On December 22, 2010, my office sent to you, on behalf of the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians, an email (attached here for your convenience) requesting that the County take certain actions prior to finalizing its environmental review in the Liberty Quarry matter. Since that time, the County has not responded to our requests.

The Tribe has learned from media accounts that the County will not be recirculating a DEIR for the project and intends to take up the FEIR at two public hearing dates before the County's Planning Commission in April and May of this year. Pechanga remains concerned that the County may be poised to take action on the proposed Project without having adequate and correct information before it, particularly regarding tribal cultural resources.

More specifically, in its December communication, the Tribe had requested the County make available to it a draft of the revised cultural resources (and any other relevant sections) of the DEIR and the draft responses to the Tribe's comments, to ensure that the County understood the Tribe's concerns, concerns that had been inadequately addressed in the DEIR. Pechanga also requested that consultation between it and the County occur, without the applicant present. Will the County be providing this information and having a consultative meeting solely with the Tribe prior to completing and releasing the FEIR? The Tribe is concerned that if these above steps are not made, and necessary corrective actions taken, that the County will be considering a seriously inadequate and flawed FEIR.

Matt Straite
March 25, 2011
Page 2

Moreover, since publication of the DEIR, this culturally-sensitive area has been listed with the California Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File. As the area where Liberty Quarry wants to be sited is within the Luiseño Ancestral Origin Landscape, an area of great religious and cultural importance, it is imperative that the Tribe be consulted by the County and the California SHPO on the Project's direct, indirect and cumulative impacts and effects to this area and to the Tribe prior to any significance or impact determinations being made. The Tribe is concerned that such consultation has not occurred to date.

Finally, due to the extremely sensitive nature of the area and the Tribe's internal needs for review, Pechanga respectfully requests that a hard copy of the FEIR and the Responses to Comments pertaining to the Tribe's comment letter be provided to our office and that of Pechanga's Office of the General Counsel at least 30 days prior to the initial public hearing in this matter. We also respectfully request that any and all Project staff reports, findings and notices be provided to our office and that of Pechanga's Office of the General Counsel at least ten business days prior to any action.

Thank you for your courtesy and cooperation. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely yours,


Courtney Ann Coyle
Attorney at Law

Attachment

Copies to:

Larry Myers, California NAHC
Wayne Donaldson, California SHPO
John Macarro, General Counsel Pechanga
Gary DuBois, Pechanga Cultural Department
Interested Parties



March 7, 2011

Riverside County Board of Supervisors
4080 Lemon Street
Riverside, CA 92501

Dear Supervisors,

As Mayor of Cottonwood Heights, Utah, it has been my privilege to work with Granite Construction for the past six years. We have found them to be a first class operation that exhibits strong sensitivities to the communities in which they operate.

Granite's Cottonwood Aggregate and Hot and Warm Mix Asphalt Facility has been a great local asset. The aggregate that is mined at this site is of the highest quality. Having this facility nearby has been convenient and cost-saving for our city.

In these tough economic times, quarries can help reduce road and highway maintenance costs and improve local air quality by providing a local source of aggregate and eliminating the need to truck-in materials from more distant quarries.

Granite has operated in Utah for over sixty years. There are thousands of homes within one mile of the quarry. As you might imagine, a quarry operation is not always compatible with residential subdivisions. Despite the fact that this quarry existed long before any homes were built nearby, Granite has gone the extra mile to reduce impacts to local residents and ensure that the quarry has no negative effect on our local air quality.

Shortly after incorporating as a city some six years ago, we organized a citizen's committee to consider how to resolve incompatibilities that might arise between the quarry and residential living. Granite has not only been responsive to the smallest citizen concern, but has been so responsive (without being legally compelled to do so) that they have won the respect and cooperation of their residential neighbors and businesses.

This quarry has won more than a dozen environmental and community relations awards from the National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association (NSSGA) and the National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA).

In addition to the benefits of having a local source of aggregate, Granite Construction continues to be a great corporate citizen of Cottonwood Heights. They have proven to be committed to maintaining the quality of life for our local residents. They take an active role in welcoming the public annually for familiarity tours as well as participating in and

sponsoring key city events. I am certain that you will have the same experience in your region. I remain very impressed with the community-minded nature of this company. I wish all business operators within our boundaries shared a similar outlook.

If you have any questions, you may certainly feel free to contact me. The best way to do so is by e-mail at KCullimore@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov or on my cell phone at (801) 580-4523.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelvyn H. Cullimore, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Kelvyn H. Cullimore, Jr.

Mayor

Cottonwood Heights, Utah



Carolyn Syme Luna
Director

RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

March 16, 2011

Attn: Director
California Department of Conservation
Office of Mine Reclamation
801 K St. MS 09-06
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Response to OMR's 1/13/11 30-Day Review Comments
and 30 Day Notice of Public Hearing
Liberty Quarry- (Granite Construction Company)
Application for Mining Permit/Reclamation Plan
County Surface Mining Permit – SMP00213

In accordance with the requirements of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act Section 2774 (d) (2), Riverside County herein submits written responses to OMR's comments on the referenced proposed Liberty Quarry project Reclamation Plan. In addition, this letter shall serve as the required 30-day notice of the time, place and date of the planned public hearing for this proposed mining project:

Time of Hearing: 4:00 pm or as soon as possible thereafter.
Place of Hearing: The Rancho Community Church, located at 31300 Rancho Community Way, Temecula, CA 92592
Date of Hearing: Tuesday April 26, 2011 and Tuesday May 3, 2011.

The County's responses to OMR's comments, as follow, are numbered to correspond to the numbered items in OMR's 1/13/11 letter:

OMR Comment #1

Mining Operation and Closure

(Refer to SMARA sections 2770, 2772, 2773, CCR sections 3502, 3709, 3713)

1. SMARA section 2772(c)(5) requires that the reclamation plan include maps with information pertinent to the reclamation of the site. The maps and plot plans for this site should clearly show boundaries of active and future mining areas, topographic details, geology, streams, utilities, haul roads, and stockpile areas (topsoil and material) to scale. The maps for the site generally are good and show pertinent information related to mining and reclamation of the site; however, some improvements are recommended for completeness and clarity.

- OMR was informed during the recent site visit that the quarry configuration/footprint has been changed, and some appurtenances (e.g. the south-westernmost sediment/water pond) may be moved or not be constructed. The reclamation plan maps must be revised to reflect the planned quarry development.
- The location of all boreholes and monitoring wells should be depicted on one or more reclamation plan site maps that reflect their presence/abandonment during each phase of the mining operation.
- The legends on most maps do not provide an explanation of all features shown on the map. The legends should be revised to explain all lines, symbols, and patterns depicted on the maps.
- OMR recommends additional cross sections that show the mining operation during the different phases of mining. For example, Sheets 2 and 3 of 6 show apparent fill and cut slopes around the processing area and development of "Pads" with different elevations in various parts of the processing area. The topographic contours are unlabelled on some of the constructed slopes. The constructed slope on the southern side of Pad 1670' has symbols that typically are used to denote a fill slope, but the unlabelled contours and relation to surrounding topography appears to indicate a cut slope. A cross section would help clarify whether this slope is a fill or cut slope.
- The contours depicting final mined topography on Sheet 5 of 6 do not appear to align precisely with topographic contours of the surrounding undisturbed ground. OMR recommends checking the accuracy of the topographic contours and revising them as necessary.

Response to Comment #1:

Bullet #1 - The potential revisions to the planned quarry configuration/footprint are presented as mitigation measures and alternatives in the Proposed Project's Draft EIR. Any revisions to the Proposed Project will be determined by the decision-makers for the County of Riverside; the County Planning Commission and the County Board of Supervisors. If the Proposed Project is approved with revisions, the Final SMP and Reclamation Plan will be revised to reflect the approved quarry development, as appropriate.

