

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

109 B



FROM: TLMA - Planning Department

SUBMITTAL DATE:
September 26, 2013

SUBJECT: RECLAMATION PLAN NO. 161, REVISED NO. 1, - EA42215 - Applicant: Palo Verde Irrigation District - Engineer/Representative: Southland Engineering - Fourth/Fourth Supervisorial District - Open Space: Rural (OS-RUR), - Location: BLM Land North of Blythe, North of US Hwy 95, East of Midland Road, South of Big Maria Mountains - 48 Gross Acres - Zoning: Natural Assets (N-A), - REQUEST: RCL00161R1 proposes to expand the existing mining operation located on BLM land from the existing approximately 14.3 acres to approximately 29.4 acres, including the mining of approximately 1.99 million cubic yards of material, and provide for 37 years of mining operations (expiring in 2047). - APN(s): 815-131-003 - Related Case: RCL00161.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. ADOPTION of a MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION for ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 42215, based on the findings incorporated in the initial study and the conclusion that the potential impacts that the project may present on the environment can be mitigated to a less than significant level; and,
2. APPROVAL of RECLAMATION PLAN NO. 161, REVISED NO. 1, subject to the attached conditions of approval, and based upon the findings and conclusions incorporated in the staff report.

Carolyn Syms Luna
 Carolyn Syms Luna
 Planning Director
 (continued on next page)

Initials: CSL/dj

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Benoit, seconded by Supervisor Ashley and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Stone, Benoit and Ashley
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Date: October 8, 2013
 xc: Planning

Kecia Harper-Ihem
 Clerk of the Board
 By: *Kecia Harper-Ihem*
 Deputy

Prev. Agn. Ref.

District: 4/4

Agenda Number:

ATTACHMENTS FILED

WITH THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

2-11

REVIEWED BY EXECUTIVE OFFICE
 DATE 9/30/13
 Tina Grande
 Departmental Concurrence

Dep't Recomm.:
 Per Exec. Ofc.:

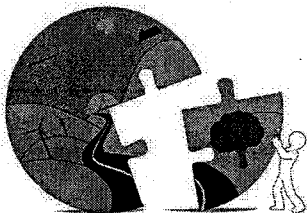
Policy
 Policy
 Consent
 Consent

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
Re: RECLAMATION PLAN NO. 161, REVISED NO. 1
Page 2 of 2

BACKGROUND:

The project was approved at the Director's Hearing on September 16, 2013. The original entitlement for the mining operation, Reclamation Plan No. 161, was approved at the Director's Hearing on September 24, 2001.

Staff has received one comment package from a concerned member of the public. The comment package is attached hereto as Attachment A.



RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Original Negative Declaration/Notice of Determination was routed to County Clerks for posting on.

10/10/13 KL
Date Initial

Carolyn Syms Luna
Director

TO: Office of Planning and Research (OPR)
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
 County of Riverside County Clerk

FROM: Riverside County Planning Department
 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor
P. O. Box 1409
Riverside, CA 92502-1409

38686 El Cerrito Road
Palm Desert, California 92211

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21152 of the California Public Resources Code.

Expansion of Palo Verde Irrigation District's North Gravel Pit- RCL00161R1 (RCL00161R1) and Environmental Assessment No. 42215 (EA42215)

Project Title/Case Numbers

David L. Jones
County Contact Person

951-955-6863
Phone Number

N/A
State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to the State Clearinghouse)

Palo Verde Irrigation District
Project Applicant

180 West 14th Avenue, Blythe, CA 92225
Address

North of US Highway 95, east of Midland Road and south of the Big Maria Mountains
Project Location

RCL00161R1 proposes to expand the existing mining operation located on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land from approximately 14.3 acres to approximately 29.3 acres including the mining of approximately 1.99 cubic yards of material and to provide for 37 years of mining operations (expires in 2050)
Project Description

This is to advise that the Riverside County Planning Director, as the lead agency, has approved the above-referenced project on September 16, 2013, and has made the following determinations regarding that project:

1. The project WILL NOT have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for the project pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (\$2,156.25 + \$50.00).
3. Mitigation measures WERE made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan/Program WAS NOT adopted.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations WAS NOT adopted for the project.

This is to certify that the Mitigated Negative Declaration, with comments, responses, and record of project approval is available to the general public at: Riverside County Planning Department, 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor, Riverside, CA 92501.

Samana Hernandez
Signature

Planner IV
Title

September 26, 2013
Date

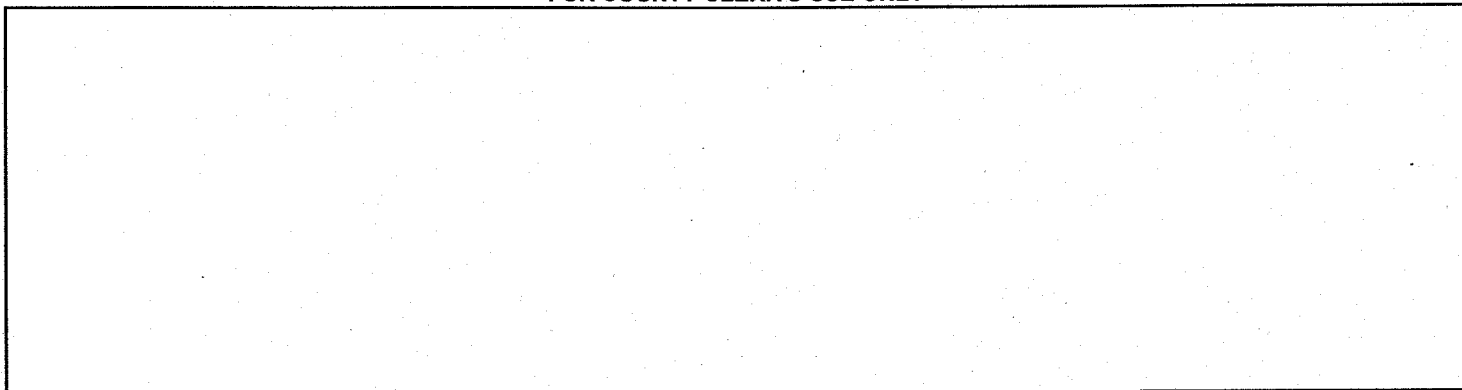
Date Received for Filing and Posting at OPR: _____

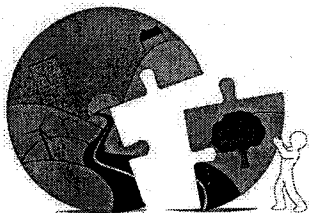
DM/dm
Revised 9/18/2013
Y:\Planning Master Forms\CEQA Forms\NOD Form.doc

Please charge deposit fee case#: ZEA42215 ZCFG05565

OCT 08 2013 2-11

FOR COUNTY CLERK'S USE ONLY





RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Carolyn Syms Luna
Director

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project/Case Number: Reclamation Plan No. 161, Revision No. 1

Based on the Initial Study, it has been determined that the proposed project, subject to the proposed mitigation measures, will not have a significant effect upon the environment.

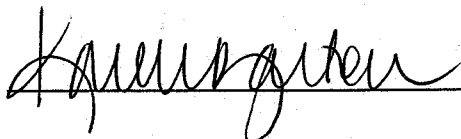
PROJECT DESCRIPTION, LOCATION, AND MITIGATION MEASURES REQUIRED TO AVOID POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS. (see Environmental Assessment and Conditions of Approval)

COMPLETED/REVIEWED BY:

By: David Jones Title: Project Planner Date: September 26, 2013

Applicant/Project Sponsor: Palo Verde Irrigation District Date Submitted: September 22, 2009

ADOPTED BY: Other

Person Verifying Adoption:  Date: 10-8-13

The Mitigated Negative Declaration may be examined, along with documents referenced in the initial study, if any, at:

Riverside County Planning Department 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor, Riverside, CA 92501

For additional information, please contact David L. Jones at 951-955-6863.

Revised: 10/16/07
Y:\Planning Master Forms\CEQA Forms\Mitigated Negative Declaration.doc

Please charge deposit fee case#: ZEA42215 ZCFG05565

FOR COUNTY CLERK'S USE ONLY

OCT 08 2013 2-11

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
SPECIALIZED DEPARTMENT RECEIPT
Permit Assistance Center

O* REPRINTED * R1306442

4080 Lemon Street
Second Floor
Riverside, CA 92502
(951) 955-3200

39493 Los Alamos Road
Suite A
Murrieta, CA 92563
(951) 694-5242

38686 El Cerrito Rd
Indio, CA 92211
(760) 863-8271

Received from: PALO VERDE IRRIGATION DISTRICT \$2,156.25
paid by: CK 1795
CFG FOR EA42215 (RCL00161R1)
paid towards: CFG05565 CALIF FISH & GAME: DOC FEE
at parcel:
appl type: CFG3

By _____ Jul 10, 2013 14:02
BNTHOMAR posting date Jul 10, 2013

Account Code	Description	Amount
658353120100208100	CF&G TRUST	\$2,156.25

Overpayments of less than \$5.00 will not be refunded!

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
SPECIALIZED DEPARTMENT RECEIPT
Permit Assistance Center

* REPRINTED * R1306442

4080 Lemon Street
Second Floor
Riverside, CA 92502
(951) 955-3200

39493 Los Alamos Road
Suite A
Murrieta, CA 92563
(951) 600-6100

38686 El Cerrito Road
Palm Desert, CA 92211
(760) 863-8277

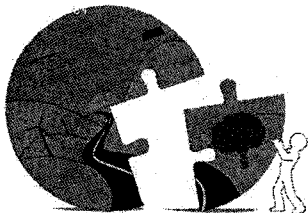
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Overpayments of less than \$5.00 will not be refunded!

Additional info at www.rctlma.org



RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Carolyn Syms Luna
Director

DATE: September 26, 2013

TO: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Planning Department - Riverside Office

SUBJECT: RECLAMATION PLAN NO. 161, REVISED NO. 1 (RCL00161R1).

(Charge your time to these case numbers)

The attached item(s) require the following action(s) by the Board of Supervisors:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Place on Administrative Action (Receive & File; EOT) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Set for Hearing (Legislative Action Required; CZ, GPA, SP, SPA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Labels provided If Set For Hearing | <input type="checkbox"/> | Publish in Newspaper: |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Day <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Day <input type="checkbox"/> 30 day | | **SELECT Advertisement** |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Place on Consent Calendar | <input type="checkbox"/> | **SELECT CEQA Determination** |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Place on Policy Calendar (Resolutions; Ordinances; PNC) | | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Day <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Day <input type="checkbox"/> 30 day |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Place on Section Initiation Proceeding (GPIP) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Notify Property Owners (app/agencies/property owner labels provided) |
| | | | Controversial: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |

Designate Newspaper used by Planning Department for Notice of Hearing:

SELECT Advertisement

Documents to be sent to County Clerk's Office for Posting within five days:

Notice of Determination and Mit Neg Dec Forms
California Department of Fish & Wildlife Receipt (CFG5565)

Do not send these documents to the County Clerk for posting until the Board has taken final action on the subject cases.

5013 255 51 419 15
Riverside Office • 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor
P.O. Box 1409, Riverside, California 92502-1409
(951) 955-3200 • Fax (951) 955-1811

Desert Office • 38686 El Cerrito Road
Palm Desert, California 92211
(760) 863-8277 • Fax (760) 863-7555

"Planning Our Future... Preserving Our Past"

RECEIVED RIVERSIDE COUNTY
CLERK / BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
2013 SEP 27 AM 8:12

Agenda Item No.:
Area Plan: Palo Verde Valley
Zoning Area: Chuckawalla Area
Supervisory District: Fourth
Project Planner: David L. Jones
Director's Hearing: September 16, 2013

Reclamation Plan No. 161 Revised Permit No. 1
Environmental Assessment No. 42215
Applicant: Palo Verde Irrigation District
Engineer/Representative: Palo Verde Irrigation District

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE PLANNING DEPARTMENT STAFF REPORT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION:

This revision proposes to expand the existing mining operation from approximately 14.3 acres to approximately 29.3 acres increasing the mineable approved aggregate reserves to approximately 1.99 million cubic yards and to provide for 37 years of mining operations (expiring in 2050).

The project site is located on Federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land north of US Highway 95, east of Midland Road and south of Big Maria Mountains. See vicinity map. The total acreage of the site is approximately 600 gross acres.

FURTHER PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

August 19, 2013

RCL00161R1 was continued from the August 12, 2013 Desert-Director's Hearing at the request of the applicant in an effort to revisit the Conditions of Approval (conditions) that have been placed on the project. The applicant was in disagreement with a number of the conditions and wanted the opportunity to meet with the necessary County Agencies in order to discuss the conditions further. Since the August 12, 2013 hearing, staff has received a comment package, dated August 8, 2013, from a member of the public that has been included in this staff report package.

ISSUES OF POTENTIAL CONCERN:

Background: The subject site has a history of mining activity. The existing operation, The Palo Verde Irrigation District's North Gravel Pit, was originally approved in September 2001 for the mining of approximately 14.3 acres. The project is located on BLM land; however, the County is operating as the Lead Agency pursuant to the State Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) of 1975 and the Memorandum of Understanding between the California Department of Conservation State Mining & Geology Board and the Bureau of Land Management, CA. The minerals contract governing mineral extraction will be administered by the BLM. All SMARA requirements will be administered by the County.

As a result of increasing the mined area to approximately 29.3 acres as proposed under this revised permit, the associated Environmental Assessment identified three resources that may have incurred significant impacts were it not for the incorporation of various mitigation measures. These three resources (Biological Resources, Cultural Resources and Mineral Resources) have all been identified as Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated, as described below.

Due to the fact that the project area has the potential to support desert tortoise and that one special status species (Alverson's foxtail cactus) was identified onsite, the project was identified as potentially having an adverse effect on an endangered or threatened species as well as potentially having an adverse effect on a species identified as a special status species in a local or regional plan policy or regulation or by the state. However, through mitigation and monitoring measures, potential adverse impacts to Biological Resources would be reduced to less than significant levels.

In relation to Cultural Resources, potentially adverse impacts were identified for Paleontological Resources as the mining operation could cause direct impacts to surficial and buried fossil-containing resources due to ground-disturbing activities, if not avoided. However, through mitigation and monitoring measures, these potential adverse impacts would be reduced to less than significant levels.

Mineral Resources were also identified as potentially being adversely impacted as the project would have the potential to expose people or property to hazards from the existing mine and proposed expansion. However, through mitigation and monitoring measures, these potential adverse impacts would be reduced to less than significant levels.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Existing General Plan Land Use (Ex. #5): | Open Space- Rural (OS-RUR) |
| 2. Surrounding General Plan Land Use (Ex. #5): | Open Space- Rural to the north, south, east and west of the site. |
| 3. Existing Zoning (Ex. #2): | Natural Assets (N-A) |
| 4. Surrounding Zoning (Ex. #2): | Natural Assets to the north and east; Natural Assets and Controlled Development Areas, 10 Acre Minimum Lot Size to the west and Rural Residential to the south. |
| 5. Existing Land Use (Ex. #1): | Mining Operation |
| 6. Surrounding Land Use (Ex. #1): | Vacant land to the north, east and west; Agricultural uses to the south. |
| 7. Project Data: | Subject Site's Total Acreage: 600 acres
Total Proposed Lots: One
Proposed Min. Lot Size: N/A
Schedule: N/A |
| 8. Environmental Concerns: | See attached environmental assessment No. 42215 |

RECOMMENDATIONS:

ADOPTION of a **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** for **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 42215**, based on the findings incorporated in the initial study and the conclusion that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment; and,

APPROVAL of **RECLAMATION PLAN NO. 161, REVISED PERMIT NO. 1** subject to the attached conditions of approval, and based upon the findings and conclusions incorporated in the staff report.

CONCLUSIONS:

1. The proposed project is in conformance with the Open Space- Rural (OS-RUR) Land Use Designation, and with all other elements of the Riverside County General Plan.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the Natural Assets (N-A) Zoning classification of Ordinance No. 348, and with all other applicable provisions of Ordinance No. 348.

3. The public's health, safety, and general welfare are protected through project design.
4. The proposed project is clearly compatible with the present and future logical development of the area.
5. The proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
6. The proposed project will not preclude reserve design for the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (WRCMSHCP).

FINDINGS: The following findings are in addition to those incorporated in the summary of findings and in the attached environmental assessment, which is incorporated herein by reference.