Bullet #2 - The location of the boreholes will be depicted on the phased site plans until such time as the boreholes are "mined" out. There are no planned water monitoring wells onsite. See #3 below for additional information.

Bullet #3 – The map legend(s) will be revised to indicate all lines, symbols and patterns depicted on the maps.

Bullet #4 – The slope on the east side of Pad 1675' is designed as a fill slope to be compacted per the approved geotechnical report. Pad 1670' may have some fill areas depending on the final grading designs. If the Proposed Project is approved, the Final SMP and Reclamation sheets will include another cross-section across the Pad 1670' area, as appropriate.

Bullet #5 – If the Proposed Project is approved, the approved final sheets will be checked and revised to align the final mined topography, as appropriate.

OMR Comment #2

2. CCR section 3709(b) requires that structures and equipment be dismantled and removed prior to final mine closure except those structures or equipment that are deemed necessary for the proposed end use. The reclamation plan states "Some buildings, roads, and infrastructure to be determined may be left in-place 1 [sic] on the south side of the site to monitor and maintain the site." The map showing the site after final reclamation, Sheet 5 of 6, shows a water tank, two-story building and parking lot, and a generator plant that will remain in-place. Justification should be included in the reclamation plan as to why these are needed for the open-space end use. If no reasonable justification can be provided, OMR recommends that the reclamation plan be revised to include the eventual removal of these facilities.

Response to Comment #2:

The final reclamation and revegetation of the site followed by a minimum of 5 years of monitoring or until the revegetation success criteria are achieved will require onsite personnel, equipment, power, and water as needed. The quarry and the surrounding conservation area will also need to be monitored for trespassing, vandalism, fence repair, and erosion. If the Proposed Project is approved with revisions, the Final SMP and Reclamation Plan will be revised to include the eventual removal of these facilities, as appropriate.

OMR Comment #3

3. CCR section 3713(a) requires that drill holes, water wells, monitoring wells be abandoned in accordance with applicable State and local laws. The reclamation plan indicates that 10 boreholes were drilled on site; however, discussions during the site visit and supplemental materials included with the reclamation plan indicate that at least 13 boreholes were drilled to investigate the prospective quarry. Groundwater monitoring wells apparently were installed in three boreholes; however, the disposition of the remaining boreholes is not described in the reclamation plan. The reclamation plan should include provisions for properly abandoning all monitoring wells and boreholes that will not be completely removed by extraction activities by the mining operation. The plan also should include provisions for abandoning any open boreholes that are not being used as monitoring wells and any monitoring wells that will be abandoned and not mined through in one year.

Response to Comment #3:

Ten drill holes drilled by Granite in 2004 and two drilled by Kleinfelder in the access road alignment to determine stability in 2006 were closed in accordance with applicable State and local laws after their completion. Three boreholes (MW-1, -2, and -3) were drilled using air rotary methods in 2006 within the quarry footprint to determine quarry slope stability and groundwater hydrology. The locations of the all the borings are shown in Figure 3.5-2 in the DEIR. Because these borings (MW-1, -2, and -3) were drilled into hard granitic bedrock, the holes were not cased, but were left open. A locking, 8-in diameter, by 3 feet tall monument is fixed in place with an approximately 2 feet by 2 feet concrete base at each of these three boring locations. In accordance with Riverside County Ordinance No. 682, the borings drilled as part of a Hydrologic Study were drilled as uncased "exploration holes" for the purpose of immediately evaluating the existing geological and/or hydrological conditions. As such the exploration holes are exempt from permit requirements, as per the monitoring well destruction standards of Part III, Bulletin 74-90. There has been no subsequent monitoring since the completion of the investigation. As indicated in our report, because the borings were drilled into competent rock, they were not back filled so that subsequent data acquisition could be undertaken if required.

Note that these three boreholes will be removed during quarry operations.

OMR Comment #4

Geotechnical Requirements

(Refer to CCR sections 3502, 3704)

4. CCR section 3704(f) requires that final cut slopes have a minimum factor of safety appropriate for the end use and that they conform with surrounding topography. The reclamation plan and supporting geologic and geotechnical studies of slope stability generally indicate that overall final cut slopes will be stable with factors of safety suitable for the end use; however, results of the kinematic analyses indicate that bench-scale failures are possible. The available studies rely on a large amount of data collected from 13 boreholes and surface mapping, laboratory testing and geophysical studies. While these studies appear sufficient for designing and developing the quarry, it will be necessary to collect additional data as the quarry is developed to ensure that final slopes are stable. Therefore, the approach to continuously study and characterize the stability of quarry slopes during all stages of development is reasonable. Nevertheless, OMR recommends addressing the following comments regarding the studies that have been complete regarding the stability of final cut slopes:

- The geotechnical studies recommend a program of field mapping, drilling, geophysical surveys, and laboratory testing to be established and implemented to identify weaker zones in the rock mass as the quarry is developed. The reclamation plan indicates that such a program will be developed as the quarry is excavated to provide information for a detailed slope stability assessment that is ongoing during the life of the mining operation. OMR recommends that the reclamation plan be revised to describe key components of such a program, including reporting and review components.
- The results of the analyses indicate that some bench-scale slope failures are kinematically feasible. OMR notes that the reclamation plan should promote a final slope design that is stable overall and is stable at the scale of the benches. It appears that the ongoing field program will address the design of benches on a continual basis and recommend modifications to the design. Geologic and geotechnical studies should address the effects of bench-scale failures and likely modifications of bench design on the overall stability of the final cut slope.
- The slope stability analyses assume partial saturation of the slope as a "worst case" scenario. Springs are present, and saturated conditions in the upper part of the rock mass are likely during and after heavy rainfall events. The presence of springs around the periphery of the site may reflect discharge of this "perched" water. It is unclear if the slope stability analyses adequately consider the possibility of seasonal saturated conditions in the upper part of the slopes. The possibility of seasonally saturated conditions in the upper part of the slopes should be considered in the stability analyses to ensure that upper parts of cut slopes are stable.

Response to Comment #4:

Bullet #1 – The DEIR in Section 3.5 includes the following mitigation measure which, if the Proposed Project is approved, will be incorporated into the approved Final SMP and Reclamation Plan, as appropriate:

Mitigation Measure GEO-3b: The Applicant shall implement a geologic verification and monitoring program under the management of a qualified, registered geotechnical engineer and an engineering geologist. The program would generally include the collection of monitoring data from new core holes and exposed bench faces as mining operations proceed throughout the quarry area. The program document would require all geologic data, engineering drawings, permits, monitoring and mitigation conditions prior to initial Site development as well as preparation of detailed Site development phasing. The program would also include provisions for initial Site development, Site development blasting, production blasting within the initial mining areas, final pit wall slope face, and reporting and record keeping requirements.

The geologic verification and monitoring program will monitor rock strength and slope stability so that mining activities can be modified, if necessary, for the continued safe operation of the quarry and to produce stable slopes and benches. The program will be designed and implemented on an ongoing basis as mining progresses from initial Site development through the end of Phase 3.

Verification and monitoring activities include geologic mapping of exposed bedrock surfaces after blasting and excavation. All geologic and blasting data will be reviewed every time 100,000 yd³ of material has been blasted. Verification drilling and coring will be performed if deemed necessary by the independent geologist. Rock quality designation (RQD) and rock mass rating (RMR) will be recorded; rock strength and rock mass stability assumptions will be evaluated. Slope stability assumptions will be evaluated, at a minimum, after each 500,000 cubic yards (yd³) of material is blasted. A minimum overall safety factor of 1.5 will be maintained. In addition, hydrogeologic data will be monitored continually to confirm the lack of an aquifer. Periodic monitoring of the Kirkpatrick well (see Section 3.7) will be performed.