1. The project site is designated Open Space- Rural (OS-RUR) within the Palo Verde Valley Area Plan.
2. The proposed use, a mining operation, is permitted use in the Natural Assets (N-A) designation.
3. The proposed use, a mining operation, is consistent with the Open Space-Rural (OS-RUR) designation.
4. The project site is surrounded by properties which are designated Open Space-Rural (OS-RUR) and Agriculture (AG).
5. The zoning for the subject site is Natural Assets (N-A).
6. The proposed use, a mining operation, is a permitted use in the N-A Zone provided the operator thereof holds a permit to conduct surface mining operations issued pursuant to County Ordinance No. 555 which has not been revoked or suspended.
7. The proposed use, a mining operation, is consistent with the development standards set forth in the Natural Assets (N-A) Zone.
8. The project site is surrounded by properties which are zoned Natural Assets (N-A), Controlled Development Areas, 10 Acre Minimum (W-2-10) and Rural Residential (RR).
9. Environmental Assessment No. 42215 did not identify any potentially significant impacts that could not be mitigated to less than significant levels.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. As of this writing, no letters, in support or opposition of the project have been received.
2. The project site is not located within:
 - a. A High Fire area;
 - b. A 100-year flood plain, an area drainage plan, or dam inundation area;
 - c. A Parks and Recreation District

- d. The City of Blythe Sphere of Influence
 - e. Area Drainage Plan
 - f. Dam Inundation Area
3. The project site is located within:
 - a. An area where liquefaction potential is Low to Very High.
 4. The subject site is currently designated as Assessor's Parcel Number 815-131-003.
 5. The project was filed with the Planning Department on September 22, 2009.
 6. This project was reviewed by the Land Development Committee (LDC) at the regular LDC meeting held on December 15, 2011.
 7. Deposit Based Fees charged for this project, as of the time of staff report preparation, total \$37,766.62



RIVERSIDE COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

DIRECTOR'S HEARING - DESERT REPORT OF ACTIONS SEPTEMBER 16, 2013

1.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

1.1 NONE

2.0 HEARINGS: 1:30 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter.

2.1 **RECLAMATION PLAN NO. 161, REVISED NO.**

1 – Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration – Applicant: Palo Verde Irrigation District – Fourth/Fourth Supervisorial District – Location: BLM Land North of Blythe, North of US Hwy 95, East of Midland Road, South of Big Maria Mountains – 48 Gross Acres - Zoning: Natural Assets (N-A), - **REQUEST:** RCL00161R1 proposes to expand the existing mining operation located on BLM land from the existing approx. 14.3 to approx. 29.4 acres, mining of approx. 1.99 million cubic yards of material, and provide for 37 years of mining operations (expires in 2047). Continued from August 12, 2013. Project Planner, David Jones at (951) 955-6863 or email djones@rctlma.org. (Quasi-judicial)

Staff report recommended:

ADOPTION OF A MITIGATION NEGATIVE DECLARATION; APPROVAL OF RECLAMATION PLAN 161, REVISED NO. 1

Staff recommended at hearing:

ADOPTION OF A MITIGATION NEGATIVE DECLARATION; APPROVAL OF THE RECLAMATION PLAN 161, REVISED NO. 1

Planning Director's Action:

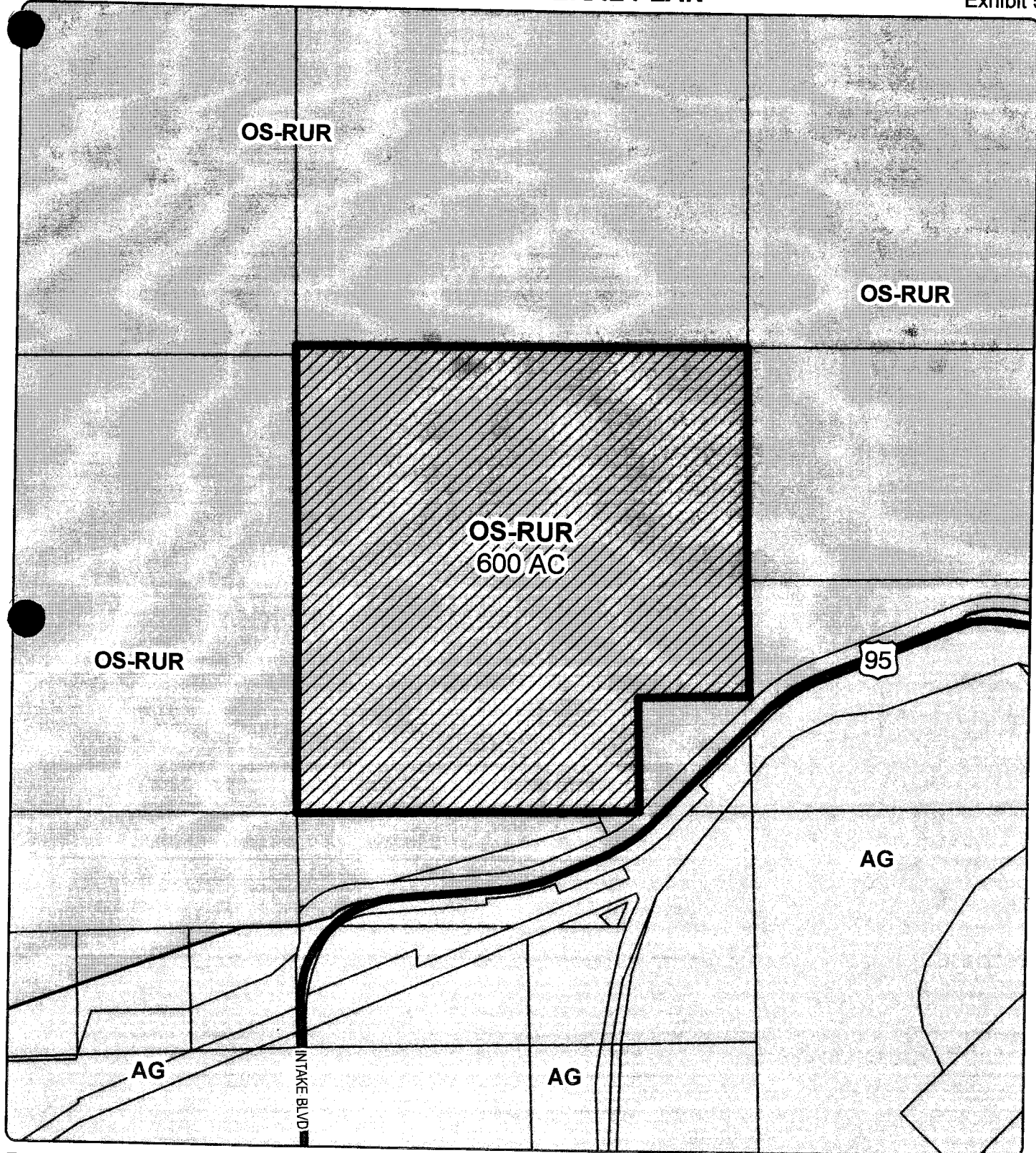
ADOPTED THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION; APPROVED RECLAMATION PLAN 161, REVISED NO. 1

RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

RCL00161R1
EXISTING GENERAL PLAN

Supervisor Benoit
District 4

Date Drawn: 04/23/2013
Exhibit 5



Zoning Area: Chuckawalla
Township/Range: T5SR23E
Section: 27



Assessors Bk. Pg. 815-13
Thomas Bros. Pg. 392 C8
Edition 2011



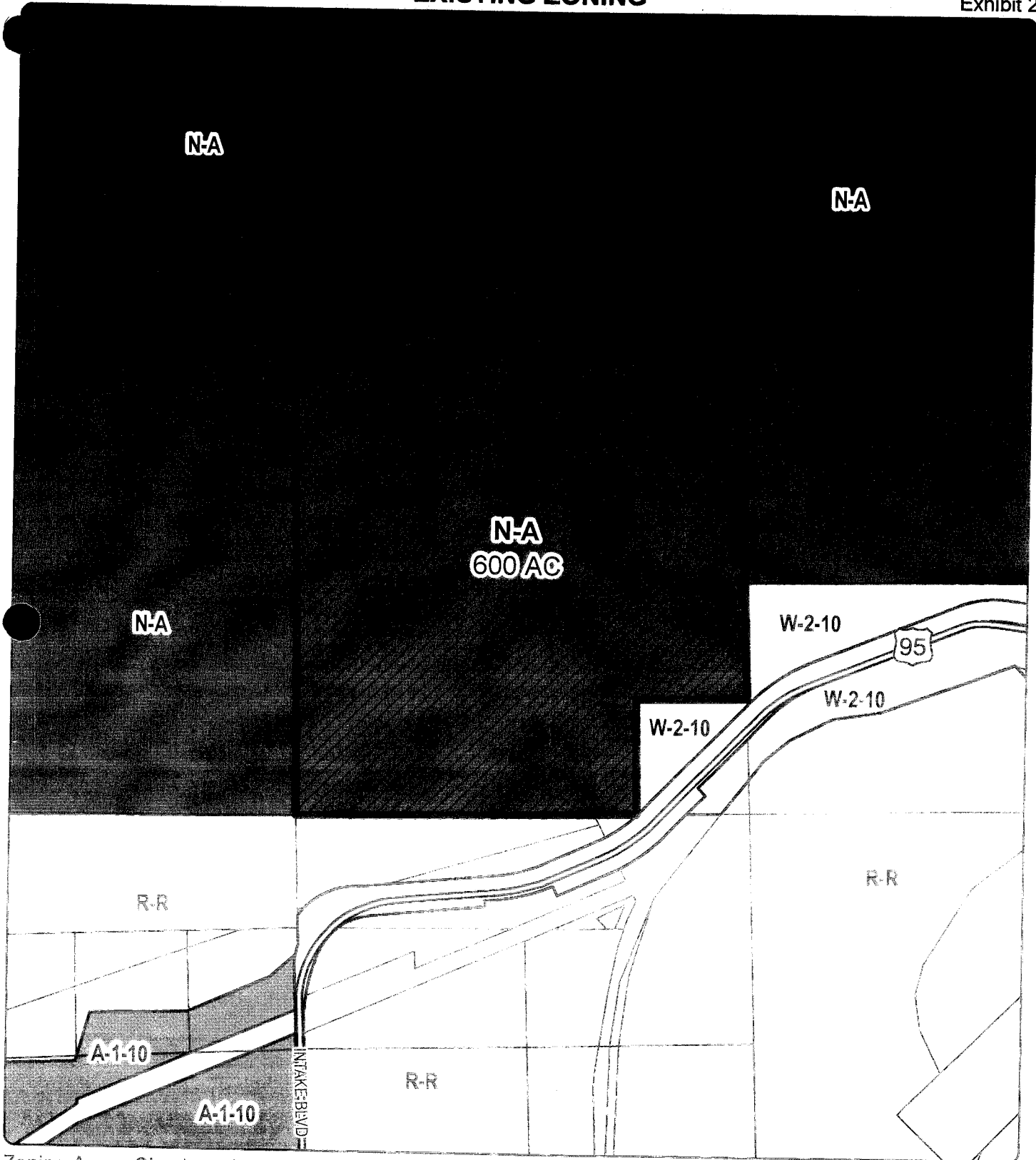
DISCLAIMER: On October 7, 2003, the County of Riverside adopted a new General Plan providing new land use designations for unincorporated Riverside County parcels. The new General Plan may contain different types of land use than is provided for under existing zoning. For further information, please contact the Riverside County Planning Department offices in Riverside at (951) 955-3200 (Western County), or in Indio at (760) 883-8277 (Eastern County) or website at <http://www.tlms.co.riverside.ca.us/index.html>

RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

RCL00161R1 EXISTING ZONING

Supervisor Benoit
District 4

Date Drawn: 04/23/2013
Exhibit 2

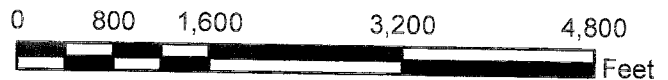


Zoning Area: Chuckawalla
Township/Range: T5SR23E
Section: 27



Assessors Bk. Pg. 815-13
Thomas Bros. Pg. 392 C8
Edition 2011

DISCLAIMER: On October 7, 2003, the County of Riverside adopted a new General Plan providing new land use designations for unincorporated Riverside County parcels. The new General Plan may contain different types of land use than is provided for under existing zoning. For further information, please contact the Riverside County Planning Department offices in Riverside at (951) 955-3200 (Western County), or in Indio at (760) 863-8277 (Eastern County) or website at <http://www.ftma.co.riverside.ca.us/index.html>



RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

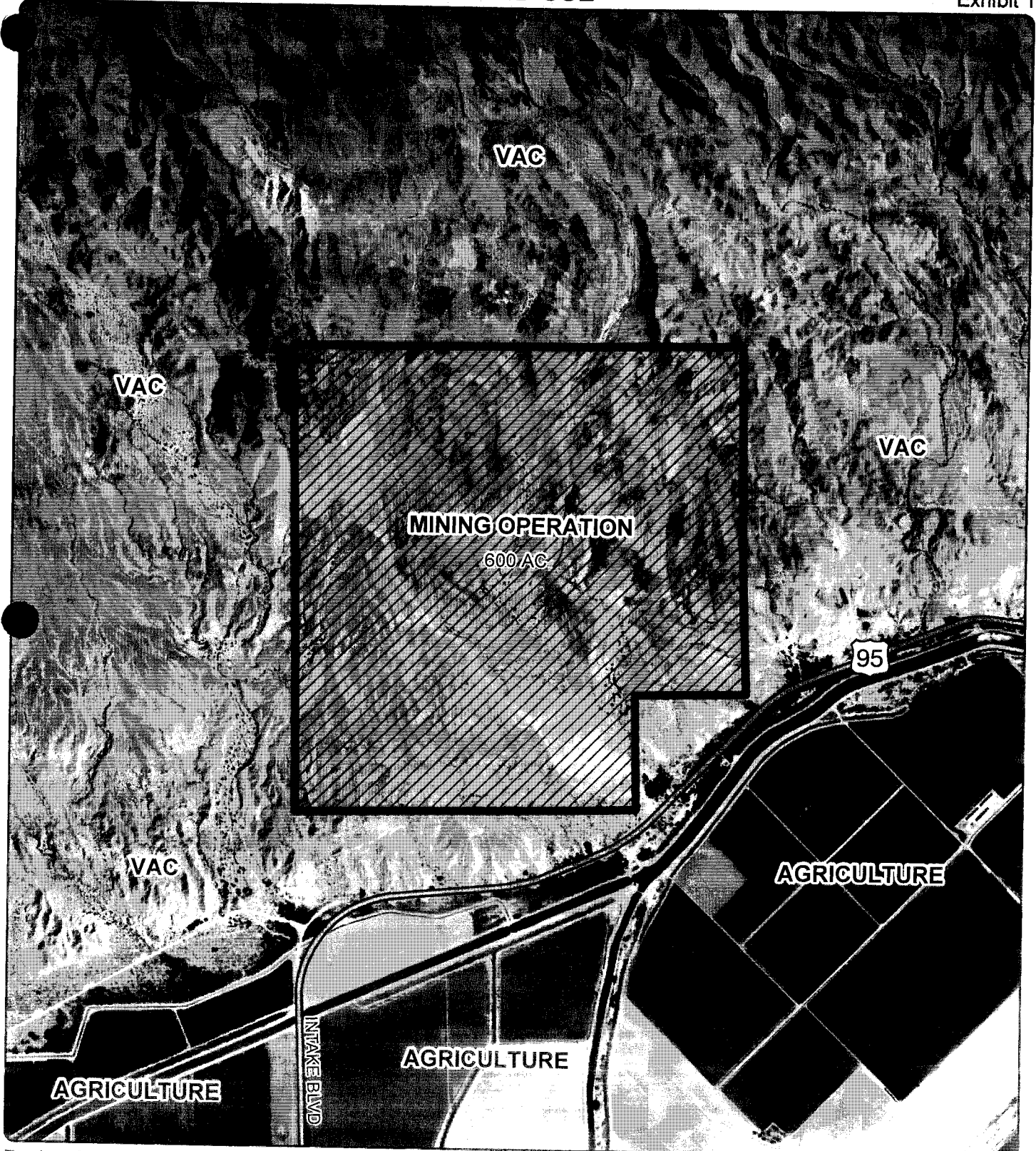
RCL00161R1

LAND USE

Supervisor Benoit
District 4

Date Drawn: 04/23/2013

Exhibit 1

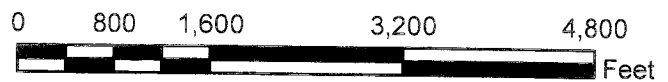


Zoning Area: Chuckawalla
Township/Range: T5SR23E
Section: 27



Assessors Bk. Pg. 815-13
Thomas Bros. Pg. 392 C8
Edition 2011

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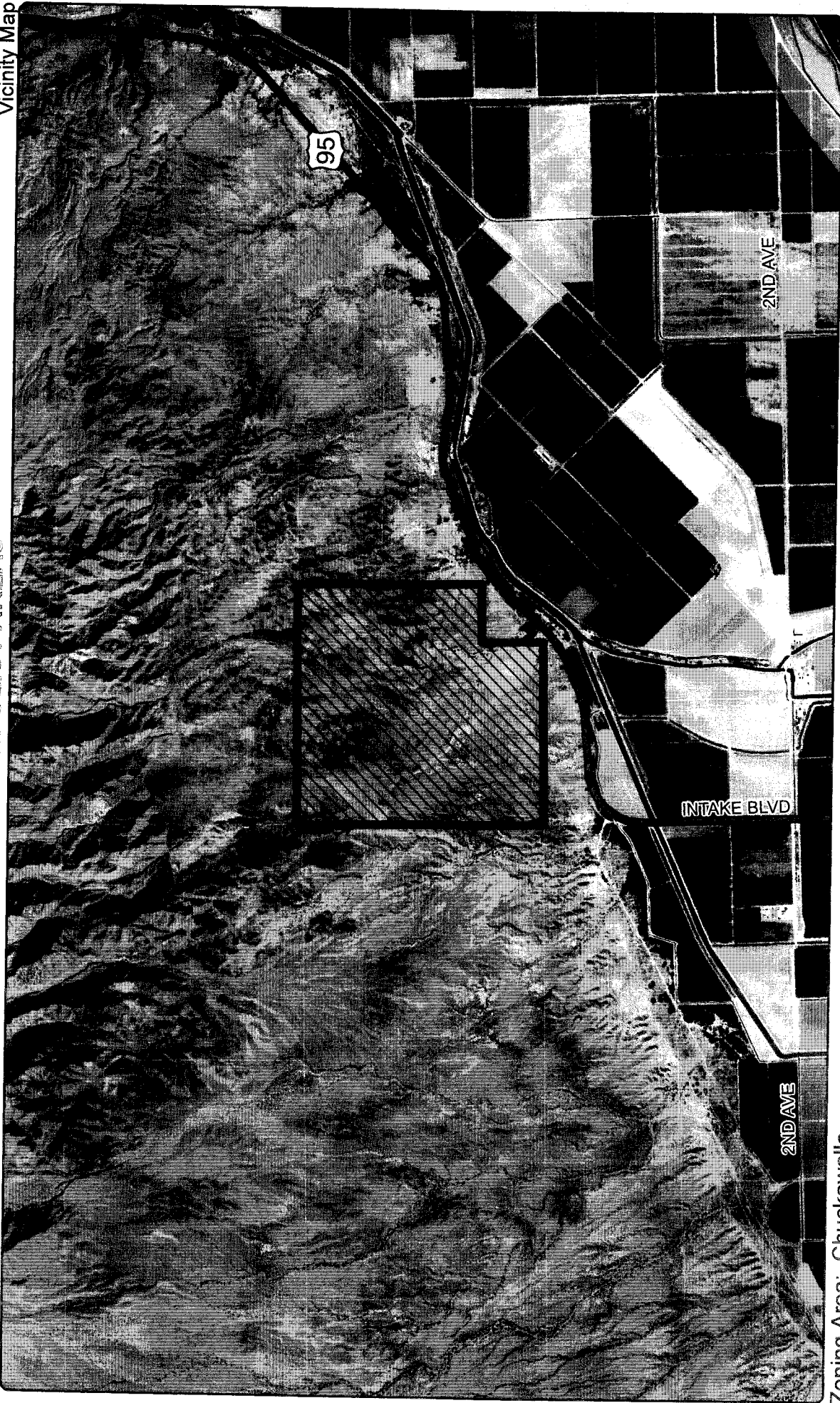
RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

RCL0161R1

VICINITY/POLICY AREAS

Supervisor: Benoit
District 4

Date Drawn: 04/23/2013
Vicinity Map



Zoning Area: Chuckawalla
Township/Range: T5SR23E
Section: 27

DISCLAIMER: On October 7, 2003, the County of Riverside adopted a new General Plan providing new land use designations for unincorporated Riverside County parcels. The new General Plan may contain different types of land use than is provided for under existing zoning. For further information, please contact the Riverside County Planning Department offices in Riverside at (951) 955-3200 (Western County), or in Indio at (760) 863-8277 (Eastern County) or website at <http://www.irma.co.riverside.ca.us/irp.asp>



Assessors Bk. Pg. 815-13
Thomas Bros. Pg. 392 C8

Edition 2011



RECLAMATION PLAN Case #: RCL00161R1

Parcel: 815-131-003

10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

EVERY DEPARTMENT

10. EVERY. 1 SMP - PROJECT DESCRIPTION

INEFFECT

The use hereby permitted is for the expansion of the existing, approved mining and reclamation area from 14.3 acres to approximately 29.3 acres including the mining of approximately 1.99 million cubic yards of material and to provide for 37 years of mining operations expiring December 31, 2050 for Palo Verde Irrigation District's "North Gravel Pit."

10. EVERY. 2 SMP - HOLD HARMLESS

INEFFECT

The applicant/permittee or any successor-in-interest shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the County of Riverside or its agents, officers, and employees (COUNTY) from the following:

(a) any claim, action, or proceeding against the COUNTY to attack, set aside, void, or annul an approval of the COUNTY, its advisory agencies, appeal boards, or legislative body concerning the SURFACE MINING PERMIT; and,

(b) any claim, action or proceeding against the COUNTY to attack, set aside, void or annul any other decision made by the COUNTY concerning the SURFACE MINING PERMIT, including, but not limited to, decisions made in response to California Public Records Act requests.

The COUNTY shall promptly notify the applicant/permittee of any such claim, action, or proceeding and shall cooperate fully in the defense. If the COUNTY fails to promptly notify the applicant/permittee of any such claim, action, or proceeding or fails to cooperate fully in the defense, the applicant/permittee shall not, thereafter, be responsible to defend, indemnify or hold harmless the COUNTY.

The obligations imposed by this condition include, but are not limited to, the following: the applicant/permittee shall pay all legal services expenses the COUNTY incurs in connection with any such claim, action or proceeding, whether it incurs such expenses directly, whether it is ordered by a court to pay such expenses, or whether it incurs such expenses by providing legal services through its Office of County Counsel.

RECLAMATION PLAN Case #: RCL00161R1

Parcel: 815-131-003

10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

10. EVERY. 3

SMP - DEFINITIONS

INEFFECT

The words identified in the following list that appear in all capitals in the attached conditions of Reclamation Plan No. 161, Revised Permit No. 1 shall be henceforth defined as follows:

APPROVED EXHIBIT NO. "A" = Mining Plan Approved Exhibit No. "A," RCL Case No. 161R1, dated April 23, 2013.

APPROVED EXHIBIT NO. "B" = Reclamation Plan Approved Exhibit No. "B," RCL Case No. 161R1, dated April 23, 2013.

APPROVED EXHIBIT NO. "C" = Plan of Operation Approved Exhibit No. "C," RCL Case No. 161R1, Dated April 23, 2013.

BS GRADE DEPARTMENT

10.BS GRADE. 2

SMP-ANNUAL REPORT INFO

INEFFECT

The operator shall submit to the Building & Safety Department with the annual report the following information (This report shall be prepared by a qualified, licensed professional).

- 1) New exhibits detailing the limits of disturbance and proximity to permit boundaries and property lines.
- 2) Certification letter certifying maximum depth of excavated areas.
- 3) Provide quantity in cubic yards and tons of minerals mined during the reporting period.
- 4) Certify all excavated areas are within the limits of the Surface Mining Permit/Reclamation Plan.
- 5) Provide data indicating any reclaimed land during the reporting period.
- 6) A certified engineering geologist, geotechnical engineer or civil engineer shall inspect all excavated slopes within the permitted boundaries (active and inactive) for slope stability. The operator shall provide to Building and Safety Department a copy of the inspection report.

NOTE: At least every five (5) years of operation or as requested by the Building and Safety Department, the

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10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

10.BS GRADE. 2 SMP-ANNUAL REPORT INFO (cont.) INEFFECT

operator shall provide to the Building and Safety Department, aerial topography showing incremental and total changes to excavations. This will include cross-sectional maps showing berms, slope angles and benches of all excavations.

10.BS GRADE. 3 SMP-ANNUAL F.A.C.E. INEFFECT

Each year after the 1st year of land disturbed under this Surface Mining Permit, Reclamation Plan or Substantial Conformance, the operator shall REVIEW & UPDATE the financial assurance on file with the County of Riverside. The operator shall submit a new cost estimate to the Building & Safety Department for review. The updated cost estimate shall include at least any new disturbed land, reclaimed land and allow for a yearly inflation factor.

All cost estimate shall utilize the guidelines outlined by the California Department of Conservation and the requirements of SMARA as outlined in the California Resources Code section 2773.1(a)(3), 2774(c), 3804, 3805 and 3805.5 and County of Riverside Ordinance 555 or as amended in the future.

10:BS GRADE: 5 SMP-INERT MATERIALS INEFFECT

There shall be no importing and/or storage of used concrete, asphalt or other inert construction materials for recycling without the specific approval of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Planning Department.

10.BS GRADE. 6 SMP-IMPORTING VEGETATION INEFFECT

There shall be no importing and/or storage of any cut vegetation without specific approval of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Planning Department and the Environmental Health Department.

10.BS GRADE. 9 SMP-PROPERTY LINE SETBACKS INEFFECT

There shall be a graded setback from all property lines of not less than 50 feet from all cut/fill slopes.

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10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

10.BS GRADE. 12 SMP-MISCELLANOUS INSPECT INEFFECT

In addition to the Special Inspection for the Annual Report, at any time during normal business hours, persons from the Building & Safety Department in conjunction with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) may conduct site inspection(s) for compliance with the conditions of approval, complaints by individuals or other reasons as identified at the time of inspection.

10.BS GRADE. 18 SMP-MAX SLOPE RATIO INEFFECT

Slopes shall not be finished at a slope ratio steeper than 2:1 (horizontal: vertical) unless they are adequately determined and demonstrated to be stable by the project certified engineering geologist and geotechnical engineer.

Slope stability shall be documented in a report(s) to be submitted to the Department of Building and Safety as well as the County Geologist for review and approval prior to final approval of finished slopes. This report(s) shall be updated and submitted annually, in conjunction with the required annual SMARA inspection schedule or submitted outside of annual inspection schedule as necessary to maintain safe conditions and forward progress of finishing slopes for reclamation purposes).

10.BS GRADE. 29 SMP- CONTRACTOR EQUIPMENT INEFFECT

All non-mining equipment must be stored in a designated area permitted for "Contractor Storage".

A "Contractor Storage" permit must be obtained from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Planning Department prior to storage of any non-mining equipment.

10.BS GRADE. 30 SMP-TRASH & DEBRIS INEFFECT

The parcel(s) where the mine is located shall be kept free of trash (including old tires) and other debris. There shall be no importing of recyclable materials or construction debris without a specific permit for that activity.

10.BS GRADE. 31 SMP- QUARRY SIGNS INEFFECT

Perimeter signs around the approved Reclamation Plan or Surface Mine boundaries shall be installed not greater than

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10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

10.BS GRADE. 31 SMP- QUARRY SIGNS (cont.) INEFFECT

300 lineal feet. Each sign shall read " DANGER" "OPEN PIT MINE". All signs shall be at least 18" x 24" with contrasting lettering/background (ie: white background and black lettering).

10.BS GRADE. 32 SMP- BENCHES & SLOPES INEFFECT

During the mining operation, on the working faces of the quarry wall, benches shall be installed at no more than 30 feet in vertical height intervals or not higher than the equipment being used can reach to extract material. Each bench shall be a minimum of 15' in width.

Working slopes below benches shall not be steeper than 1:1 (horizontal to vertical). Finished slopes may not exceed 2:1 unless it has been demonstrated to be stable by the engineering geologist and geotechnical engineer and is approved by the Building and Safety Department and County Geologist.

10.BS GRADE. 33 SMP- SAFETY BERMS INEFFECT

A four (4) foot, minimum vertical height, SAFETY BERM shall be installed at the top of all cut/fill slopes exceeding 2:1 (horizontal to vertical).

10.BS GRADE. 35 SMP- VEHICLE STORAGE INEFFECT

There shall be no storage of passenger vehicles, campers, travel trailers or other personal property that is not related directly to the mining of minerals at this site.

E HEALTH DEPARTMENT

10.E HEALTH. 3 RCL 161 R1 - COMMENTS INEFFECT

Based on the information provided, RCL 161 R1 is proposing the following:

- 1) Expansion of gravel pit from 14.3 acres to 29.4 acres.
- 2) No permanent sanitation facilities (i.e. restrooms)
- 3) No onsite potable water wells
- 4) No storage or use of any hazardous materials onsite

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10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

10.E HEALTH. 3

RCL 161 R1 - COMMENTS (cont.)

INEFFECT

5) No imported waste to remain or to be burried onsite

Any significant changes to these aforementioned parameters shall require further project review and approval by this Department.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

10.FIRE. 2

SMP-#89-KNOX DEVICES

INEFFECT

Knox storage cabinet shall be installed on the outside of the main building. A Knox device will also be required at all gate entrances.

10.FIRE. 3

SMP-#25-GATE ENTRANCES

INEFFECT

Gate entrances shall be at least two feet wider than the width of the traffic lane(s) serving that gate. Any gate providing access from a road to a driveway shall be located at least 30 feet from the roadway and shall open to allow a vehicle to stop without obstructing traffic on the road. Where a one-way road with a single traffic lane provides access to a gate entrance, a 38 foot turning radius shall be used.

FLOOD RI DEPARTMENT

10.FLOOD RI. 1

RCL FLOOD HAZARD REPORT

INEFFECT

Reclamation Plan 00161R1 is a request to expand the existing mining operation on the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land located in the Blythe area north of Intake Boulevard (State Highway 95).

The District's previous review of RCL 00161 indicates that a watershed of approximately 540-acres impacts along the westerly side of the site and any headcutting would not effect the upstream properties. This request does not appear increase the headcutting and therefore the District does not object to this request.

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10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

10.PLANNING. 1 SMP- COMPLY W/ ORD./EXHIBITS

INEFFECT

The development of these premises shall comply with the standards of Ordinance Nos. 348 and 555 and all other applicable Riverside County ordinances and state and federal codes. The development of the premises shall conform substantially with that as shown on the Mining and Reclamation Plans and Project Description, unless otherwise amended by these conditions.

10.PLANNING. 2 SMP - CAUSES FOR REVOCATION

INEFFECT

In the event the use hereby permitted under this surface mining permit, a) ceases operation for a period of one (1) year or more (unless an Interim Management Plan is approved in accordance with Ordinance No. 555), b) is found to be in violation of the terms and conditions of this permit, c) is found to have been obtained by fraud or perjured testimony, or d) is found to be detrimental to the public health, safety and welfare, or is a public nuisance, this permit shall be subject to the revocation procedures in Section 18.31 of Ordinance No. 348 and/or the applicable section of Ordinance No. 555.

10.PLANNING. 3 SMP - CONDITION REVIEW FEE

INEFFECT

All subsequent submittals required by these conditions of approval, including but not limited to a revegetation plan or mitigation monitoring shall be reviewed, with payment therefore made on an hourly basis as a "research fee," or other such fee as may be in effect at the time of submittal, as required by Ordinance No. 671.

10.PLANNING. 4 SMP - SLOPE STABILITY

INEFFECT

During the life of the permit the permittee shall comply with all MSHA regulations regarding slope stability at this site and ensure all slopes remain stable during the life of the mining operation. Further, no finished slopes in excess of 3:1 (horizontal to vertical) shall be allowed unless and until a site-specific evaluation is performed documenting the stability of steeper slopes.

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10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

10.PLANNING. 5 SMP - SPARK ARRESTOR REQUIRED INEFFECT

During the life of the permit, the permittee shall comply with spark arrestor requirements of the Public Resources Code, Section 4422, for all equipment used on the premises other than turbocharger vehicles designed and licensed for highway use.

10.PLANNING. 6 SMP- DUST PREVENTION MEASURE INEFFECT

During the life of the permit, all roads, driveways, stockpiles and mining areas shall be kept continuously wetted while being used, and shall be treated with EPA approved dust suppressants to prevent emission of dust. Nonhazardous soil stabilizers shall be applied to all inactive surface mining areas and/pr stockpiles (previously mined areas which remain inactive for 96 hours or more).

10.PLANNING. 7 SMP - COMPLY W/ SAFETY REQ. INEFFECT

During the life of the permit, mining operations and practices shall comply with the Safety requirements of MSHA, OSHA, the State Division of Industrial Safety, and California Mine Safety Orders.

10.PLANNING. 9 SMP- OPERATING HOURS INEFFECT

Mining operating hours, other than maintenance or emergencies, shall be limited to the hours between 5:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M..

10.PLANNING. 10 SMP - LOADED TRUCK CARE INEFFECT

All loaded trucks egressing from the subject property shall be properly trimmed with a two (2) foot freeboard height and/or covered and sprayed with water so as to minimize dust and prevent spillage onto the public roadway. In the event that spillage onto the road does occur, said spillage shall be removed immediately (within one hour of the spillage) from the road right-of-way.

10.PLANNING. 11 SMP - FIRE PREVENTION INEFFECT

All work areas and parking areas shall be maintained free of flammable vegetation and debris at all times. No open fires shall be allowed.

10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

10. PLANNING. 12

SMP - CEASED OPERATION EFFECT

In the event the use hereby permitted ceases operation for a period of one (1) year or more, this approval shall become null and void, unless an Interim Management Plan is submitted to the Planning Director within 90 days of becoming idle, as specified in Riverside County Ordinance No. 555. The applicant shall be responsible for the submission of the Interim Management Plan and remains responsible for the implementation of the Reclamation Plan should the permit become null and void.

10. PLANNING. 13

SMP - STOCKPILE PROTECTION

Stockpiles shall be protected against water and wind erosion by covering with burlap or other Riverside County approved material, wetting, and/or temporary hydroseeding with native plant species.

10. PLANNING. 15

SMP - COMPLY W/ ORD. 655

Surface mining operations approved by this permit shall conform to all of the applicable requirements of Riverside County Ordinance No. 655, regulating light pollution.

10. PLANNING. 16

SMP - COMPLY W/ MDAQMD RULES

The permittee shall comply with all applicable Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) rules and regulations, including but not limited to, New Source Review Regulations, Standards of Performance for Asphaltic Concrete Plants, Rule 403 for fugitive dust, and PM10 requirements.

10. PLANNING. 17

SMP - NO EXPLOSIVES

No blasting, dynamiting or use of explosives of any kind whatsoever on the premises is authorized.

10. PLANNING. 18

SMP - NPDES COMPLIANCE (I)

The permittee shall comply with all of the applicable requirements of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and shall conform to NPDES Best Management Practices for Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans during the life of this permit.

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10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

10.PLANNING. 19 SMP - SUSPEND OPER. FOR WIND INEFFECT

All surface mining operations, including excavating, crushing, screening and related material loading and hauling, shall be suspended when wind speeds (as instantaneous gusts) exceed 20 miles per hour. All surface mining operations shall be suspended during first and second stage smog alerts.

10.PLANNING. 20 SMP - ADVERTISING SIGNS INEFFECT

No commercial business advertising signs are approved pursuant to this use. Signs are to be reviewed and regulated by the property owner (BLM).

10.PLANNING. 21 SMP - RESPONSIBLE TO RECLAIM INEFFECT

The permittee (mine operator and/or land owner) shall accept responsibility for reclaiming the mine lands in accordance with the reclamation plan and within the time limits of said plan and in conformance with reclamation requirements and standards according to State of California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act and Riverside County Ordinance No. 555 guidelines.

10.PLANNING. 22 SMP- ANNUAL REPORT INEFFECT

During the life of this reclamation plan, the permittee shall annually prepare and submit a written report to the County of Riverside, demonstrating compliance with all the conditions of approval and mitigation for this RCL00161R1 and EA42215. This report should accompany the annual SMARA inspection deposit required by June 30 of every year. The County may require inspection or other monitoring to ensure such compliance. See also condition 10.BS GRADE.2.

10.PLANNING. 27 SMP - 90 DAYS TO PROTEST INEFFECT

The project applicant has 90 days from the date of approval of these conditions to protest, in accordance with the procedures set forth in Government Code Section 66020, the imposition of any and all fees, dedications, reservations and/or other exactions imposed on this project as a result of this approval or conditional approval of this project.

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10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

10.PLANNING. 30 GEN - IF HUMAN REMAINS FOUND

INEFFECT

The developer/permit holder or any successor in interest shall comply with the following codes for the life of this project:

If human remains are encountered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin. Further, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 (b), remains shall be left in place and free from disturbance until a final decision as to the treatment and their disposition has been made. If the Riverside County Coroner determines the remains to be Native American, the Native American Heritage Commission shall be contacted within the period specified by law. Subsequently, the Native American Heritage Commission shall identify the "Most Likely Descendant." The Most Likely Descendant shall then make recommendations and engage in consultation with the County and the property owner concerning the treatment of the remains as provided in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. Human remains from other ethnic/cultural groups with recognized historical associations to the project area shall also be subject to consultation between appropriate representatives from that group and the County Planning /Director.

10.PLANNING. 31 GEN - INADVERTANT ARCHAEO FIND

INEFFECT

The developer/permit holder or any successor in interest shall comply with the following for the life of this project:

If during ground disturbance activities, cultural resources are discovered that were not assessed by the archaeological reports and/or environmental assessment conducted prior to project approval, the following procedures shall be followed. A cultural resources site is defined, for this condition, as being three or more artifacts in close association with each other, but may include fewer artifacts if the area of the find is determined to be of significance due to its sacred or cultural importance.

1.All ground disturbance activities within 100 feet of the discovered cultural resource shall be halted until a meeting is convened between the developer, the project archaeologist, the Native American tribal representative (or other appropriate ethnic/cultural group representative),

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10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

10.PLANNING. 31

GEN - INADVERTANT ARCHAEO FIND (cont.)

INEFFECT

and the Planning Director to discuss the significance of the find.

2.At the meeting, the significance of the discoveries shall be discussed and after consultation with the Native American tribal (or other appropriate ethnic/cultural group representative) and the archaeologist, a decision is made, with the concurrence of the Planning Director, as to the appropriate mitigation (documentation, recovery, avoidance, etc) for the cultural resource.

3.Further ground disturbance shall not resume within the area of the discovery until an agreement has been reached by all parties as to the appropriate preservation or mitigation measures.

10.PLANNING. 32

SMP - PDP01414

INEFFECT

County Paleontological Report (PDP) No. 1414, submitted for this project (RCL00161R1), was prepared by L&L Environmental, Inc., and is entitled "Revised Paleontological Resources Assessment for the Proposed Palo Verde Irrigation District Blyth (sic) Mine Expansion Project, County of Riverside, California", dated October 15, 2010, Revised: August 23, 2012, September 25, 2012, December 7, 2012.

PDP01414 concluded:

1.Mining of aggregate at the current quarry site could cause direct impacts to surficial and buried paleontological resources due to ground-disturbing activities, if not avoided.

2.Impact to paleontological resources during mining operations would be considered adverse with moderate to high probability (area-wide) of long-term impact.

3.Planned excavation activities will avoid surface and buried paleontological resources in underlying Bouse Formation of high paleontological potential (BLM 2007, 2008); however, buried paleontological resources in the underlying Quaternary alluvium-Unit 3 deposits maybe (sic) impacted by ongoing mining operations.

4.The two rock units of low to high paleontological

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10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

10. PLANNING. 32

SMP - PDP01414 (cont.)

INEFFECT

sensitivity are the Quaternary alluvium-Unit 3 and the Bouse Formation respectively.

5. The Bouse Formation is exposed in the northern portion of the existing PVID aggregate quarry.

6. Fossil invertebrates are present in Bouse Formation within the existing PVID aggregate quarry (site MAR-a) and friable white sand is exposed west of Site MAR-1.

7. Fossil vertebrates are very rare in the blouse formation (Reynolds and Barry 2008).

PDP01414 recommended:

1. The following mitigation measures have been developed for implementation in the event that the Bouse Formation cannot be avoided during mining operations:

a. A geologic section shall be measured in the old rock quarry to correlate the Bouse Formation beds present at the north end of the current aggregate quarry into a stratigraphic framework. Representative fossils should be collected from the old quarry and analyzed as part of the

stratigraphic documentation. As part of the documentation, drafting of the measured section and placing of the beds present in the existing PVID quarry should be performed.

b. A test sediment sample shall be taken from site MAR-1 to recover significant vertebrate fossils. The test sample shall be at least 500 lbs or 10 plastic 5-gallon buckets. This material shall be water screened through screens with 30 mesh openings per inch. The concentrate shall be submitted for heavy liquid separation to eliminate most of the sediment in the concentrate. The finer fraction of the concentrate from the heavy liquid separation shall be picked of fossil material with the aid of a binocular microscope. If fossils are recovered, they shall be sent to accredited experts for identification. A report of the findings shall be submitted to the BLM for approval. All fossils recovered should be placed in a BLM approved accredited institution or museum.

c. A sample of the invertebrates found in the vicinity of site MAR-1 shall be collected. The recovered fossils shall be submitted to accredited experts for identification. A report of the findings shall be submitted to the BLM for

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10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

10.PLANNING. 34 SMP - EROSION

INEFFECT

Erosion of excavated slopes, stockpiles, pit floors, berms roadways shall be kept to a minimum through the employment of good pit design and best management practices (BMP's) to minimize water flowing over the face of slopes, protecting stockpiles and roads from excessive erosion and through regular maintenance of these features when erosion begins to advance to an excessive level. Hence, all erosion features (rills, gullies, etc.) that form in excess of 5 inches wide and/or 5 inches deep and/or 10 feet long shall be repaired by backfill and compaction and further BMP's employed as necessary.

10.PLANNING. 35 SMP- MOJAVE DESERT AQMD

INEFFECT

The Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (District) has reviewed Reclamation Plan No. 161, Revised No. 1 (Palo Verde Irrigation District-PVID). The plan of Operation and Reclamation Plan for the expansion of the PVID North Gravel Pit addresses mining, reclamation and environmental concerns that arise before, during and after mining. The gravel pit is located north of Blythe on public land managed by the BLM. PVID is proposing to expand the existing mining operation from the approximately 14.3 acres to approximately 29.4 acres, mining approximately 1.99 cubic yards of material and providing for 37 years of mining operations (expires in 2047). Access to the pit is via dirt access road restricted by a locked gate and a posted speed of 20 mph. The access road is routinely graded and watered by the PVID and will continue to be maintained for the life of the mine.

The District recommends that the County of Riverside require the submission of applicable permit applications and the associated application and permit fees to the District as a condition of approval. District permits are renewed on an annual basis and are not issued for temporary use. This equipment may be eligible for a California Air Resources Board Portable Equipment Registration Permit (PERP) in lieu of a District permit. The District also recommends the County of Riverside require this mining operation comply with mining dust control provisions equivalent to Rule 403.2.

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20. PRIOR TO A CERTAIN DATE

EPD DEPARTMENT

20.EPD. 4 - DT FENCE MAINTENANCE INEFFECT

In the event that the desert tortoise fence becomes damaged during the course of operations, the fence shall be repaired immediately.

20.EPD. 5 - CLRNG OF UDISTB AREAS INEFFECT

During clearing of undisturbed areas, cactus species shall be transplanted and stored for later use during revegetation following the completion of mining activity.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

20.PLANNING. 2 SMP - LIFE OF RECLAMATION PLAN INEFFECT

This permit shall become null and void December 31, 2050, or upon mining of 1,087,800 cubic yards, whichever comes first. Annual mining tonnage shall not exceed 29,400 cubic yards. Extensions of time to the life of this permit shall require submission of a revised application in accordance with Riverside County's Ordinance No. 555.

TRANS DEPARTMENT

20.TRANSOM1 ... EVIDENCE OF LEGAL ACCESS INEFFECT

Prior to grading/mining applicant shall provide evidence of legal access.

60. PRIOR TO GRADING PRMT ISSUANCE

EPD DEPARTMENT

60.EPD. 1 - ANNUAL INSPECTION INEFFECT

The following items shall be investigated by Riverside County Planning Department, Environmental Programs Division (EPD) staff during the annual inspection.

1.The entire length of the desert tortoise fence shall be inspected to ensure that it has not been compromised. Any damage to the fence shall be repaired immediately by the mine operator. If EPD staff determines that there was significant potential for tortoises to enter the site, due to the size of the damaged section of fence or the time

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60. PRIOR TO GRADING PRMT ISSUANCE

60.EPD. 1 - ANNUAL INSPECTION (cont.)

INEFFECT

that it has remained in disrepair, a desert tortoise clearance survey may be required. The mine operator should also be reminded that it is their responsibility to maintain the fence at all times throughout the year.

2.Ensure that the project is not impacting the drainages located east and west of the project footprint.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

60.PLANNING. 6 SMP- YR RECLAMATION REPORT

INEFFECT

The permittee shall submit a final reclamation completion report prior to closing of reclamation on each mining/reclamation phase and prior to the expiration date of this permit. The report shall be submitted to the Building and Safety Director and Planning Director, or as required under County Ordinance No. 555, for review and approval. This report shall indicate the completion of reclamation in accordance with the approved plan, including final contours, slope configuration of 3:1 (horizontal:vertical), resoiled areas, erosion control structures, and successful revegetation. This report shall be submitted at least 30 days prior to completion of each mining/reclamation phase and expiration of this permit. This report shall be accompanied by a stamped and wet-signed substantial conformance letter from an independent licensed engineer, landscape architect, geologist or other appropriate professional stating that the project was reclaimed pursuant to the approved Reclamation Plan.

mining/
this

60.PLANNING. 13 SMP- YR REPORT REQUIREMENTS

INEFFECT

The permittee shall provide the following information as part of the annual report required by Condition No. 5.1. This report shall be prepared by a qualified, licensed professional.

a. Indicate the mined area's proximity to the permit boundaries by topography and details on an approved an, Exhibit A.

b. Show the annual and total change in topography generated by the mining excavation by cross sections and topographic maps. Compare original/previous contours and

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60. PRIOR TO GRADING PRMT ISSUANCE

60.PLANNING. 13 SMP- YR REPORT REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

INEFFECT

cross sections with current cross sections and contours.

c. Maximum depth of excavation.

d. Provide the quantity in cubic yards and tons mined during the previous year.

e. Certify that the excavations are within the limits of the permit.

f. Provide data indicating the area reclaimed for the year concluding and for the total amount reclaimed to date. Certify that reclamation is complete in these areas.

g. A Certified Engineering Geologist, Civil Engineer or Geotechnical Engineer shall inspect all excavated slopes within the surface mining area at least once per year for slope stability. The results of this inspection and any recommendations for slope remediation shall be included with the annual report.

h. The permittee shall report the discovery of any fossil vertebrate animal remains in the annual report. Upon discovery of such fossil remains, the permittee shall cause a paleontologist to be retained for the project to immediately evaluate the fossils to determine their significance and develop a collection and study plan in conformance with the Paleontological Survey prepared for the site by L&L Environmental, Inc, revised date of August 23, 2012, a copy of which is on file at the Riverside County Planning Department. The report of findings shall be submitted with the annual report.

cause a
immediate

60.PLANNING. 15 SMP- YR ADJUST ASSURANCES

INEFFECT

The amount of reclamation financial assurance shall be adjusted annually for new lands disturbed by surface mining operations, completed reclamation in conformance with the approved Reclamation Plan, Exhibit B, dated April 23, 2013 and/or by adjustments to the U.S. Department of Labor Consumer Price Index for the Los Angeles-Long Beach Metropolitan Area.

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60. PRIOR TO GRADING PRMT ISSUANCE

TRANS DEPARTMENT

60.TRANS. 1 RCL - EVIDENCE OF LEGAL ACCESS

INEFFECT

Prior to grading/mining applicant shall provide evidence of legal access.

70. PRIOR TO GRADING FINAL INSPECT

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

70.PLANNING. 2 SMP- 1ST & YR ROAD SIGNS

INEFFECT

All roads within the project limits shall be posted with speed limit signs of 15 miles per hour.

70.PLANNING. 6 SMP- 1ST & YR SITE STAKING

INEFFECT

The outer boundary of the surface mining areas approved as part of this reclamation plan shall be surveyed and staked with visible markers such as solid pipe or white capped PVC pipe. These stakes shall be placed at 300 foot intervals along the boundary of these areas. This staking shall be maintained throughout the life of this permit.

70.PLANNING. 7 SMP - YR TEMPORARY SLOPES

INEFFECT

palaeontologist - retained for project to

Temporary slopes created during mining operations shall be excavated no steeper than 1:1 (horizontal:vertical) and no higher than 30 feet in vertical height, or in compliance with MSHA and CALOSHA requirements.

90. PRIOR TO BLDG FINAL INSPECTION

FIRE DEPARTMENT

90.FIRE. 3 SMP-#66-DISPLAY BOARDS

INEFFECT

Display boards will be as follows: Each complex shall have an illuminated diagrammatic representation of the actual layout which shows the name and address of site, all roads/streets, building designators (if applicable), and fire hydrant locations within the complex (again, if applicable). These directories shall be a minimum 4 feetX4 feet in dimension and located next to the main roadway access.

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM: INITIAL STUDY

Environmental Assessment (E.A.) Number: 42215
Project Case Type (s) and Number(s): Reclamation Plan No. 161, Revised Permit No. 1
Lead Agency Name: County of Riverside Planning Department
Address: P.O. Box 1409, Riverside, CA 92502-1409
Contact Person: David L. Jones
Telephone Number: 951-955-6863
Applicant's Name: Palo Verde Irrigation District
Applicant's Address: 180 West 14th Avenue, Blythe, CA 92225

I. PROJECT INFORMATION

A. Project Description: Reclamation Plan No. 161, Revision No. 1 (RCL00161R1) proposes to expand the existing mining operation located on BLM land from the existing approximately 14.3 acres to approximately 29.3 acres including mining of approximately 1.99 million cubic yards of material and to provide for 37 years of mining operations (expires 2050). The project site located on BLM land north of US Highway 95, east of Midland Road and south of Big Maria Mountains. The site is approximately 43 gross acres.