The name and qualifications of the registered engineering geologist or geotechnical engineer assigned to the Proposed Project will be provided to Riverside County. All records will be kept onsite, and duplicate records will be maintained by the engineering geologist or geotechnical engineer. During the first year, the engineering geologist or geotechnical engineer will prepare and submit quarterly reports to Riverside County. With approval of the County, the reports may be prepared and submitted annually after the first year. The reports will include the following information.

- Drill hole patterns and locations
- Amount of explosive loaded in the holes
- Weather data at time of the blast
- Monitoring data
- Geological mapping and data (e.g., RQD and RMR)
- Core hole data and testing data
- Seepage data
- Slope stability verification analysis
- Hydrogeologic monitoring data
- Modifications to the mining plan, slope height, bench width, and slope angle

Bullet #2 – Comment noted. The ongoing geotechnical studies described above will be implemented by the Applicant.

Bullet #3 – Kleinfelder conducted slope stability analyses which were included in Sub-Appendix A of Appendix G of the DEIR and included as Attachment 5 and 6 with the County's submittal to OMR on December 7, 2010. The studies address submerged conditions for the quarry and describe the modeling approach and assume both dry and partially saturated groundwater conditions exist in the rock mass. Fully saturated conditions are not expected as it is conservatively assumed that rainfall events may cause fractures to become saturated at times however, for modeling purposes it was conservatively assumed the rock mass acts as a porous media with a phreatic water table. With this assumption, under partially saturated conditions, the deterministic and probabilistic factors of safety are 1.8 with a range of safety factors from 1.18 to 2.70. Factors of safety that exceed 1.1 are defined as stable conditions for pseudo-static conditions by the County of Riverside. Therefore, under these worst case conditions, the slope is stable and demonstrates that acceptable factors of safety are present.

OMR Comment #5

Hydrology and Water Quality

(Refer to SMARA sections 2772, 2773, CCR sections 3502, 3503, 3706, 3710, 3712)

5. CCR sections 3706 and 3710 require that surface and ground water be protected in accordance with the Porter-Cologne and Clean Water Acts as implemented by the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the State Water Resources Control Board. Regulations approved by the State Water Resources Control Board require that a mine site which discharges storm waters that may have contacted any overburden, raw material, intermediate products, by-products, or waste products on the mine site obtain a general industrial activities storm water permit and submit a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The reclamation plan indicates that the mining operation will obtain the necessary permits and prepare a SWPPP. This comment is simply a reminder that the required information, monitoring requirements and water quality standards of the permit and SWPPP, once they are obtained, should be appended to the reclamation plan in order to satisfy the erosion and sediment control requirements of SMARA.

Response to Comment #5:

Comment noted. The SWPPP is required per mitigation measures in the DEIR and will be appended to the approved Final SMP and Reclamation Plan once it is obtained, as appropriate.

OMR Comment #6

6. CCR section 3706(c) requires that erosion and sedimentation be controlled during all phases of mining and reclamation to minimize siltation of watercourses. The temporary "Visual Enhancement Berm" constructed along the southwestern end of the mining operation is perched above Royal Oak Draw, which flows from roughly north to south along the western side of the mining operation. The reclamation plan describes no construction details of the berm; however, Sheets 2 and 3 of 6 depicts a 25-foot-high berm with 2H:1V (horizontal to vertical) sloping sides that will be constructed on top of a fill prism with a 70-foot-high, west-facing slope inclined 1.4H:1V toward Royal Oak Draw. Unreinforced fill slopes steeper than 2H:1V typically are difficult to revegetate and are susceptible to erosion, sloughing and shallow sliding. Any erosion or shallow sliding of these slopes has a high likelihood of causing sedimentation in the draw given the position of the slope directly upslope of the drainage. The effectiveness of erosion control BMPs on such steep slopes is debatable and additional slope reinforcement likely will be needed to ensure the slope is stable. Even though the fill slopes for the Visual Enhancement Berm are temporary, the reclamation plan should provide descriptions of construction details and/or any reinforcements that will be employed to make certain that sedimentation in Royal Oak Draw is minimized or eliminated.

Related to the previous comment, the "Landscaped Fill Slope" that will be constructed along the eastern side of the quarry (i.e., Sheets 2 and 3 of 6) during Phase 2 will have relatively steep (i.e., inclined ~1.45H:1V), southeast-facing slope that likely will be difficult to revegetate. The fill comprising this slope will be placed and compacted in accordance with recommendations in the geotechnical report; however, even with this compaction effort, the effectiveness of erosion control BMPs is questionable on steeply inclined slopes. OMR recommends reviewing and modifying, if necessary, the construction specifications for this slope.

Response to Comment #6:

The west-facing slope is shown with a 2H:1V slope, however the County will condition the Applicant to provide descriptions of construction details, any reinforcements, drainage and erosion controls, and revegetation that will be employed for both the Visual Enhancement Berm and the landscaped fill slope on the southeast. These data, if the Proposed Project is approved, will be added to the Final SMP and Reclamation Plan, as appropriate.

OMR Comment #7

7. CCR section 3706(d) requires that surface runoff and drainage be controlled and methods designed for not less than 20 year/1 hour intensity storm event. The reclamation plan indicates one or more sediment/water ponds will be constructed for the mining operation. Basin sizing calculations and design specifications for sedimentation basins should be provided for review.

Response to Comment #7:

As mentioned under #1 above, some revisions to the Proposed Project are expected thru the incorporation of mitigation measures in the DEIR. One of note is the elimination of the sediment pond in the southwest portion of the quarry footprint. This sediment pond would be replaced by a belt press system as described under Mitigation Measures USS-2a and USS-2b in Section 3.12 of the DEIR.

The discussion of the access road detention basin design is presented on pages 20 through 28 of Attachment 8 (Geologic and Hydrologic Evaluation, Kleinfelder August 2007) provided to OMR by the County in December 2010. This includes discussion of the evaluation of the water runoff, the precipitation data used, a description for the SCS Methodology applied to the analysis including the peak discharge evaluation and the parameter estimation procedure. As discussed on page 24, the hydrological basins and sub-basins as well as the planned detention basin were evaluated for both 10-year and 100-year frequency precipitation events.

The reported volume of 13 acre-feet is the 100-year runoff volume, and as such, represents a very conservative estimate of the required pond size to ensure that the 100-year post-project discharge at the pond outlet does not exceed pre-project discharge. The reported 4 acre-feet for the 20-year frequency 1-hour storm is presented to confirm the volume of the detention basin will readily contain the volume anticipated from this short duration fairly high intensity precipitation event that is anticipated to occur at greater frequency than 100-year events.

Per Mitigation Measure HWQ-4, the engineered drainage and detention basin shall be planned in consultation with the San Diego RWQCB, Caltrans, Riverside County Transportation Department, and the San Diego County Transportation Department, and shall include an appropriate clarifier system or other equivalent technology to filter hydrocarbons and remove sediments. Clarified and filtered storm water from the access road will be discharged to the existing storm drain system. The County will include a Condition of Approval that the rough and precise grading and drainage plans must be submitted to Caltrans for all road improvements as well as other infrastructure improvements that may affect Caltrans facilities either directly or indirectly (e.g. offsite drainage).