B. Type of Project: Site Specific ; Countywide ; Community ; Policy .

C. Total Project Area: 600 acres (Total Acreage of site)

Residential Acres: N/A	Lots: N/A	Units: N/A	Projected No. of Residents: N/A
Commercial Acres: N/A	Lots: N/A	Sq. Ft. of Bldg. Area: N/A	Est. No. of Employees: N/A
Industrial Acres: N/A	Lots: N/A	Sq. Ft. of Bldg. Area: N/A	Est. No. of Employees: N/A
Other: 29.3			

D. Assessor's Parcel No(s): 815-131-003

E. Street References: North of US Highway 95, east of Midland Road and south of Big Maria Mountains.

F. Section, Township & Range Description or reference/attach a Legal Description:
Section 27, Township 5 South, Range 23 East

G. Brief description of the existing environmental setting of the project site and its surroundings: The subject site is a 600 acre fairly flat and barren parcel. The site contains very little vegetation and a mining operation currently exists on-site. The current mining operation covers approximately 14.3 acres of the parcel. The areas surrounding the subject site are barren as well with the exception of existing agricultural uses to the south of the subject site.

II. APPLICABLE GENERAL PLAN AND ZONING REGULATIONS

A. General Plan Elements/Policies:

1. **Land Use:** LU 20.2, LU 20.3, LU 20.4 and LU 21.1

2. **Circulation:** N/A

3. **Multipurpose Open Space:** OS 14.1, OS 14.2, OS 14.4

4. **Safety:** N/A

5. **Noise:** N/A

6. **Housing:** N/A

7. **Air Quality:** AQ 1.4 and AQ 4.10

B. General Plan Area Plan(s): Palo Verde Valley

C. Foundation Component(s): Open Space

D. Land Use Designation(s): Rural

E. Overlay(s), if any: N/A

F. Policy Area(s), if any: N/A

G. Adjacent and Surrounding:

1. **Area Plan(s):** Palo Verde Valley

2. **Foundation Component(s):** Open Space and Agriculture

3. **Land Use Designation(s):** Rural and Agriculture

4. **Overlay(s), if any:** N/A

5. **Policy Area(s), if any:** N/A

H. Adopted Specific Plan Information

1. **Name and Number of Specific Plan, if any:** N/A

2. **Specific Plan Planning Area, and Policies, if any:** N/A

I. Existing Zoning: Natural Assets

J. Proposed Zoning, if any: N/A

K. Adjacent and Surrounding Zoning: Natural Assets, Controlled Development Areas, 10 Acre Minimum Lot Size, Rural Residential.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below (x) would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" or "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

Aesthetics

Hazards & Hazardous Materials

Recreation

Agriculture & Forest Resources

Hydrology / Water Quality

Transportation / Traffic

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | |

IV. DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:


A PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/NEGATIVE DECLARATION WAS NOT PREPARED

- I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project, described in this document, have been made or agreed to by the project proponent. **A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.

A PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/NEGATIVE DECLARATION WAS PREPARED

- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, **NO NEW ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED** because (a) all potentially significant effects of the proposed project have been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration pursuant to applicable legal standards, (b) all potentially significant effects of the proposed project have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, (c) the proposed project will not result in any new significant environmental effects not identified in the earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, (d) the proposed project will not substantially increase the severity of the environmental effects identified in the earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, (e) no considerably different mitigation measures have been identified and (f) no mitigation measures found infeasible have become feasible.
- I find that although all potentially significant effects have been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration pursuant to applicable legal standards, some changes or additions are necessary but none of the conditions described in California Code of Regulations, Section 15162 exist. An **ADDENDUM** to a previously-certified EIR or Negative Declaration has been prepared and will be considered by the approving body or bodies.
- I find that at least one of the conditions described in California Code of Regulations, Section 15162 exist, but I further find that only minor additions or changes are necessary to make the previous EIR adequately apply to the project in the changed situation; therefore a **SUPPLEMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required that need only contain the information necessary to make the previous EIR adequate for the project as revised.
- I find that at least one of the following conditions described in California Code of Regulations, Section 15162, exist and a **SUBSEQUENT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required: (1) Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; (2) Substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; or (3) New information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous EIR was certified as complete or the negative declaration was adopted, shows any the following: (A) The project will have

one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR or negative declaration;(B) Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previous EIR or negative declaration;(C) Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible, and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measures or alternatives; or,(D) Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous EIR or negative declaration would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measures or alternatives.



Signature

June 26, 2013

Date

David L. Jones

Printed Name

For Carolyn Syms Luna, Director

V. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000-21178.1), this Initial Study has been prepared to analyze the proposed project to determine any potential significant impacts upon the environment that would result from construction and implementation of the project. In accordance with California Code of Regulations, Section 15063, this Initial Study is a preliminary analysis prepared by the Lead Agency, the County of Riverside, in consultation with other jurisdictional agencies, to determine whether a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or an Environmental Impact Report is required for the proposed project. The purpose of this Initial Study is to inform the decision-makers, affected agencies, and the public of potential environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the proposed project.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
AESTHETICS Would the project				
1. Scenic Resources				
a) Have a substantial effect upon a scenic highway corridor within which it is located?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings and unique or landmark features; obstruct any prominent scenic vista or view open to the public; or result in the creation of an aesthetically offensive site open to public view?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure C-9 "Scenic Highways"

Findings of Fact: a-b) U.S. Highway 95 is referenced in the Palo Verde Valley Area Plan as a County Eligible Scenic Highway. U.S. Highway 95 runs to the south of the subject site. From Highway 95, southerly of 2nd Avenue, the upper slope of the existing pit appears the same as the surrounding slopes. From Highway 95, northerly of 2nd Avenue, the upper slope of the pit cannot be seen since the bluff of the mesa obstructs the view and therefore preserving the scenic views that are visible from the highway. A significant impact would occur if the project caused a substantial change in the views of the area, or a permanent change to the views of the site.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required.

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required.

2. Mt. Palomar Observatory

a) Interfere with the nighttime use of the Mt. Palomar Observatory, as protected through Riverside County Ordinance No. 655?

Source: GIS database, Ord. No. 655 (Regulating Light Pollution)

Findings of Fact: The subject site is located approximately 134.43 miles from the Mt. Palomar Observatory which is outside of the zones set forth in County Ordinance No. 655, Regulating Light Pollution. Ordinance No. 655 identifies areas of concern for the observatory as Zone A (within a 15

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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mile radius of the observatory) and Zone B (within a 45 mile radius of the observatory). No significant impact to the Mt. Palomar Observatory is anticipated.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

3. Other Lighting Issues

a) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Expose residential property to unacceptable light levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: On-site Inspection, Project Application Description

Findings of Fact: a-b) The project site is in a relatively undeveloped area with few light sources and residential uses. The hours of operation (Monday-Friday from 7 am to 6pm) for the mine that were established with the original approval of RCL00161 will remain ineffect. This revision does propose any new lighting sources; therefore, potential lighting impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

AGRICULTURE & FOREST RESOURCES Would the project

4. Agriculture

a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing agricultural zoning, agricultural use or with land subject to a Williamson Act contract or land within a Riverside County Agricultural Preserve?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Cause development of non-agricultural uses within 300 feet of agriculturally zoned property (Ordinance No. 625 "Right-to-Farm")?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure OS-2 "Agricultural Resources," GIS database, and Project Application Materials.

Findings of Fact: The subject site has not been identified as being located within a Riverside County Agricultural Preserve, nor has the site been mapped or identified as farmland or as being located

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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within an agricultural zone. Therefore, the proposed project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to a non-agricultural use, nor would the proposal conflict with any existing agricultural zoning or land subject to a Williamson Act contract or land within a Riverside County Agricultural Preserve. As the proposed project is a revision to an existing surface mining permit, ground disturbance has already occurred at the site. No significant impacts to agriculture and forest resources are anticipated.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

5. Forest

a) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Govt. Code section 51104(g))?

b) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure OS-3 "Parks, Forests and Recreation Areas," and Project Application Materials.

Findings of Fact: The subject site has not been mapped or identified as forest land, timberland or timberland zoned as Timberland Production. Therefore, the proposal would not conflict with the existing zoning of or cause the re-zoning of lands classified as forest, timberland or timberland zoned as Timberland Production. The proposal would not result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. Lastly, the proposal does not involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No significant impacts to forest land are anticipated.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

AIR QUALITY Would the project

6. Air Quality Impacts

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				
d) Expose sensitive receptors which are located within 1 mile of the project site to project substantial point source emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve the construction of a sensitive receptor located within one mile of an existing substantial point source emitter?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: MDAQMD review, Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact: The subject site is located within the Mojave Desert Air Basin. Upon review of the proposal by MDAQMD, the district didn't identify any significant impacts that the project would create as it relates to air quality. However, the district did recommend the submission of an applicable permit application and the associated application and permit fees to the district. MDAQMD permits are renewed on an annual basis.

Mitigation: The applicant has been conditioned to submit the applicable permit application and associated fees to the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District and to renew the permit on an annual basis. The mining operation shall also comply with mining dust control provisions equivalent to MDAQMD's Rule 403.2.

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES Would the project

7. Wildlife & Vegetation

a) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any endangered, or threatened species, as listed in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (Sections 670.2 or 670.5) or in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations (Sections 17.11 or 17.12)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

f) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: GIS database, On-site inspection, and General Biological Report prepared by L&L Environmental, Inc.

Findings of Fact:

- a) The proposed project is not located within the boundaries of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state conservation plan.
- b) The project area has the potential to support desert tortoise. The current mine area is surrounded by desert tortoise exclusion fencing. A survey was conducted which included the planned area of mine expansion and an addition zone of influence in order to evaluate probability of impacts to tortoises. Based upon these results, probability of impact is low.
- c) One special status species was identified onsite, Alverson's foxtail cactus (*Coryphantha alversonii*).
- d) The biological documentation provided did not identify any impacts to the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or to established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or potential to impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.
- e) USGS mapped fresh water flows through the ephemeral streams that are present both east and west of the proposed mine expansion area. The mapped ephemeral drainage visible at the central western edge of the survey area presently flows along the west side of the project area and not onsite.
- f) Soil types are not consistent with an alkali playa or vernal pool complex and pools or depressions characteristic of vernal habitat were not noted as present on the subject property. No fairy shrimp or fairy shrimp habitat was observed during this study.
- g) The proposed project does not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources.

Mitigation:

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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MM BIO-1 – Prior to expanding the mine, a clearance survey for desert tortoise shall be conducted just prior to extending the desert tortoise exclusion fencing that is now present. Following that survey and relocation and/or expansion of the fenced area, a second clearance survey within the entire fenced desert tortoise exclusion area should be performed in order to insure no tortoises were trapped inside the fencing during the active mine exclusion zone expansion procedure.

MM BIO-2 – During clearing of undisturbed areas, cactus species shall be transplanted and stored for later use during revegetation following the completion of mining activity.

Monitoring:

The following items shall be investigated by Riverside County Planning Department, Environmental Programs Division (EPD) staff during the annual inspection.

1. The entire length of the desert tortoise fence shall be inspected to ensure that it has not been compromised. Any damage to the fence shall be repaired immediately by the mine operator. If EPD staff determines that there was significant potential for tortoises to enter the site, due to the size of the damaged section of fence or the time that it has remained in disrepair, a desert tortoise clearance survey may be required. The mine operator should also be reminded that it is their responsibility to maintain the fence at all times throughout the year.
2. Ensure that the project is not impacting the drainages located east and west of the project footprint.

CULTURAL RESOURCES Would the project

8. Historic Resources

a) Alter or destroy an historic site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in California Code of Regulations, Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Application Materials, Riverside County Archaeologist review

Findings of Fact: a-b) The proposed project would not alter or destroy an historic site nor would the proposed project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Mitigation: Planning Department Conditions of Approval 10.PLANNING.30 and 10.PLANNING.31 explains the necessary steps that the permit holder must take in the event that human remains or cultural resources are discovered during ground disturbing activities at the subject site.

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

9. Archaeological Resources

a) Alter or destroy an archaeological site.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Section 15064.5?				
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Application Materials, Riverside County Archaeologist review

Findings of Fact: The subject site has not been identified as a known archaeological site nor has the proposal been identified to potentially cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource, disturb any human remains or restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area. No significant impacts to archaeological resources are anticipated.

Mitigation: Planning Department Conditions of Approval 10.PLANNING.30 and 10.PLANNING.31 explains the necessary steps that the permit holder must take in the event that human remains or cultural resources are discovered during ground disturbing activities at the subject site.

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

10. Paleontological Resources

a) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource, or site, or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure OS-8 "Paleontological Sensitivity", PDP01414 - L&L Environmental, Inc., "Revised Paleontological Resources Assessment for the Proposed Palo Verde Irrigation District Blyth (sic) Mine Expansion Project, County of Riverside, California", dated October 15, 2010, Revised: August 23, 2012, September 25, 2012, December 7, 2012.

Findings of Fact: Mining of aggregate at the current quarry site could cause direct impacts to surficial and buried paleontological resources due to ground-disturbing activities, if not avoided. Impact to paleontological resources during mining operations would be considered adverse with moderate to high probability (area-wide) of long-term impact.

Mitigation:

1. Planned excavation activities will avoid surface and buried paleontological resources in underlying Bouse Formation of high paleontological potential (BLM 2007, 2008); however, buried paleontological resources in the underlying Quaternary alluvium-Unit 3 deposits maybe (sic) impacted by ongoing mining operations.

2. The following mitigation measures have been developed for implementation in the event that either the Bouse Formation or the Quaternary alluvium-Unit 3 cannot be avoided during mining operations:

3. Bouse Formation

a. A geologic section shall be measured in the old rock quarry to correlate the Bouse Formation beds present at the north end of the current aggregate quarry into a stratigraphic framework. Representative fossils should be collected from the old quarry and analyzed as part of the stratigraphic documentation. As part of the documentation, drafting of the measured section and placing of the beds present in the existing PVID quarry should be performed.

b. A test sediment sample shall be taken from site MAR-1 to recover significant vertebrate fossils. The test sample shall be at least 500 lbs or 10 plastic 5-gallon buckets. This material shall be water screened through screens with 30 mesh openings per inch. The concentrate shall be submitted for heavy liquid separation to eliminate most of the sediment in the concentrate. The finer fraction of the concentrate from the heavy liquid separation shall be picked of fossil material with the aid of a binocular microscope. If fossils are recovered, they shall be sent to accredited experts for identification. A report of the findings shall be submitted to the BLM for approval. All fossils recovered should be placed in a BLM approved accredited institution or museum.

c. A sample of the invertebrates found in the vicinity of site MAR-1 shall be collected. The recovered fossils shall be submitted to accredited experts for identification. A report of the findings shall be submitted to the BLM for approval. All fossils recovered shall be placed in a BLM approved accredited institution or museum.

d. Because of the infrequent mining of materials at the aggregate quarry, full time mitigation monitoring shall not be required, but part-time or spot-check monitoring of the mining operations in the area where the Bouse Formation is present shall be conducted.

4. Quaternary Alluvium-Unit 3

a. The project proponent (PVID) shall retain a qualified project paleontologist to monitor the excavation of native (undisturbed) soils in the mine.

b. Because of the infrequent mining of material at the aggregate quarry and the low BLM PFYC rating, no fulltime monitoring is required; however, part-time or spot-check monitoring shall be conducted.

c. PVID will notify the project paleontologist prior to beginning excavation and stockpiling operations into native soils. The project paleontologist shall inspect the mine for fossil resources either during or just after excavation.

d. Any fossils recovered shall be properly analyzed and documented.

5. A letter report of findings will be produced following each site visit with negative findings and will include recommendations for adjusting site visits, based on findings. The project paleontologist may increase or reduce recommendations for future site visits based on findings.

6. In the event that fossil resources are encountered and recovered, the project paleontologist shall analyze these resources and document these in a report of positive findings. Thereafter, the resources will be deposited in a BLM approved and accredited institution or museum.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Monitoring:

1. The operator/owner of the mining operation shall secure the services of a County-listed Paleontologist and/or qualified professional geologist (PG) to perform a minimum of one annual inspection of the mining operation, in conjunction with the mining inspection and reporting they are required to produce for the County's mine inspector for confirmation that Conditions of Approval are being met and to ensure required mitigation is being followed.
2. A minimum of one annual inspection of the mining operation, in conjunction with required annual SMARA mine inspection, shall be performed by the County's mine inspector to ensure required mitigation is being followed.

GEOLOGY AND SOILS Would the project

11. Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone or County Fault Hazard Zones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Be subject to rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure S-2 "Earthquake Fault Study Zones," GIS database, Blythe Quadrangle Map, Anderson & O'Connell April 1993, County Geologist Review.

Findings of Fact: The site is not located within an Alquist -Priolo Earthquake fault zone. Surface fault rupture is not anticipated at this site. The proposed project will not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

12. Liquefaction Potential Zone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
a) Be subject to seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure S-3 "Generalized Liquefaction" GIS database, Blythe Quadrangle Map, Anderson & O'Connell April 1993, project exhibits, County Geologist Review.

Findings of Fact: The subject site is located within an area that has a no, low, and moderate potential for liquefaction according to Riverside County General Plan Figure S-3 "Generalized Liquefaction. However, the project does not propose any structures.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

13. Ground-shaking Zone

a) Be subject to strong seismic ground shaking?

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure S-4 "Earthquake-Induced Slope Instability Map," and Figures S-13 through S-21 (showing General Ground Shaking Risk) GIS database, Blythe Quadrangle Map, Anderson & O'Connell April 1993, project exhibits, County Geologist Review

Findings of Fact: Significant groundshaking could be experienced throughout Riverside County in the event of a significant earthquake. However, the proposed use of the site as a mining operation and the lack of structures or permanent construction on the site as well as the relative long distance from a causative fault all result in limited hazards associated with significant groundshaking. Impacts are expected to be less than significant.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

14. Landslide Risk

a) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, collapse, or rockfall hazards?

Source: On-site Inspection, Riverside County General Plan Figure S-5 "Regions Underlain by Steep Slope" GIS database, Blythe Quadrangle Map, Anderson & O'Connell April 1993, project exhibits, County Geologist Review

Findings of Fact: The project site is not located in an area of known landslide activity. No landslides were observed on or in the near vicinity of the project site. The geologic units encountered on the project site appears to be stable and proposed mining and reclamation design is anticipated to maintain adequate stability.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required; however, as a required item on the State of California SMARA annual mine inspection form (MRRC-1) and as required pursuant to Conditions of Approval 10.PLANNING.4 and 10.PLANNING.22, slope stability will be evaluated and reported annually to the County by the mine operator/permittee.

15. Ground Subsidence

a) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable,

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in ground subsidence?

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure S-7 "Documented Subsidence Areas Map"

Findings of Fact: A portion of the site is mapped as being susceptible to subsidence (southern approximate half). However, the projects do not propose any structures.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

16. Other Geologic Hazards

a) Be subject to geologic hazards, such as seiche, mudflow, or volcanic hazard?

Source: Project Application Materials, Riverside County Geologist review

Findings of Fact: The subject site would not be subject to geologic hazards such as seiche, mudflow or volcanic hazard.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Mitigation Measures are required

17. Slopes

a) Change topography or ground surface relief features?

b) Create cut or fill slopes greater than 2:1 or higher than 10 feet?

c) Result in grading that affects or negates subsurface sewage disposal systems?

Source: Riv. Co. 800-Scale Slope Maps, Project Application Materials, Geologist's review.

Findings of Fact: The mining operation does not create a significant change to topography and ground surface relief. The project proposes to construct final reclamation slopes at a ratio no steeper than three (3) feet horizontal to one (1) foot vertical (3:1). The mining will not affect or negate subsurface sewage disposal systems.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Mitigation Measures are required; however, as slope review is a required item on the State of California SMARA annual mine inspection form (MRRC-1) and as required pursuant to Conditions of Approval 10.PLANNING.4 and 10.PLANNING.22, slopes will be evaluated and reported annually to the County by the mine operator/permittee.

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18. Soils

a) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Section 1802.3.2 of the California Building Code (2007), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service Soil Surveys, Project Application Materials, On-site Inspection

Findings of Fact: The project is located in an area with minimal to no topsoil. The project is designed to minimize erosion through slope design, BMP's and overall pit design which contains all water within the site.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Mitigation Measures are required; however, as erosion review is a required item on the State of California SMARA annual mine inspection form (MRRC-1) and as required pursuant to Conditions of Approval 10.PLANNING.4, 10.PLANNING.22, and 10.PLANNING.34, slopes will be evaluated and reported annually to the County by the mine operator/permittee.

19. Erosion

a) Change deposition, siltation, or erosion that may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed of a lake?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in any increase in water erosion either on or off site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service Soil Surveys

Findings of Fact: There are a number of streams that traverse the subject site. However, the mining operation avoids these streams, provides a protective berm between the stream on the west side of the mine pit, provides adequate setback from the stream on the east side of the pit, and the project is designed to minimize erosion through slope design, BMP's and overall pit design which contains all water within the site.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Mitigation Measures are required; however, as erosion review is a required item on the State of California SMARA annual mine inspection form (MRRC-1) and as required pursuant to Conditions of Approval 10.PLANNING.4, 10.PLANNING.22, and 10.PLANNING.34, slopes will be evaluated and reported annually to the County by the mine operator/permittee

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20. Wind Erosion and Blowsand from project either on or off site.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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a) Be impacted by or result in an increase in wind erosion and blowsand, either on or off site?

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure S-8 "Wind Erosion Susceptibility Map," Ord. No. 460, Article XV & Ord. No. 484

Findings of Fact: The site is located in an area of moderate wind erodibility. The project is not anticipated to create a significant increase in wind erosion and blowsand.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Mitigation Measures are required; however, pursuant to Condition of Approval 10.PLANNING.6, during the life of the mining operation, all roads, driveways, mining areas and stockpiles shall be kept continuously wetted while being used and shall be treated with EPA approved dust suppressants to prevent emission of dust.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS Would the project

21. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Source: RCL00161R1 Greenhouse Gas Technical Report-Atkins, March 20, 2013, MIG/Hogle-Ireland review.

Findings of Fact: a). The GHG emissions associated with operation of the project were calculated using CalEEMod. The projects emissions are evaluated for both the typical schedule and a worst case schedule. While these emissions are being evaluated with respect to the available thresholds, the daily and annual emissions levels from the operation of the PVID's surface extraction mine will not increase from current levels. Therefore, while over the life of the project more emissions will occur due to the extended timeframe, there are no daily or annual net increases from what are currently occurring. The project would not exceed the threshold of 100,000 tons per year promulgated by the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) or the 3,000 metric tons per year Riverside County screening threshold. Operation of the proposed project would result in a less than significant impact.

b). The most applicable plans for project compliance would be a county specific climate action plan and the AB 32 scoping plan. While the County of Riverside does not currently have an adopted qualified climate action plan by which the project can be compared, the County is in the process of completing one. The proposed Riverside County Climate Action Plan (CAP) will address the State's requirements to reduce GHG emissions in accordance with the AB 32 Scoping Plan targets. Therefore, projects within the County's jurisdiction that are consistent with the County CAP would be

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consistent with AB 32's requirement to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. Part of the Riverside County CAP is the implementation of development review process procedures for evaluating GHG impacts and determining significance for CEQA purposes. The development review process will be streamlined by (1) applying an emissions level that is determined to be less than significant for small projects, and (2) utilizing Screening Tables to mitigate project GHG emissions that exceed the threshold level. Projects with emissions exceeding the 3,000 MTCO₂e per year screening level will be required to quantify and mitigate emissions.

Both the typical and worst case annual emissions for the project are below the 3,000 MTCO₂e annual screening level. Given the screening criteria, emissions from the operational activities under either scenario would be considered to be consistent with the proposed goals of the Riverside County CAP that is in progress and no mitigation would be required. Since the project would be consistent with the proposed Riverside County CAP, it would also be consistent with the AB 32 Scoping Plan, thereby, resulting in a less than significant impact with respect to compliance with applicable plans for the reduction of GHG emissions.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required.

HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS Would the project

22. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or an emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact:

a-e) There will be no hazardous wastes or materials transported, used or disposed of within the proposed expanded mining area. The existing mining operation does not use chemicals in the crushing, sorting or washing process. Substances stored and used will be limited to items needed for

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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operation and maintenance of equipment, such as petroleum products. Blasting is not a proposed part of the mining operation. Therefore, no explosives will be stored on-site. No hazardous materials will be released into the environment. The proposed project will not impair or physically interfere with emergency evacuations. There are no existing or proposed schools within one-quarter mile.

The proposed project is not located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites (see Hazardous Waste Site Disclosure Statement on page 4 of Application Form 295-1033).

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

23. Airports

a) Result in an inconsistency with an Airport Master Plan?

b) Require review by the Airport Land Use Commission?

c) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

d) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, or heliport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure S-19 "Airport Locations," GIS database, staff review

Findings of Fact: a-d) The subject site is not located within an Airport Master Plan or an Airport Influence Area. No impacts to airports will occur as a result of the proposal.

Mitigation: No mitigation measures are required

Monitoring: No monitoring measures are required

24. Hazardous Fire Area

a) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure S-11 "Wildfire Susceptibility," GIS database

Findings of Fact: The subject site is not located within a County High Fire Area or within an area identified as a State Responsibility High Fire Area. No significant impacts related to Hazardous Fire Areas are anticipated as a result of the proposal.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Mitigation: No mitigation measures are required

Monitoring: No monitoring measures are required

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY Would the project

25. Water Quality Impacts

a) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

b) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

c) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

d) Create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

e) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area, as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?

f) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?

g) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

h) Include new or retrofitted stormwater Treatment Control Best Management Practices (BMPs) (e.g. water quality treatment basins, constructed treatment wetlands), the operation of which could result in significant environmental effects (e.g. increased vectors or odors)?

Source: Riverside County Flood Control District Flood Hazard Report/Condition, Project application materials.

Findings of Fact: The existing gravel pit is located between two drainage washes, one along the Westerly edge of the existing mine and the other wash along the Easterly edge of the proposed expansion. During the fall and winter months, rainfall will sheet flow off the surrounding hillsides towards the existing washes. The design of the gravel pit does not allow for any off-site storm water to enter the pit from either wash and does not allow any storm water to flow out of the pit into either wash. As proposed, the project would expand the existing surface mining permit operation at the subject site. The expansion would not alter the existing drainage pattern of the site, violate any wastewater standards or requirements, impact groundwater supplies, create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide

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substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. The project does not propose any type of housing, nor does the project propose to construct or relocate any structures. The proposal would not substantially degrade water quality nor does it propose a new or retrofitted water quality treatment basins or treatment wetlands.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

26. Floodplains

Degree of Suitability in 100-Year Floodplains. As indicated below, the appropriate Degree of Suitability has been checked.

NA - Not Applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	U - Generally Unsuitable <input type="checkbox"/>	R - Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>
a) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Changes in absorption rates or the rate and amount of surface runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam (Dam Inundation Area)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure S-9 "100- and 500-Year Flood Hazard Zones," Figure S-10 "Dam Failure Inundation Zone," Riverside County Flood Control District Flood Hazard Report/Condition, GIS database

Findings of Fact: a-b) The subject site is not located within a Riverside County Flood District. Storm water flows created during a precipitation event are collected in the gravel pit and eventually soaks into the gravel. The gravel pit does not accept any off-site flows nor will any storm flows be discharged off-site. Review of the project by Riverside County Flood Control District indicates that a watershed of approximately 540-acres impacts along the westerly side of the site and any headcutting would not impact the upstream properties. This request does not appear increase the headcutting and therefore potential impacts related to flooding would be less than significant. The proposal would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site, change the rate and amount of surface runoff, expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding nor would the project change the amount of surface water in any water body.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

LAND USE/PLANNING Would the project

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
27. Land Use				
a) Result in a substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Affect land use within a city sphere of influence and/or within adjacent city or county boundaries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan, GIS database, Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact: a-b) The subject site is currently designated by the County General Plan as Open Space: Rural (OS: RUR) and designated by County Ordinance No. 348 as Natural Assets (N-A). The existing and proposed land uses are currently consistent with the existing designations as well as the planned use for the area. The site is located adjacent to the City of Blythe Sphere of Influence but is not located within the sphere's boundary.

Mitigation: No mitigation measures are required

Monitoring: No monitoring measures are required

28. Planning				
a) Be consistent with the site's existing or proposed zoning?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Be compatible with existing surrounding zoning?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be compatible with existing and planned surrounding land uses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be consistent with the land use designations and policies of the General Plan (including those of any applicable Specific Plan)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Disrupt or divide the physical arrangement of an established community (including a low-income or minority community)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan Land Use Element, Staff review, GIS database

Findings of Fact: The subject site is currently designated by the Riverside County General Plan as Open Space: Rural (OS: RUR) and designated by County Ordinance No. 348 as Natural Assets (N-A). The existing and proposed land uses are currently consistent with the existing designations, the planned use for the area as well as General Plan policies. The proposal is consistent with existing surrounding zoning as the surrounding zones allow similar uses as well. The project will not disrupt or divide the physical arrangement of an established community.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

MINERAL RESOURCES Would the project

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
29. Mineral Resources				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region or the residents of the State?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be an incompatible land use located adjacent to a State classified or designated area or existing surface mine?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or property to hazards from proposed, existing or abandoned quarries or mines?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure OS-5 "Mineral Resources Area"

Findings of Fact: This site is located in an area classified as MRZ-4 (Areas of no known mineral occurrence). The site has not been designated as being of regional or statewide significance relative to mineral resources. The project is a surface mine which results in the beneficial use of the aggregates at this site. The mining operation is governed under SMARA and, thus, inspected by the County mine inspector a minimum of one time per year to confirm the mine's operational status and condition; and, the mining operation is also required to maintain adequate financial assurance for reclamation of the mine site.

Mitigation: Pursuant to SMARA requirements and Conditions of Approval 20.PLANNING.1 and 10.BS GRADE.3, financial assurance for reclaiming the surface mine shall be updated annually and maintained for the life of the mining operation. The update and maintenance of the financial assurance estimates and mechanisms are the responsibility of the mine owner and operator.

Monitoring: Pursuant to SMARA annual inspection requirements and financial assurance requirements, Condition of Approval 20.PLANNING.1 and 10.BS GRADE.3, financial assurance for reclaiming the surface mine shall be reviewed and approved by the County and the California Department of Conservation on an annual basis.

NOISE Would the project result in

Definitions for Noise Acceptability Ratings

Where indicated below, the appropriate Noise Acceptability Rating(s) has been checked.

NA - Not Applicable

A - Generally Acceptable

B - Conditionally Acceptable

C - Generally Unacceptable

D - Land Use Discouraged

30. Airport Noise

a) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

NA A B C D

b) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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project area to excessive noise levels?

NA A B C D

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure S-19 "Airport Locations," County of Riverside Airport Facilities Map, Riverside County GIS

Findings of Fact: The subject site is not located within two miles of a public airport or private airstrip and therefore; nor is the subject site located within the boundaries of an Airport Influence Area or within an Airport Compatibility Zone and therefore, would not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels. No impacts are anticipated.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

31. Railroad Noise

NA A B C D

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure C-1 "Circulation Plan", GIS database, On-site Inspection

Findings of Fact: The subject site is not located in close enough proximity to a railroad for potential significant impacts related to railroad noise to occur. No significant railroad noise impacts are anticipated.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

32. Highway Noise

NA A B C D

Source: On-site Inspection, Project Application Materials, Riverside County GIS

Findings of Fact: U.S. Highway 95 runs to the south of the subject site; however, noise from Hwy 95 would not impact the project. No significant highway noise impacts are anticipated.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

33. Other Noise

NA A B C D

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Source: Project Application Materials, GIS database

Findings of Fact: No other noise sources are anticipated to impact the subject site.