OMR Comment #8

Resoiling and Revegetation

(Refer to SMARA section 2773, CCR sections 3503, 3704, 3705, 3707, 3711)

8. CCR section 3705(m) requires that the reclamation plan include success criteria that can be quantified by cover, density, and species-richness. Success criteria are discussed on page 63, but there are several problems that require this section to be revised.

- There is no performance standard provided for density. This is the number of woody stems per unit area, such as 15 native perennials per 100 meter transect.
- The values given for cover and diversity are too low. OMR recommends values set at 60% of baseline rather than at 50%.
- The values given for cover and diversity are not tied to a unit of area, such as a transect or a plot, that will be the unit of measure for monitoring purposes (see next comment).
- The value set for weed tolerance is too high and should specify that it applies to noxious weeds, not just any non-native plants. It should also be tied to a unit area. OMR recommends the following success criteria as an example:

Percent cover	50% cover of native perennials per 100 meter transect
Species richness (diversity)	9 species native perennials per 100 meter transect
Density	15 native perennials per 100 meter transect
Presence of noxious weeds	Less than 10% cover per 100 meter transect

Response to Comment #8:

The County will condition the Applicant to incorporate the above suggested OMR success criteria on the percent cover, species richness, density, and presence of noxious weeds. These data will be added, if the Proposed Project is approved, to the approved Final SMP and Reclamation Plan, as appropriate.

OMR Comment #9

9. CCR section 3705(m) also requires that the reclamation plan include a monitoring plan with the sampling methods set forth in the plan and the sample size which will provide an 80 percent confidence level at a minimum. The monitoring and maintenance section on page 63 needs to be augmented to describe details of the monitoring methods, including the type and number of monitoring plots to be employed. This should match the units of measure in the performance standards.

Response to Comment #9:

The County will condition the Applicant to incorporate the above sampling methods. These data will be added, if the Proposed Project is approved, to the approved Final SMP and Reclamation Plan, as appropriate.

OMR Comment #10

Administrative Requirements

(Refer to SMARA sections 2772, 2773, 2774, 2776, 2777, PRC section 21151.7)

10. SMARA section 2772(c)(10) states that the reclamation plan shall include an applicant's signed statement accepting responsibility for reclamation per the approved reclamation plan. This statement is included on page 65 but must be signed and submitted to OMR.

Response to Comment #10:

The County will require the Applicant to sign a statement accepting responsibility for the reclamation of the site which, if the Proposed Project is approved, will be incorporated into the approved Final SMP and Reclamation Plan, as appropriate.

Riverside County appreciates the comments provided by OMR on the proposed Liberty Quarry project. Please call me at (951) 955-6863 or Matt Straite at (951) 955-8631 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Carolyn Syms-Luna, Planning Director



David L. Jones, Chief Engineering Geologist
TLMA-PLANNING

cc: OMR: James Pompy, Reclamation Unit Manager, Fax: (916) 445-6066
Applicant: Granite Construction Company, Fax: (760) 775-8280
Applicant's Rep.: Lilburn Corporation, Fax: (909) 890-1809
File: SMP00213



Carolyn Syms Luna
Director

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
TRANSPORTATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Planning Department

Date: 3/16/11

FAX

To: Lliburn Corporation

FAX number: (909) 890-1809

From: David Jones

FAX number: (951) 955-1811

RE: Liberty Quarry

Total number of pages (including coversheet): 12

Phone number for follow-up: (951) 955-6892

Comments:

County of Riverside-Planning Department
4060 Lemon Street 12th Floor, Riverside, CA 92501
(951) 955-6892 Fax (951) 955-1811

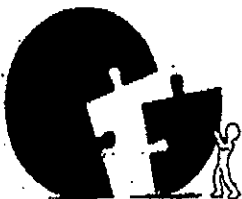
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** Transmit Conf. Report **

CO OF RIVERSIDE EPD Fax:951-955-0090



Carolyn Syme Luna
Director

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
TRANSPORTATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Planning Department

Date: 3/16/11

FAX

To: Granite Construction Company

FAX number: (760) 775-8280

From: David Jones

FAX number: (951) 955-1811

RE: Liberty Quarry

Total number of pages (including coversheet): 12

Phone number for follow-up: (951) 955-8892

Comments:

County of Riverside-Planning Department
4080 Lemon Street 12th Floor, Riverside, CA 92501
(951) 955-8892 Fax (951) 955-1811

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** Transmit Conf. Report **

CO OF RIVERSIDE EPD Fax:951-955-0090



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Managing California's Working Lands

OFFICE OF MINE RECLAMATION

801 K STREET • MS 09-06 • SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

PHONE 916 / 323-9198 • FAX 916 / 445-6066 • TDD 916 / 324-2555 • WEBSITE conservation.ca.gov

January 13, 2011

VIA EMAIL: dljones@rctlma.org
ORIGINAL SENT BY MAIL

David Jones
Riverside County Planning Department
PO Box 1409
Riverside, CA 92502-1409

Dear Mr. Jones:

RECLAMATION PLAN FOR LIBERTY QUARRY SURFACE MINING PERMIT #213

The Department of Conservation's Office of Mine Reclamation (OMR) has reviewed the Project Description and Reclamation Plan for the proposed Liberty Quarry dated December 2010. The applicant, Granite Construction, is proposing to mine aggregate on 164 acres (155-acre quarry plus 9 acres for the access road and utility pad) of a 414-acre project site for a period of 75 years. The applicant estimates that approximately 5 million tons of material will be removed annually. Upon completion of mining, the site will be reclaimed to open space.

The proposed project site is one mile south of Temecula. OMR staff conducted site visits on August 9, 2005 and January 5, 2011 to discuss reclamation issues and wrote comment letters on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) dated August 16, 2005, July 24, 2007, and September 16, 2009. Accompanying these documents were prior versions of the reclamation plan that OMR provided informal technical assistance review comments. For clarification, informal technical assistance comments may not be as detailed as official review comments, which are provided below.

The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) (Public Resources Code section 2710 et seq.) and the State Mining and Geology Board Regulations (California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14, Division 2, Chapter 8, Subchapter 1) require that specific items be addressed or included in reclamation plans. The following comments prepared by Leah Gardner, Restoration Ecologist, and John Wesling, Senior Engineering Geologist, are offered

to assist in your review of this project. We recommend that the reclamation plan be supplemented and/or revised to fully address these items.

Mining Operation and Closure

(Refer to SMARA sections 2770, 2772, 2773, CCR sections 3502, 3709, 3713)

1. SMARA section 2772(c)(5) requires that the reclamation plan include maps with information pertinent to the reclamation of the site. The maps and plot plans for this site should clearly show boundaries of active and future mining areas, topographic details, geology, streams, utilities, haul roads, and stockpile areas (topsoil and material) to scale. The maps for the site generally are good and show pertinent information related to mining and reclamation of the site; however, some improvements are recommended for completeness and clarity.
 - OMR was informed during the recent site visit that the quarry configuration/footprint has been changed, and some appurtenances (e.g. the south-westernmost sediment/water pond) may be moved or not be constructed. The reclamation plan maps must be revised to reflect the planned quarry development.
 - The location of all boreholes and monitoring wells should be depicted on one or more reclamation plan site maps that reflect their presence/abandonment during each phase of the mining operation.
 - The legends on most maps do not provide an explanation of all features shown on the map. The legends should be revised to explain all lines, symbols, and patterns depicted on the maps.
 - OMR recommends additional cross sections that show the mining operation during the different phases of mining. For example, Sheets 2 and 3 of 6 show apparent fill and cut slopes around the processing area and development of "Pads" with different elevations in various parts of the processing area. The topographic contours are unlabelled on some of the constructed slopes. The constructed slope on the southern side of Pad 1670' has symbols that typically are used to denote a fill slope, but the unlabelled contours and relation to surrounding topography appears to indicate a cut slope. A cross section would help clarify whether this slope is a fill or cut slope.
 - The contours depicting final mined topography on Sheet 5 of 6 do not appear to align precisely with topographic contours of the surrounding undisturbed ground. OMR recommends checking the accuracy of the topographic contours and revising them as necessary.
2. CCR section 3709(b) requires that structures and equipment be dismantled and removed prior to final mine closure except those structures or equipment that are deemed necessary for the proposed end use. The reclamation plan states "Some buildings, roads, and infrastructure to be determined may be left in-place 1 [sic] on the south side of the site to monitor and maintain the site." The map showing the site after final reclamation, Sheet 5 of 6, shows a water tank, two-story building and parking lot, and a generator plant that will remain in-place. Justification should be included in the reclamation plan as to why these are needed for the open-space end use. If no

reasonable justification can be provided, OMR recommends that the reclamation plan be revised to include the eventual removal of these facilities.

3. CCR section 3713(a) requires that drill holes, water wells, monitoring wells be abandoned in accordance with applicable State and local laws. The reclamation plan indicates that 10 boreholes were drilled on site; however, discussions during the site visit and supplemental materials included with the reclamation plan indicate that at least 13 boreholes were drilled to investigate the prospective quarry. Groundwater monitoring wells apparently were installed in three boreholes; however, the disposition of the remaining boreholes is not described in the reclamation plan. The reclamation plan should include provisions for properly abandoning all monitoring wells and boreholes that will not be completely removed by extraction activities by the mining operation. The plan also should include provisions for abandoning any open boreholes that are not being used as monitoring wells and any monitoring wells that will be abandoned and not mined through in one year.

Geotechnical Requirements

(Refer to CCR sections 3502, 3704)

4. CCR section 3704(f) requires that final cut slopes have a minimum factor of safety appropriate for the end use and that they conform with surrounding topography. The reclamation plan and supporting geologic and geotechnical studies of slope stability generally indicate that overall final cut slopes will be stable with factors of safety suitable for the end use; however, results of the kinematic analyses indicate that bench-scale failures are possible. The available studies rely on a large amount of data collected from 13 boreholes and surface mapping, laboratory testing and geophysical studies. While these studies appear sufficient for designing and developing the quarry, it will be necessary to collect additional data as the quarry is developed to ensure that final slopes are stable. Therefore, the approach to continuously study and characterize the stability of quarry slopes during all stages of development is reasonable. Nevertheless, OMR recommends addressing the following comments regarding the studies that have been complete regarding the stability of final cut slopes:
 - The geotechnical studies recommend a program of field mapping, drilling, geophysical surveys, and laboratory testing to be established and implemented to identify weaker zones in the rock mass as the quarry is developed. The reclamation plan indicates that such a program will be developed as the quarry is excavated to provide information for a detailed slope stability assessment that is ongoing during the life of the mining operation. OMR recommends that the reclamation plan be revised to describe key components of such a program, including reporting and review components.
 - The results of the analyses indicate that some bench-scale slope failures are kinematically feasible. OMR notes that the reclamation plan should promote a final slope design that is stable overall and is stable at the scale of the benches. It appears that the ongoing field program will address the design of benches on a continual basis and recommend modifications to the design. Geologic and

geotechnical studies should address the effects of bench-scale failures and likely modifications of bench design on the overall stability of the final cut slope.

- The slope stability analyses assume partial saturation of the slope as a "worst case" scenario. Springs are present, and saturated conditions in the upper part of the rock mass are likely during and after heavy rainfall events. The presence of springs around the periphery of the site may reflect discharge of this "perched" water. It is unclear if the slope stability analyses adequately consider the possibility of seasonal saturated conditions in the upper part of the slopes. The possibility of seasonally saturated conditions in the upper part of the slopes should be considered in the stability analyses to ensure that upper parts of cut slopes are stable.

Hydrology and Water Quality

(Refer to SMARA sections 2772, 2773, CCR sections 3502, 3503, 3706, 3710, 3712)

5. CCR sections 3706 and 3710 require that surface and ground water be protected in accordance with the Porter-Cologne and Clean Water Acts as implemented by the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the State Water Resources Control Board. Regulations approved by the State Water Resources Control Board require that a mine site which discharges storm waters that may have contacted any overburden, raw material, intermediate products, by-products, or waste products on the mine site obtain a general industrial activities storm water permit and submit a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The reclamation plan indicates that the mining operation will obtain the necessary permits and prepare a SWPPP. This comment is simply a reminder that the required information, monitoring requirements and water quality standards of the permit and SWPPP, once they are obtained, should be appended to the reclamation plan in order to satisfy the erosion and sediment control requirements of SMARA.
6. CCR section 3706(c) requires that erosion and sedimentation be controlled during all phases of mining and reclamation to minimize siltation of watercourses. The temporary "Visual Enhancement Berm" constructed along the southwestern end of the mining operation is perched above Royal Oak Draw, which flows from roughly north to south along the western side of the mining operation. The reclamation plan describes no construction details of the berm; however, Sheets 2 and 3 of 6 depicts a 25-foot-high berm with 2H:1V (horizontal to vertical) sloping sides that will be constructed on top of a fill prism with a 70-foot-high, west-facing slope inclined 1.4H:1V toward Royal Oak Draw. Unreinforced fill slopes steeper than 2H:1V typically are difficult to revegetate and are susceptible to erosion, sloughing and shallow sliding. Any erosion or shallow sliding of these slopes has a high likelihood of causing sedimentation in the draw given the position of the slope directly upslope of the drainage. The effectiveness of erosion control BMPs on such steep slopes is debatable and additional slope reinforcement likely will be needed to ensure the slope is stable. Even though the fill slopes for the Visual Enhancement Berm are temporary, the reclamation plan should provide descriptions of construction details and/or any reinforcements that will be employed to make certain that sedimentation in Royal Oak Draw is minimized or eliminated.

Related to the previous comment, the "Landscaped Fill Slope" that will be constructed along the eastern side of the quarry (i.e., Sheets 2 and 3 of 6) during Phase 2 will have relatively steep (i.e., inclined ~1.45H:1V), southeast-facing slope that likely will be difficult to revegetate. The fill comprising this slope will be placed and compacted in accordance with recommendations in the geotechnical report; however, even with this compaction effort, the effectiveness of erosion control BMPs is questionable on steeply inclined slopes. OMR recommends reviewing and modifying, if necessary, the construction specifications for this slope.

7. CCR section 3706(d) requires that surface runoff and drainage be controlled and methods designed for not less than 20 year/1 hour intensity storm event. The reclamation plan indicates one or more sediment/water ponds will be constructed for the mining operation. Basin sizing calculations and design specifications for sedimentation basins should be provided for review.

Resoiling and Revegetation

(Refer to SMARA section 2773, CCR sections 3503, 3704, 3705, 3707, 3711)

8. CCR section 3705(m) requires that the reclamation plan include success criteria that can be quantified by cover, density, and species-richness. Success criteria are discussed on page 63, but there are several problems that require this section to be revised.
 - There is no performance standard provided for density. This is the number of woody stems per unit area, such as 15 native perennials per 100 meter transect.
 - The values given for cover and diversity are too low. OMR recommends values set at 60% of baseline rather than at 50%.
 - The values given for cover and diversity are not tied to a unit of area, such as a transect or a plot, that will be the unit of measure for monitoring purposes (see next comment).
 - The value set for weed tolerance is too high and should specify that it applies to noxious weeds, not just any non-native plants. It should also be tied to a unit area.OMR recommends the following success criteria as an example:

Percent cover	50% cover of native perennials per 100 meter transect
Species richness (diversity)	9 species native perennials per 100 meter transect
Density	15 native perennials per 100 meter transect
Presence of noxious weeds	Less than 10% cover per 100 meter transect

9. CCR section 3705(m) also requires that the reclamation plan include a monitoring plan with the sampling methods set forth in the plan and the sample size which will provide an 80 percent confidence level at a minimum. The monitoring and maintenance section on page 63 needs to be augmented to describe details of the monitoring methods, including the type and number of monitoring plots to be employed. This should match the units of measure in the performance standards.