Mitigation: No mitigation measures required

Monitoring: No monitoring measures required

34. Noise Effects on or by the Project

a) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan, Table N-1 ("Land Use Compatibility for Community Noise Exposure"); Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact: As the project proposes to expand an existing mining operation, it is not anticipated that noise levels at the site would increase. Since the proposal would also extend the life of the permit, it is reasonable to assume that noise associated with the site would last longer than previously approved; however, the specific noise levels will remain consistent.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

POPULATION AND HOUSING Would the project

35. Housing

a) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a demand for additional housing, particularly housing affordable to households earning 80% or less of the County's median income?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Affect a County Redevelopment Project Area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) Cumulatively exceed official regional or local population projections?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Application Materials, GIS database, Riverside County General Plan Housing Element

Findings of Fact: a-f) As the proposal involves an existing mining operation, it is not anticipated that the proposal would displace existing housing or people, create a demand for additional housing, affect a County Redevelopment Project Area or cumulatively exceed official regional or local population projections. Growth will not be induced by the project. No impacts related to population and housing are anticipated.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

PUBLIC SERVICES Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered government facilities or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

36. Fire Services

Source: Riverside County General Plan Safety Element

Findings of Fact: No significant adverse impacts related to Fire Services are anticipated

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

37. Sheriff Services

Source: Riverside County General Plan, Riverside County Sheriff Department's review

Findings of Fact: No significant adverse impacts associated with Sheriff Services are anticipated

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

38. Schools

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Source: Palo Verde Valley Unified School District correspondence, GIS database

Findings of Fact: No significant impacts associated with Schools are anticipated.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

39. Libraries

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Riverside County General Plan

Findings of Fact: No significant impacts associated with Libraries are anticipated

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

40. Health Services

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Riverside County General Plan

Findings of Fact: No significant impacts associated with Health Services are anticipated

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

RECREATION

41. Parks and Recreation

a) Would the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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b) Would the project include the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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c) Is the project located within a Community Service Area (CSA) or recreation and park district with a Community Parks and Recreation Plan (Quimby fees)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Source: GIS database, Parks & Open Space Department Review, Staff Review

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Findings of Fact: a-c) The proposal does not include recreational facilities and does not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities nor does the proposal include the use of existing recreational facilities which may cause substantial physical deterioration of the facility. The subject site is not located within a CSA or within a Community Parks and Recreation Plan.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

42. Recreational Trails

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Riv. Co. 800-Scale Equestrian Trail Maps, Open Space and Conservation Map for Western County trail alignments

Findings of Fact: No recreational trails currently exist or are being proposed in the project area.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC Would the project

43. Circulation

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing a measure of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation, including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?

b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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d) Alter waterborne, rail or air traffic?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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e) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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f) Cause an effect upon, or a need for new or altered maintenance of roads?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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g) Cause an effect upon circulation during the project's construction?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------

h) Result in inadequate emergency access or access

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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to nearby uses?

i) Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs regarding public transit, bikeways or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise substantially decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Riverside County General Plan, Project Application Materials, Riverside County Transportation Department Review

Findings of Fact: a-i) State Route 95 is identified by the General Plan as a major arterial that runs north and south through the eastern portion of the Palo Verde Area Plan and more specifically to the south of the proposed site. The proposal would not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, policy or congestion management plan. Nor will the proposal result in a change to air traffic patterns, alter waterborne, rail or air traffic or substantially increase hazards due to a design feature. The proposal would not cause an increased effect upon or the need for new or altered maintenance of roads for the original approval under RCL00161, nor will the proposal cause an effect upon circulation during the project's construction as no new construction will be taking place. The proposal would not result in inadequate emergency access or access to nearby uses or conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs regarding public transit, bikeways or pedestrian facilities.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

44. Bike Trails

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Riverside County General Plan

Findings of Fact: There are no existing bike trails within the vicinity of the subject site nor does the project propose any bike trails.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures required

UTILITY AND SERVICE SYSTEMS Would the project

45. Water

a) Require or result in the construction of new water treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which would cause significant environmental effects?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Department of Environmental Health Review

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Findings of Fact: a-b) The expansion of the existing mining operation would not result in the construction of new water treatment facilities or the expansion of existing facilities nor would the proposal impact water service systems and supplies.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

46. Sewer

a) Require or result in the construction of new wastewater treatment facilities, including septic systems, or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which would cause significant environmental effects?

b) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may service the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

Source: Department of Environmental Health Review

Findings of Fact: a) The proposal would not result in the construction of new wastewater treatment facilities or the expansion of existing facilities. Therefore, no significant impacts associated with the construction of such facilities are anticipated. Per the Riverside County Department of Environmental Health's review, any proposed onsite wastewater treatment system, and/or advanced treatment unit must be approved by Environmental Health.

b) The capacity of the existing septic system will be adequate.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

47. Solid Waste

a) Is the project served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

b) Does the project comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid wastes including the CIWMP (County Integrated Waste Management Plan)?

Source: Riverside County General Plan, Riverside County Waste Management District correspondence

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Findings of Fact:

a-b) The proposed project will not be served by a landfill or increase the demand for landfill capacity. It will comply with federal, state and local statues and regulations related to solid waste.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

48. Utilities

Would the project impact the following facilities requiring or resulting in the construction of new facilities or the expansion of existing facilities; the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

a) Electricity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Natural gas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Communications systems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Storm water drainage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Street lighting?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Other governmental services?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact: The proposal would not impact utilities in a manner that would result in the construction of new facilities or the expansion of new facilities.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

49. Energy Conservation

a) Would the project conflict with any adopted energy conservation plans?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact: The project would not conflict with any adopted energy conservation plans

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

OTHER

50. Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Staff review

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Findings of Fact: N/A

Mitigation: N/A

Monitoring: N/A

MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

51. Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Staff review, Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact: Implementation of the proposed project would not substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife populations to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, or reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.

52. Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, other current projects and probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Staff review, Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact: The project does not have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.

53. Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Staff review, Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact: The proposed project would not result in environmental effects which would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VI. EARLIER ANALYSES

Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration as per California Code of Regulations, Section 15063 (c) (3) (D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:

Earlier Analyses Used, if any:

Anderson, Larry and O'Connell, Daniel R. "Seismotectonic Study of the Northern Portion of The Lower Colorado River, Arizona, California and Nevada." April 1993.

L&L Environmental, INC. "A Baseline Vegetative Study, for The Palo Verde Irrigation District Blythe Mine Expansion Project, County of Riverside, California." June 2010.

L&L Environmental, INC. "Desert Tortoise Presence/Absence Survey for The Palo Verde Irrigation District Blythe Mine Expansion Project, Riverside County, California." June 17, 2010.

L&L Environmental, INC. "General Biological Report for Palo Verde Irrigation District, Blythe Mine Expansion Project, Riverside County, California." January 30, 2012.

L&L Environmental, INC. "Revised Paleontological Resources Assessment for the Proposed Palo Verde Irrigation District Blythe Mine Expansion Project, County of Riverside, California." August 23, 2012.

Metzger, D.G.; Loeltz, O.G. and Irelna, Burdge. "Geohydrology of the Parker-Blythe-Cibola Area, Arizona and California." 1973.

Southland Engineering. Hydrology Study, Amended for Plan of Operation and Reclamation Plan 161-R1, Palo Verde Irrigation District's North Gravel Pit." August 2012.

United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management-Palm Springs- South Coast Field Office. "Final Environmental Assessment-EA Number DOI-BLM-CA-060-0011-0023-EA." August 22, 2011.

United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. "Soil Survey of Palo Verde Area, California." September 1974.

Location Where Earlier Analyses, if used, are available for review:

Location: County of Riverside Planning Department
4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor
Riverside, CA 92505

VII. AUTHORITIES CITED

Authorities cited: Public Resources Code Sections 21083 and 21083.05; References: California Government Code Section 65088.4; Public Resources Code Sections 21080(c), 21080.1, 21080.3, 21082.1, 21083, 21083.05, 21083.3, 21093, 21094, 21095 and 21151; *Sundstrom v. County of*

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Mendocino (1988) 202 Cal.App.3d 296; *Leonoff v. Monterey Board of Supervisors* (1990) 222 Cal.App.3d 1337; *Eureka Citizens for Responsible Govt. v. City of Eureka* (2007) 147 Cal.App.4th 357; *Protect the Historic Amador Waterways v. Amador Water Agency* (2004) 116 Cal.App.4th at 1109; *San Franciscans Upholding the Downtown Plan v. City and County of San Francisco* (2002) 102 Cal.App.4th 656.

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Exhibit A

August 8, 2013

Rebuttal to presented EAIS and call for EIR

Page 2-Section 3 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The check boxes for AESTHETICS, AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES and HYDROLOGY/WATER QUALITY should be checked.

A.-AESTHETICS-The mountain ridge that has been mined at the front is ugly for over two miles down highway 95 towards town and is still visible up to a quarter mile from the mountain range.

B.-AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES-Contrary to the EAIS, there is a small forest on the east side of the quarry that will be destroyed if the new boundaries are used.

C.-HYDROLOGY/WATER QUALITY-The Hydrology at this site is lousy and will be worse if the new boundaries are used. Especially if at the end of the mining when they try to return it to a natural state, which is required.

Page 3-Section 4 DETERMINATION

The check box for a mandatory EIR should be checked. The mine site is in a potentially sensitive historic and natural wildlife area that must be preserved.

Page 5-Section 1, part a & b AESTHETICS

Rebuttal to part a-The mountain ridge that has been mined at the front is ugly for over two miles down highway 95 towards town and is still visible up to a quarter mile from the mountain range. Furthermore upon climbing just the first bluff of the mesa, less than a quarter mile from the highway 95, and the mined mountain front was completely visible approx. 2 miles away.

Rebuttal to part b-The damage to scenic resources, forest, rock out-croppings, and unique landmark features will result in the creation of an aesthetically offensive site that is open to the public eye not only from the highway, but as a recreational trail.

FINDINGS OF FACTS-The underlined sentences on this pages FoF are wrong. The upper slope can be seen to 6th Ave, 3 miles away from the first bluff and in severely NOT like the surrounding slopes. The mountain is dark grey and brown, while the mined slope is stark white. Furthermore the mined slope is still visible within a quarter mile from the bluff of the mesa.

Page 6-Section 3 OTHER LIGHTING ISSUES

The lights at this mining area have been severely unbearable to anyone within 3 miles of it. I live over 2 miles away and the mining that occurs there is like a lighthouse beacon until after midnight on many occasions. Mitigation should include blinders on the work lights to direct them only into the quarry area.

Page 7-Section 5c FOREST

There is a small forest in the east side stream bed that if mining occurred in the manner presented would cause its destruction either from direct mining or loss of the regularly directed flow.

Page 8 & 9-Section 7a-g BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Mining at this site, especially near the east side streambed would cause the destruction of a small forested area and important rock out-croppings on the east of the streambed and most important a seasonal meadow that supports small birds, eagles and numerous other wildlife including deer, coyote and bobcat. I myself have seen coyote and found evidence (tracks and droppings) of all these creatures in this area and know that it is extremely important for their survival. If you realize that these mountains are somewhat arid, yet these creatures still live there and because this forested area is one of the only places that hold water for them and support vegetation, then it is the number one area around for them to exist.

In the FoF part a- It states it is not located within the boundaries of a Habitat Conservation Plan, yet the Marias Mts. are a protected Federal Wilderness area.

In Part d- It quotes biological documentation, yet I am wondering if any kind of wildlife study has been done at all recently to determine the population of animals that benefit from this one area alone.

Part e- States the west side streambed doesn't flow onto the site. Yes true, especially due to an ugly wall of boulders that directs stream run-off, that if this site is to be reclaimed to its natural state must be removed. This would allow run-off from the west side stream bed to enter the quarry area thus increasing the size of the forested area.

Part f- States the soil types are not consistent with pools or habitat, yet there is definitely a seasonal pool and year-round habitat there, regardless of the fact that no Fairy-Shrimp were found.

Part g- Local policies have nothing to do with Federally protected habitat environments.

My Finding of Facts are that there is still much mitigation to be done concerning the preservation of the small forested area, the directing of run-off to preserve the seasonal pool and to take into account the fact that wildlife exists there and must be accounted for through all steps of the operation as well as determining a path to natural reclamation without any evidence of man's presence.

Page 10-Section 8, part a & b-CULTURAL RESOURCES, Historic Resources

In the northern section of the east side of the outlined mine area, next to the streambed, there is a dirt roadbed that was created during World War 2 as part of Patton's tank training ground. The track is quite clear and is a reminder of the sacrifice this country made during those times. But also this track runs directly parallel with the noted Bouse formation that is described in Section 10 as requiring investigation from a State Paleontologist.

Page 15-Section 16a-17a-GEOLOGICAL HAZARDS/SLOPES

The real problem here is that without proper grading and re-inforcement of canyon opening in the west side quarry area, the run-off from the streambeds especially down the west side canyon will sustain increased water flow from the east side streambed when the quarry site is reclaimed. Because water flow from the east side will run across the quarry area and out the west side streambed. Also the streambeds themselves on both sides of the quarry must remain untouched by excavation because of the streambeds on both sides have pristine rock out-croppings.

Page 16--Section 18a-19a-SOILS/EROSION

SAME AS ABOVE-FoF of this section will not hold up in the final scenario of site reclamation, because both streambeds should be graded to converge into the center of the quarry area and to the east side streambed to create a large pond area that will contain run-off from both streams.

Page 20-Section 25 a&d-HYDROLOGY/WATER

SAME AS ABOVE

Page 21-Section 26a-d-FLOODPLAINS

SAME AS ABOVE

Page 22-Section 28b-PLANNING

Incompatible with the designation of protected Federal Wilderness area of the surrounding Marias Mts.

Page 23-Section 29a-b-MINERAL RESOURCES

The Crawford Mine directly south of this mine has already been shut down by the EPA for over-mining and now due to that fact is trying to re-start this mine. The loss of mineral resources from the mining in this area is cruel and staggering. Both these mines should be shut down to secure resources for future generations, not just the here and now.

Page 28-Section 42-RECREATIONAL TRAILS

This area is classified a Federal Wilderness Recreational Area by the United States Government and must be treated as such. With proper access given to anyone wishing to gain entry to any of the canyons located around this quarry for the purpose of hiking and scenic enjoyment.

Page 32-Section 51, 52, 53-MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is an aggregate rock quarry with seasonal streambeds on both sides and good possibility of severe flash flooding in monsoon and winter times. The streambed along Area A is a pristine wildlife area with native trees, bushes and grass preserved by the existence of an older cement retention dam of approx. 30' high by 30' wide. On the other side between the west side of the quarry and Area D is another streambed feed by two separate canyons convening at the top of the existing quarry with one containing a pristine solid rock falls that is dangerously close to the mining operation.

Comments: If Area B is removed, Area C exposed machined quarry mountain slope will be more exposed by approx. 100 feet more than is currently exposed to Highway 95 and 2nd, 4th and 6th St.'s within three miles away. Creating a permanent ugly scarified surface for the public.

Along west side of Area B is possible historic WWII staging area. And in the southwest corner, in the streambed are unusual pristine rock formations and also in the east side of the east streambed. One major problem with the machining away of Area B is that the streambed along Area A would lose run-off through Area B and the pristine wildlife area along Area A could be destroyed from loss of water retention. Because this area is dammed at Point E, which is necessary for water retention all along Area A, removal of Area B would cause all run-off to flow into the streambed onto the other side of the quarry and not only ruin one wildlife area, but cause this other canyon severe erosion and loss of habitat.

The answer to possibly all problems would be to follow the plan as outlined on the RIT map with mining into already disturbed Area D down to the present level of the existing quarry. The erosion considered because of the possible run-off from other areas could be curtailed by use of short piled rock boulder dams at either end of the mineable Area D of the kind that are already in use at this quarry area. Then to preserve Area B because of its historic and pristine appearance and so thereby reduce the mineable area in Area B to the area defined on the map.

The problem with mining in this quarry area is that they are dangerously close to pristine wildlife areas and natural mountain formations and they are severely over-mining in this quarry, referred to as 'PVID North Gravel Pit' and also to the quarry adjacent to it, referred to as 'PVID South Gravel Pit' or 'Crawford Mine'. Both these mines have been re-opened only in the past 2-3 years and have already been almost totally mined out. When these resources are gone there are no more areas for aggregate mining left. Because of their greed for revenue from this 'easy pickens' type of wholesale mines, the aggregate needed for future homes and buildings in Blythe will be sold off to the highest bidder and many of those bidders aren't even from the Blythe area. With all the rock and aggregate that has been removed from these mines recently who could say more the recipient is. But I do know that enough of it has been taken to build a dozen towns of Blythe and it is sad that this place will never benefit from it. Because it naturally belongs to those people who live here, and not in Desert Center or Indio or any other points beyond.

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM: INITIAL STUDY

Environmental Assessment (E.A.) Number: 42215
Project Case Type (s) and Number(s): Reclamation Plan No. 161, Revised Permit No. 1
Lead Agency Name: County of Riverside Planning Department
Address: P.O. Box 1409, Riverside, CA 92502-1409
Contact Person: David L. Jones
Telephone Number: 951-955-6863
Applicant's Name: Palo Verde Irrigation District
Applicant's Address: 180 West 14th Avenue, Blythe, CA 92225

I. PROJECT INFORMATION

A. **Project Description:** Reclamation Plan No. 161, Revision No. 1 (RCL00161R1) proposes to expand the existing mining operation located on BLM land from the existing approximately 14.3 acres to approximately 29.3 acres including mining of approximately 1.99 million cubic yards of material and to provide for 37 years of mining operations (expires 2050). The project site located on BLM land north of US Highway 95, east of Midland Road and south of Big Maria Mountains. The site is approximately 43 gross acres.

B. **Type of Project:** Site Specific ; Countywide ; Community ; Policy .

C. **Total Project Area:** 600 acres (Total Acreage of site)

Residential Acres: N/A	Lots: N/A	Units: N/A	Projected No. of Residents: N/A
Commercial Acres: N/A	Lots: N/A	Sq. Ft. of Bldg. Area: N/A	Est. No. of Employees: N/A
Industrial Acres: N/A	Lots: N/A	Sq. Ft. of Bldg. Area: N/A	Est. No. of Employees: N/A
Other: 29.3			

D. **Assessor's Parcel No(s):** 815-131-003

E. **Street References:** North of US Highway 95, east of Midland Road and south of Big Maria Mountains.

F. **Section, Township & Range Description or reference/attach a Legal Description:**
Section 27, Township 5 South, Range 23 East

G. **Brief description of the existing environmental setting of the project site and its surroundings:** The subject site is a 600 acre fairly flat and barren parcel. The site contains very little vegetation and a mining operation currently exists on-site. The current mining operation covers approximately 14.3 acres of the parcel. The areas surrounding the subject site are barren as well with the exception of existing agricultural uses to the south of the subject site.

II. APPLICABLE GENERAL PLAN AND ZONING REGULATIONS

WRONG!