Administrative Requirements

(Refer to SMARA sections 2772, 2773, 2774, 2776, 2777, PRC section 21151.7)

10. SMARA section 2772(c)(10) states that the reclamation plan shall include an applicant's signed statement accepting responsibility for reclamation per the approved reclamation plan. This statement is included on page 65 but must be signed and submitted to OMR.

Senate Bill 668, Chapter 869, Statutes of 2006 amended PRC section 2774 with respect to lead agency approvals of reclamation plans, plan amendments, and financial assurances. These requirements are applicable to this reclamation plan. Once OMR has provided comments on the reclamation plan, a proposed response to the comments must be submitted to the Department at least 30 days prior to lead agency approval. The proposed response must describe whether you propose to adopt the comments. If you do not propose to adopt the comments, the reason(s) for not doing so must be specified in detail. At least 30 days prior notice must be provided to the Department of the time, place, and date of the hearing at which the reclamation plan is scheduled to be approved. If no hearing is required, then at least 30 days notice must be given to the Department prior to its approval. Finally, within 30 days following approval of the reclamation plan, a final response to these comments must be sent to the Department. Please ensure that the County allows adequate time in the approval process to meet these SMARA requirements.

If you have any questions on these comments or require any assistance with other mine reclamation issues, please contact me at (916) 323-8565.

Sincerely,


for James Pompy
Manager, Reclamation Unit



MORENO VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
"WE MEAN BUSINESS"

September 28, 2010

Mr. Matthew Straite, Project Planner
Riverside County Planning Department
4080 Lemon Street
Riverside, California 92501

Dear Mr. Straite,

The Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce wholeheartedly supports the proposed Liberty Quarry in Southwest Riverside County. After examining the pros and cons of this important proposal, we have concluded this project offers considerable benefits to our city and region. Liberty Quarry will create much-needed new jobs and generate tax revenue to support public services.

The Chamber exists to promote and elevate the economic, civic, educational and cultural status of Moreno Valley. Improving the quality of life throughout our region enhances our allure as a premier location for businesses and a quality community for our residents.

Moreno Valley's location along Interstate 215 and Highway 60 provides convenient access to Riverside County's key transportation corridors and local markets. However, rock-hauling trucks traveling from remote locations to Southwest Riverside and San Diego counties are choking this interchange, damaging our roads and polluting our air.

We know our region is confronted with a severe shortage of rock materials needed to build and improve infrastructure. Opening a quarry near communities that most demand these construction materials is logical and will significantly reduce the number of rock-hauling trucks in our city. Fewer trucks on local highways means fewer air emissions and cleaner air for our residents.

As Riverside County rebounds from a crippling recession, we must plan wisely for the future. Review by the chamber's Legislative Action Committee and Board of Directors concluded that Liberty Quarry will stimulate economic growth, generating \$2.2 million in Riverside County taxes and create nearly 300 combined direct and indirect jobs.

We urge you to advance the Liberty Quarry proposal for the significant contributions this project will bring to our quality of life, our economy and our environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Oscar Valdepeña", is written over a horizontal line.

Oscar Valdepeña
President/CEO

Straite, Matt

From: Neal, Greg
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 8:11 AM
To: Straite, Matt; Jones, David
Subject: FW: DEIR #475 Liberty Quarry and The Great Oak
Attachments: Fwd: Trees

Categories: Blue Category

FYI

Gregory Neal
Deputy Director
Planning Department

From: RNDELNAY@aol.com [mailto:RNDELNAY@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2010 8:12 PM
To: district1@rcbos.org; district2@rcbos.org; district3@rcbos.org; district4@rcbos.org; district5@rcbos.org; quarry, liberty; Bill.horn@sdcounty.ca.gov; Neal, Greg
Cc: jmejia@pechanga-pdc.com; fjbartz@gmail.com; bhwilder@aol.com; jmejka@aol.com; Boglitt@aol.com; RNDELnay@aol.com
Subject: DEIR #475 Liberty Quarry and The Great Oak

October 15, 2010

Dear Supervisors Buster, Tavaglione, Stone, Benoit, Ashley and Horn; Riverside Planning Dept.; Riverside Environmental Dept.

RE: Potential environmental impacts on trees from proposed Liberty Quarry Project

It has already been recognized that there would be over 450 known carcinogenic chemicals spewing into our air from the planned asphalt, two concrete plants, the recycling plant, and the 800 diesel trucks/day. As noted below, chemicals from the New Orleans Dow plant killed all the oaks in the area, including the world's largest oak tree.

Examples such as this reflect the tremendous damage chemicals pose to our health and the environment, and I hope you will keep this in mind and vote NO on the quarry project when the opportunity arises.

For one of your life's most memorial and rewarding experiences, take your grandchildren for a short trip to Pechanga to personally witness the breath-taking, magnificent sight of one of the world's oldest and largest living oak trees. The Great Oak's trunk reaches high into the sky, then its huge limbs gently cascade back down to the earth (much like an old woman sheltering her young); then after gnarly crawling along the ground for several feet, they billow back up into the sky!

Not only is the Great Oak tree a treasure to the Luisano Band of Indians, but to all those who have been fortunate enough to see it! It would be a travesty if the same ill fate occurred to this great local oak as to those in the New Orleans area, killed by chemicals.

Respectfully,

**Nita Delnay
1818 Via Ladera
Fallbrook, CA 92028
(760) 731-6252**



Fallbrook Healthcare District

577 East Elder, Suite U • Fallbrook, CA 92028 • 760-731-9187 • Fax 760-731-9131

Chantell Griffin, Secretary
Riverside County Planning Commission
P.O. Box 1409
Riverside, CA 92502-1409

October 19, 2010

RE: STATEMENT OF OPPOSITION TO LIBERTY QUARRY

Dear Secretary Griffin,

The Fallbrook Healthcare District was established in 1950 to promote the health and wellness of the communities of Fallbrook, Bonsall, Rainbow and parts of the community known as De Luz. The District is committed to identifying, promoting and supporting healthcare needs within its community and thereby, to opposing actions that present the potential of harm to the well-being of its' population.

With that commitment comes the responsibility to speak out on issues which have a strong likelihood of negatively impacting the public health of residents of our community. The greater Fallbrook community services more than 12,000 school children, over three different school Districts. Twenty percent of our community population is over the age of sixty. Consequently, our District believes that the contemplated approval and opening of the so-called Liberty Quarry in the hills northeast of Fallbrook, and adjacent to Interstate 15, poses a variety of serious threats to the health, safety and well being of the community we serve.

With the common occurrence of Santa Anna winds in our county, the particulate matter generated by significant blasting activities at the Quarry will find its way into the atmosphere, and into the lungs of our residents, especially the most vulnerable citizens: school children and seniors. The increased truck traffic on Interstate 15 will add more than 4,000 daily trips along this major highway, adding air pollutants, lengthening the commutes of our working residents, and increasing the likelihood of additional and more serious vehicle accidents. Finally, the blasting activities necessitated by quarry operations may harm environmentally sensitive areas of the District community, including dozens of mitigation properties already set aside for environmental protection and enhancement.

The negative impact of the Liberty Quarry would be of immediate and, we believe, long range health impairment to the citizens that this District serves. For all of these reasons, the Fallbrook Healthcare District by unanimous vote of its' Board of Directors on October 13, 2010, strongly urges the Riverside County (Planning Commission) Board of Supervisors to vote "NO" on the Liberty Quarry.

Sincerely,
Milton G. Davies
Board President
Fallbrook Healthcare District

cc: Riverside County Board of Supervisors
Riverside County Planning Commission
Jerri Arganda, Save Our Southwest Hills, Board Member

Sept 29, 2010

To whom it may concern;

Subject: Proposed site for Liberty Quarry by Granite Construction, Inc.
Near towns of Rainbow and Temecula, California

I have been studying the proposed site of a quarry which is planned to be one mile long and 1000ft deep as an open pit mine. This is planned to be a very large operation processing over 15000 ton of rock material per day and would involve 800 truckloads PER DAY carrying quarry produced product over our highways.

The Temecula valley is well known for its ocean breezes which happen to facilitate the production of grapes for the wineries in the area. This quarry is planned to be only a few miles from the towns of Rainbow and Temecula.

The dust and silica produced along with the normal strong winds in the Northwestern direction will directly affect air quality for the people in the valley and will cause a health hazard to many. The large number of trucks carrying quarry products are a liability for car and windshield damage, although strangely enough most granite companies deny any responsibility or advise any traffic to stay away a very large distance which is impossible to comply with.

The proposed quarry in this location is a very bad idea because it will have a severe negative impact on the nearby communities of well over 200,000 people.

As an individual potentially being involved in the review or approval process, please ask yourself if it would be OK for you if a very large quarry as proposed were to be located within 10 miles from your home.

Sincerely,

H. Boers
40231 Paseo del Cielo
Temecula, Ca.
hansboers@verizon.net

Mr. David Jones
Riverside County
Planning Department
4080 Lemon Street, 9th Floor
P.O. Box 1409
Riverside, CA 92502-1409

September 21, 2010

Subject: Liberty Quarry Project

Dear Mr. Jones:

I am a Professor of Geological Sciences at San Diego State University and participated in the preparation of a report regarding the geology and potential for work on the proposed Liberty Quarry to trigger an earthquake on the Elsinore fault. After reading Strickland's letter in the North County Times, I feel that it is important to correct some of the many inaccuracies that he presented.

First, the notion that blasting can cause large earthquakes does not have any real support. Large earthquakes (essentially the size of large nuclear tests) cause abundant aftershock activity, but that is a result of the large crustal movements (usually measured in meters) that produced the earthquake itself. There are no cases of which I am aware where mine blasts have actually triggered large earthquakes, although large earthquakes are well-known to have triggered small earthquakes (most are generally termed aftershocks). There are also examples of small earthquakes being produced by the unloading of rock during mining (South African mines, the M2.5 Lompoc earthquake in a diatomite quarry), but all of these have been small earthquakes and none have led to large earthquakes on nearby faults. Suggestions to the contrary are fear-mongering and have no scientific basis. His title - "Blasting our way to the Big One" - is a way to stir up fear among people who do not have the background and knowledge to make a sound judgment on their own.

It is true that stresses are building along the southern San Andreas fault. It is also true that we expect a large earthquake from this source or the San Jacinto fault in the near future. Paleoseismic studies demonstrate that these two major faults, which account for about 80% of the plate motions, are due or overdue for a large earthquake. However, this has nothing to do with quarrying activities (of which there are many in southern California), nor do mine blasts affect the rate of earthquakes or the build-up of stress on southern California faults. It seems that this guy is playing on people's legitimate fear of earthquakes to push a political point of view.

The fault closest to Liberty Quarry is the Elsinore fault, a major fault in its own right with as much as 6-10% of the plate motion. I have spent considerable time and effort studying the earthquake history of this fault, and the Elsinore is capable of moderately large earthquakes in the M7 range. We have constrained the timing of the most recent major surface rupture to about 300 years ago along the Wildomar segment (Temecula Valley to Palomar Mountain; constrained to have been between ca 1769 and 1810 - see Vaughan et al., 1999), whereas the average

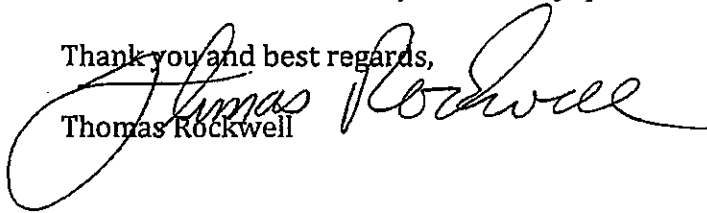
repeat time for such events is on the order of 400-600 years. In contrast to the San Jacinto and San Andreas faults, the Elsinore is not considered due or overdue for a large earthquake (although we should always be prepared for such an event).

Another factor to consider is that according to the Draft EIR, the Liberty Quarry excavations, at the deepest, will not even reach the same elevation of the surface trace of the fault in Temecula Valley. Large earthquake typically nucleate at depths of 10-12 km (6 to 7 miles) in southern California and the amount of load removed will be negligible in relation to the magnitude of tectonic stresses on large faults. The bottom line is that nothing Liberty Quarry will do is likely to cause the Elsinore fault to produce a large earthquake.

Please place my comments in the record for consideration by decision makers and contact me if you have any questions regarding this information.

Thank you and best regards,

Thomas Rockwell

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Rockwell", written over the printed name.



Santa Margarita Group
31915 Rancho California Road
Ste. 200-133, Temecula, Ca. 92591
(951)506-9607; fax (951)506-4497
Email: sierraclubsmg@gmail.com
www.sierraclubsmg.org

RECEIVED
Planning Dept.
FEB 08 2011

January 24, 2011

Ms. Carolyn Syms Luna, Planning Director
Riverside County Planning Department
4080 Lemon Street, Ninth Floor
Riverside, California 92501

RE: Sierra Club Santa Margarita Group Opposition to proposed Liberty Quarry

Dear Ms Syms Luna,

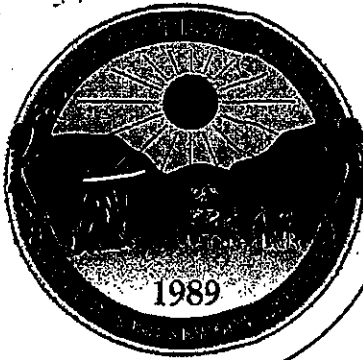
The Sierra Club Santa Margarita Group strongly opposes the proposed siting of Liberty Quarry, southwest of the city of Temecula in the Temecula Foothills, because of the irreversible negative environmental impact to the surrounding area.

At the proposed location, Liberty Quarry will significantly sever the vital wildlife linkage connecting the coastal Santa Ana habitats with the Mount Palomar habitats. Liberty Quarry's run-off and seepage will contaminate the nearby Santa Margarita River, considered one of the most biologically important rivers in the State of California. Furthermore, Liberty Quarry will irreparably harm the adjacent 4500 acre research and educational field station operated by San Diego State University. And last, but not least, because the proposed location of Liberty Quarry is in the direct path of the ocean winds entering Temecula Valley through Rainbow Gorge, the approval of Liberty Quarry will pollute our local air quality.

Sincerely,

Jim Mitchell, Chair
Sierra Club Santa Margarita Group

cc Marion Ashley
John Benoit
Bob Buster
David Jones
Jeff Stone
John Tavaglione



RECEIVED
Planning Dept.
FEB 03 2011

City of Temecula

41000 Main Street ■ Temecula, CA 92590 ■ Mailing Address: P.O. Box 9033 ■ Temecula, CA 92589-9033
(951) 694-6416 ■ Fax (951) 694-6499 ■ www.cityoftemecula.org

Ronald H. Roberts
Mayor

Chuck Washington
Mayor Pro-Tem

Jeff Comerchero
Council Member

Maryann Edwards
Council Member

Michael S. Naggar
Council Member

951-506-5100
FAX 951-694-6499

February 1, 2011

Ms. Carolyn Syms Luna, Director
Planning Department
County of Riverside
4080 Lemon Street, 9th Floor
P.O. Box 1409
Riverside, CA 92502

RE: Liberty Quarry

Dear Ms. Syms Luna:

As you are aware, the Riverside County Planning Department has determined that recirculation of the Liberty Quarry Surface Mining Permit Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR No. 475) is not required and, as a result, the County has prepared responses to the voluminous comments it received. In addition, County staff has stated that the Planning Department will release its responses to these comments at least ten days prior to the Planning Commission Hearing set for April 27, 2011.

Given the number and technical detail of the comments received by the County on November 23, 2009 pertaining to DEIR No.475, it is understandable that the County took over a year to review and prepare responses to the comments. Therefore, the City is concerned that a ten-day review period may be insufficient for us to adequately review the County's responses.

We therefore respectfully request that, in the event the responses are finalized prior to 10 days before the Hearing date, the document be released to the City upon completion; or if not all of the comments are finalized, those sections that are complete be released for our review.

Please note that it is not our intent to move the Hearing to a later date, but rather to allow for additional review time.

Ms. Syms Luna
February 2, 2011
Page 2

Please provide a formal response to our request. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Chuck Washington
Mayor Pro Tem

cc Supervisor Bob Buster, Chairman, District 1
Supervisor John Tavaglione, Vice Chairman, District 2
Supervisor Jeff Stone, District 3
Supervisor John Benoit, District 4
Supervisor Marion Ashley, District 5

Planning Commissioner John Roth, Chairman, District 1
Planning Commissioner John Snell, Vice Chairman, District 2
Planning Commissioner John Petty, District 3
Planning Commissioner Jim Porras, District 4
Planning Commissioner Jan Zuppardo, District 5

Mayor Ron Roberts
Council Member Mike Naggar
Council Member Maryann Edwards
Council Member Jeff Comerchero

Shawn Nelson, City Manager
Bob Johnson, Assistant City Manager
Patrick Richardson, Director of Planning & Redevelopment
Betsy Lowrey, Junior Planner

COALITION FOR



February 3, 2011

David Jones
Chief Engineering Geologist
Riverside County Planning Department
4080 Lemon St.
Riverside, CA 92501

RE: LIBERTY QUARRY TRUCK MITIGATION MEASURE

Dear Mr. Jones:

While the Coalition for Clean Air (CCA) does not take a position on this individual project, we would like to comment on the clean truck program proposed by Granite Construction for the Liberty Quarry project.

As you know, California has made tremendous progress toward improving air quality, but few sources of pollution have a greater impact on people than diesel trucks.

The mitigation measure in the Draft EIR (AQ-3j) would require Granite Construction Company to retrofit 130 trucks with new engines or diesel particulate filters at the initiation of the project. The program is a noteworthy example of an industry player willing to lead the way to clean air improvements at the local level.

We suggest that the County consider requiring Granite to have all trucks carrying aggregate or aggregate products such as asphalt or concrete to have at least the equivalent of 2007-model year or newer engines. By modifying this mitigation measure, the residents in the area of the quarry would see greater direct benefits of the cleaner trucks. Under the presently drafted mitigation measure, the benefits would be regional but not necessarily local.

Recently the CA Air Resources Board revised its regulations on diesel trucks, making it all the more urgent to ensure

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Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 630-1192
fax (213) 630-1158

1140 N. Van Ness Ave., Suite 104
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 486-3279
fax (559) 486-3669

1107 9th Street, Suite 830
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 498-1560
fax (916) 498-1547

www.coalitionforcleanair.org



that the cleanest trucks are being required at the project level. The measure we suggest would go beyond state requirements by establishing that every truck using the facility from the very first day of operations be equipped with clean air technology.

According to the Draft EIR air quality analysis completed by Kleinfelder Inc., the clean truck proposal is expected to yield air quality benefits including significant reductions in NOx, a key component of smog, and major reductions in PM10 particle pollution from diesel emissions.

CCA understands that the County of Riverside is charged with reviewing the potential for a wide range of environmental impacts when considering the approvals for Liberty Quarry. We appreciate the chance to give input exclusively on the proposed clean truck program element, which we find to be a reasonable approach to cleaning up dirty diesel trucks. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MS', followed by a horizontal line.

Martin Schlageter
Campaign Director
Coalition for Clean Air

February 4, 2011

Dear Riverside County Planning Commissioners,

The **whole** of Riverside County will be negatively impacted if the Liberty Quarry is constructed at its proposed site in SW Riverside County adjacent to the City of Temecula. Temecula is becoming a **destination site** for tourists and prospective residents. Old Town, casinos, Wine Country, scenic drives and views are bringing attention to the area.

Temecula and adjacent cities are now bases for exploration of all parts of Riverside County. Tourists have found that **Coachella Valley** is a beautiful drive with out-standing views of Wilderness and a National Monument on the way. **Downtown Riverside** is a short drive up the freeway offering cultural and historical experiences, as well as entertainment. This tourist-base can open up more **tourist opportunities for the County**. But the Quarry's impact to air quality, traffic and noise would squash Temecula's potential as this tourist-base. This major attraction to Riverside County would no longer be an attractive resource for the County.

The health of the **Santa Ana Mountains** is at stake, as well. This westerly-sited mountain range extending into NW Riverside County is rapidly becoming an isolated ecosystem with wildlife corridors to the east being shut off by development. This important range provides a natural filter for the local communities' air, water and soil quality. It creates a beautiful respite for the local residents and a chance to experience nature nearby. If the connectivity of this range is destroyed, specifically at the southerly remaining connection, east, to the Palomar/Agua Tibia Ranges, the Santa Ana Mountains could shrivel and die. This would **degrade the quality of life for the whole of Riverside County** by negatively impacting the economy and ecology of the communities.

Please vote against the Liberty Quarry's proposed project at its cited location.

Sincerely,
Pam Nelson
Aguanga/Warner Springs/Hemet
951 767-2324

cc. Riverside Co. Supervisors

November 17, 2010

David L. Jones
Planning Department
County of Riverside
4080 Lemon Street, 9th Floor
P.O. Box 1409 Riverside,
CA 92502-1409

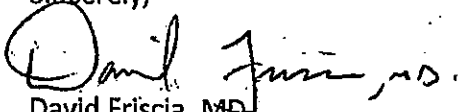
Dear Mr. Jones,

I am a doctor in Riverside County and I am currently the president of the Riverside County Medical Association (RCMA). In 2009, RCMA heard presentations on the Liberty Quarry and concluded that project does not pose a health risk to workers or residents in the region. This conclusion is confirmed by the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared by Riverside County, the health risk assessment and multiple independent studies and opinions by qualified technical and scientific experts.

I understand that your Draft EIR concluded that the project could remove up to 16 million truck-miles per year from our freeways and reduce the diesel particulate emissions associated with these trucks. As a medical professional, any development that we do that results in a reduction in diesel air emissions is good for our citizens.

I urge you to take this into consideration when making a decision on the project.

Sincerely,


David Friscia, MD
President