A. **General Plan Elements/Policies:**

1. **Land Use:** LU 20.2, LU 20.3, LU 20.4 and LU 21.1
2. **Circulation:** N/A

3. Multipurpose Open Space: OS 14.1, OS 14.2, OS 14.4

4. Safety: N/A

5. Noise: N/A

6. Housing: N/A

7. Air Quality: AQ 1.4 and AQ 4.10

B. General Plan Area Plan(s): Palo Verde Valley

C. Foundation Component(s): Open Space

D. Land Use Designation(s): Rural

E. Overlay(s), if any: N/A

F. Policy Area(s), if any: N/A

G. Adjacent and Surrounding:

1. Area Plan(s): Palo Verde Valley

2. Foundation Component(s): Open Space and Agriculture

3. Land Use Designation(s): Rural and Agriculture

4. Overlay(s), if any: N/A

5. Policy Area(s), if any: N/A

H. Adopted Specific Plan Information

1. Name and Number of Specific Plan, if any: N/A

2. Specific Plan Planning Area, and Policies, if any: N/A

I. Existing Zoning: Natural Assets

J. Proposed Zoning, if any: N/A

K. Adjacent and Surrounding Zoning: Natural Assets, Controlled Development Areas, 10 Acre Minimum Lot Size, Rural Residential.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below (x) would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" or "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

Aesthetics

Hazards & Hazardous Materials

Recreation

Agriculture & Forest Resources

Hydrology / Water Quality

Transportation / Traffic

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | |

IV. DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

A PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/NEGATIVE DECLARATION WAS NOT PREPARED

I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project, described in this document, have been made or agreed to by the project proponent. A **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.

A PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/NEGATIVE DECLARATION WAS PREPARED

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, **NO NEW ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED** because (a) all potentially significant effects of the proposed project have been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration pursuant to applicable legal standards, (b) all potentially significant effects of the proposed project have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, (c) the proposed project will not result in any new significant environmental effects not identified in the earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, (d) the proposed project will not substantially increase the severity of the environmental effects identified in the earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, (e) no considerably different mitigation measures have been identified and (f) no mitigation measures found infeasible have become feasible.

I find that although all potentially significant effects have been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration pursuant to applicable legal standards, some changes or additions are necessary but none of the conditions described in California Code of Regulations, Section 15162 exist. An **ADDENDUM** to a previously-certified EIR or Negative Declaration has been prepared and will be considered by the approving body or bodies.

I find that at least one of the conditions described in California Code of Regulations, Section 15162 exist, but I further find that only minor additions or changes are necessary to make the previous EIR adequately apply to the project in the changed situation; therefore a **SUPPLEMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required that need only contain the information necessary to make the previous EIR adequate for the project as revised.

I find that at least one of the following conditions described in California Code of Regulations, Section 15162, exist and a **SUBSEQUENT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required: (1) Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; (2) Substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; or (3) New information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous EIR was certified as complete or the negative declaration was adopted, shows any the following: (A) The project will have

V. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000-21178.1), this Initial Study has been prepared to analyze the proposed project to determine any potential significant impacts upon the environment that would result from construction and implementation of the project. In accordance with California Code of Regulations, Section 15063, this Initial Study is a preliminary analysis prepared by the Lead Agency, the County of Riverside, in consultation with other jurisdictional agencies, to determine whether a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or an Environmental Impact Report is required for the proposed project. The purpose of this Initial Study is to inform the decision-makers, affected agencies, and the public of potential environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the proposed project.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
AESTHETICS Would the project				
1. Scenic Resources				
a) Have a substantial effect upon a scenic highway corridor within which it is located?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings and unique or landmark features; obstruct any prominent scenic vista or view open to the public; or result in the creation of an aesthetically offensive site open to public view?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure C-9 "Scenic Highways"

Findings of Fact: a-b) U.S. Highway 95 is referenced in the Palo Verde Valley Area Plan as a County Eligible Scenic Highway. U.S. Highway 95 runs to the south of the subject site. From Highway 95, southerly of 2nd Avenue, the upper slope of the existing pit appears the same as the surrounding slopes. From Highway 95, northerly of 2nd Avenue, the upper slope of the pit cannot be seen since the bluff of the mesa obstructs the view and therefore preserving the scenic views that are visible from the highway. A significant impact would occur if the project caused a substantial change in the views of the area, or a permanent change to the views of the site.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required.

WRONG!

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required.

2. Mt. Palomar Observatory				
a) Interfere with the nighttime use of the Mt. Palomar Observatory, as protected through Riverside County Ordinance No. 655?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: GIS database, Ord. No. 655 (Regulating Light Pollution)

Findings of Fact: The subject site is located approximately 134.43 miles from the Mt. Palomar Observatory which is outside of the zones set forth in County Ordinance No. 655, Regulating Light Pollution. Ordinance No. 655 identifies areas of concern for the observatory as Zone A (within a 15

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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mile radius of the observatory) and Zone B (within a 45 mile radius of the observatory). No significant impact to the Mt. Palomar Observatory is anticipated.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

3. Other Lighting Issues

a) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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b) Expose residential property to unacceptable light levels?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Source: On-site Inspection, Project Application Description

Findings of Fact: a-b) The project site is in a relatively undeveloped area with few light sources and residential uses. The hours of operation (Monday-Friday from 7 am to 6pm) for the mine that were established with the original approval of RCL00161 will remain ineffect. This revision does propose any new lighting sources; therefore, potential lighting impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

AGRICULTURE & FOREST RESOURCES Would the project

4. Agriculture				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

b) Conflict with existing agricultural zoning, agricultural use or with land subject to a Williamson Act contract or land within a Riverside County Agricultural Preserve?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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c) Cause development of non-agricultural uses within 300 feet of agriculturally zoned property (Ordinance No. 625 "Right-to-Farm")?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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d) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure OS-2 "Agricultural Resources," GIS database, and Project Application Materials.

Findings of Fact: The subject site has not been identified as being located within a Riverside County Agricultural Preserve, nor has the site been mapped or identified as farmland or as being located

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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within an agricultural zone. Therefore, the proposed project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to a non-agricultural use, nor would the proposal conflict with any existing agricultural zoning or land subject to a Williamson Act contract or land within a Riverside County Agricultural Preserve. As the proposed project is a revision to an existing surface mining permit, ground disturbance has already occurred at the site. No significant impacts to agriculture and forest resources are anticipated.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
5. Forest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
a) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Govt. Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure OS-3 "Parks, Forests and Recreation Areas," and Project Application Materials.

Findings of Fact: The subject site has not been mapped or identified as forest land, timberland or timberland zoned as Timberland Production. Therefore, the proposal would not conflict with the existing zoning of or cause the re-zoning of lands classified as forest, timberland or timberland zoned as Timberland Production. The proposal would not result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. Lastly, the proposal does not involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No significant impacts to forest land are anticipated.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

AIR QUALITY Would the project

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
6. Air Quality Impacts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				
d) Expose sensitive receptors which are located within 1 mile of the project site to project-substantial point source emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve the construction of a sensitive receptor located within one mile of an existing substantial point source emitter?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: MDAQMD review, Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact: The subject site is located within the Mojave Desert Air Basin. Upon review of the proposal by MDAQMD, the district didn't identify any significant impacts that the project would create as it relates to air quality. However, the district did recommend the submission of an applicable permit application and the associated application and permit fees to the district. MDAQMD permits are renewed on an annual basis.

Mitigation: The applicant has been conditioned to submit the applicable permit application and associated fees to the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District and to renew the permit on an annual basis. The mining operation shall also comply with mining dust control provisions equivalent to MDAQMD's Rule 403.2.

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES Would the project

7. Wildlife & Vegetation

a) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state conservation plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any endangered, or threatened species, as listed in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (Sections 670.2 or 670.5) or in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations (Sections 17.11 or 17.12)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Wildlife Service?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
f) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: GIS database, On-site inspection, and General Biological Report prepared by L&L Environmental, Inc.

Findings of Fact:

- a) The proposed project is not located within the boundaries of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state conservation plan.
- b) The project area has the potential to support desert tortoise. The current mine area is surrounded by desert tortoise exclusion fencing. A survey was conducted which included the planned area of mine expansion and an addition zone of influence in order to evaluate probability of impacts to tortoises. Based upon these results, probability of impact is low.
- c) One special status species was identified onsite, Alverson's foxtail cactus (*Coryphantha alversonii*).
- d) The biological documentation provided did not identify any impacts to the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or to established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or potential to impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.
- e) USGS mapped fresh water flows through the ephemeral streams that are present both east and west of the proposed mine expansion area. The mapped ephemeral drainage visible at the central western edge of the survey area presently flows along the west side of the project area and not onsite.
- f) Soil types are not consistent with an alkali playa or vernal pool complex and pools or depressions characteristic of vernal habitat were not noted as present on the subject property. No fairy shrimp or fairy shrimp habitat was observed during this study.
- g) The proposed project does not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources.

WRONG!

Mitigation:

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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MM BIO-1 – Prior to expanding the mine, a clearance survey for desert tortoise shall be conducted just prior to extending the desert tortoise exclusion fencing that is now present. Following that survey and relocation and/or expansion of the fenced area, a second clearance survey within the entire fenced desert tortoise exclusion area should be performed in order to insure no tortoises were trapped inside the fencing during the active mine exclusion zone expansion procedure.

MM BIO-2 – During clearing of undisturbed areas, cactus species shall be transplanted and stored for later use during revegetation following the completion of mining activity.

Monitoring:

The following items shall be investigated by Riverside County Planning Department, Environmental Programs Division (EPD) staff during the annual inspection.

1. The entire length of the desert tortoise fence shall be inspected to ensure that it has not been compromised. Any damage to the fence shall be repaired immediately by the mine operator. If EPD staff determines that there was significant potential for tortoises to enter the site, due to the size of the damaged section of fence or the time that it has remained in disrepair, a desert tortoise clearance survey may be required. The mine operator should also be reminded that it is their responsibility to maintain the fence at all times throughout the year.
2. Ensure that the project is not impacting the drainages located east and west of the project footprint.

CULTURAL RESOURCES Would the project

8. Historic Resources

a) Alter or destroy an historic site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in California Code of Regulations, Section 15064.5?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Application Materials, Riverside County Archaeologist review

WRONG!

Findings of Fact: a-b) The proposed project would not alter or destroy an historic site nor would the proposed project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Mitigation: Planning Department Conditions of Approval 10.PLANNING.30 and 10.PLANNING.31 explains the necessary steps that the permit holder must take in the event that human remains or cultural resources are discovered during ground disturbing activities at the subject site.

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

9. Archaeological Resources

a) Alter or destroy an archaeological site.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Section 15064.5?				
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Application Materials, Riverside County Archaeologist review

Findings of Fact: ~~The subject site has not been identified as a known archaeological site nor has the proposal been identified to potentially cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource, disturb any human remains or restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area. No significant impacts to archaeological resources are anticipated.~~

Mitigation: Planning Department Conditions of Approval 10.PLANNING.30 and 10.PLANNING.31 explains the necessary steps that the permit holder must take in the event that human remains or cultural resources are discovered during ground disturbing activities at the subject site.

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

WRONG!

10. Paleontological Resources

a) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource, or site, or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure OS-8 "Paleontological Sensitivity", PDP01414 - L&L Environmental, Inc., "Revised Paleontological Resources Assessment for the Proposed Palo Verde Irrigation District Blyth (sic) Mine Expansion Project, County of Riverside, California", dated October 15, 2010, Revised: August 23, 2012, September 25, 2012, December 7, 2012.

Findings of Fact: ~~Mining of aggregate at the current quarry site could cause direct impacts to surficial and buried paleontological resources due to ground-disturbing activities, if not avoided. Impact to paleontological resources during mining operations would be considered adverse with moderate to high probability (area-wide) of long-term impact.~~

IMPORTANT!

Mitigation:

- Planned excavation activities will avoid surface and buried paleontological resources in underlying Bouse Formation of high paleontological potential (BLM 2007, 2008); however, buried paleontological resources in the underlying Quaternary alluvium-Unit 3 deposits maybe (sic) impacted by ongoing mining operations.
- The following mitigation measures have been developed for implementation in the event that either the Bouse Formation or the Quaternary alluvium-Unit 3 cannot be avoided during mining operations:

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in ground subsidence?

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure S-7 "Documented Subsidence Areas Map"

Findings of Fact: A portion of the site is mapped as being susceptible to subsidence (southern approximate half). However, the projects do not propose any structures.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

16. Other Geologic Hazards

a) Be subject to geologic hazards, such as seiche, mudflow, or volcanic hazard?

Source: Project Application Materials, Riverside County Geologist review

Findings of Fact: The subject site would not be subject to geologic hazards such as seiche, mudflow or volcanic hazard.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Mitigation Measures are required

17. Slopes

a) Change topography or ground surface relief features?

b) Create cut or fill slopes greater than 2:1 or higher than 10 feet?

c) Result in grading that affects or negates subsurface sewage disposal systems?

Source: Riv. Co. 800-Scale Slope Maps, Project Application Materials, Geoloigst's review.

Findings of Fact: The mining operation does not create a significant change to topography and ground surface relief. The project proposes to construct final reclamation slopes at a ration no steeper than three (3) feet horizontal to one (1) foot vertical (3:1). The mining will not affect or negate subsurface sewage disposal systems.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Mitigation Measures are required; however, as slope review is a required item on the State of California SMARA annual mine inspection form (MRRC-1) and as required pursuant to Conditions of Approval 10.PLANNING.4 and 10.PLANNING.22, slopes will be evaluated and reported annually to the County by the mine operator/permittee.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
18. Soils				
a) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Section 1802.3.2 of the California Building Code (2007), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service Soil Surveys, Project Application Materials, On-site Inspection

Findings of Fact: The project is located in an area with minimal to no topsoil. The project is designed to minimize erosion through slope design, BMP's and overall pit design which contains all water within the site.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Mitigation Measures are required; however, as erosion review is a required item on the State of California SMARA annual mine inspection form (MRRC-1) and as required pursuant to Conditions of Approval 10.PLANNING.4, 10.PLANNING.22, and 10.PLANNING.34, slopes will be evaluated and reported annually to the County by the mine operator/permittee.

19. Erosion				
a) Change deposition, siltation, or erosion that may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed of a lake?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in any increase in water erosion either on or off site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service Soil Surveys

Findings of Fact: There are a number of streams that traverse the subject site. However, the mining operation avoids these streams, provides a protective berm between the stream on the west side of the mine pit, provides adequate setback from the stream on the east side of the pit, and the project is designed to minimize erosion through slope design, BMP's and overall pit design which contains all water within the site.

?

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Mitigation Measures are required; however, as erosion review is a required item on the State of California SMARA annual mine inspection form (MRRC-1) and as required pursuant to Conditions of Approval 10.PLANNING.4, 10.PLANNING.22, and 10.PLANNING.34, slopes will be evaluated and reported annually to the County by the mine operator/permittee

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Mitigation: No mitigation measures are required

Monitoring: No monitoring measures are required

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY Would the project

25. Water Quality Impacts

a) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area, as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Include new or retrofitted stormwater Treatment Control Best Management Practices (BMPs) (e.g. water quality treatment basins, constructed treatment wetlands), the operation of which could result in significant environmental effects (e.g. increased vectors or odors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County Flood Control District Flood Hazard Report/Condition, Project application materials.

Findings of Fact: The existing gravel pit is located between two drainage washes, one along the Westerly edge of the existing mine and the other wash along the Easterly edge of the proposed expansion. During the fall and winter months, rainfall will sheet flow off the surrounding hillsides towards the existing washes. The design of the gravel pit does not allow for any off-site storm water to enter the pit from either wash and does not allow any storm water to flow out of the pit into either wash. As proposed, the project would expand the existing surface mining permit operation at the subject site. The expansion would not alter the existing drainage pattern of the site, violate any wastewater standards or requirements, impact groundwater supplies, create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide

WRONG!

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. The project does not propose any type of housing, nor does the project propose to construct or relocate any structures. The proposal would not substantially degrade water quality, nor does it propose a new or retrofitted water quality treatment basins or treatment wetlands.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

26. Floodplains

Degree of Suitability in 100-Year Floodplains. As indicated below, the appropriate Degree of Suitability has been checked.

NA - Not Applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	U - Generally Unsuitable <input type="checkbox"/>	R - Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
a) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Changes in absorption rates or the rate and amount of surface runoff?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam (Dam Inundation Area)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure S-9 "100- and 500-Year Flood Hazard Zones," Figure S-10 "Dam Failure Inundation Zone," Riverside County Flood Control District Flood Hazard Report/Condition, GIS database

Findings of Fact: a-b) The subject site is not located within a Riverside County Flood District. Storm water flows created during a precipitation event are collected in the gravel pit and eventually soaks into the gravel. The gravel pit does not accept any off-site flows nor will any storm flows be discharged off-site. Review of the project by Riverside County Flood Control District indicates that a watershed of approximately 540-acres impacts along the westerly side of the site and any headcutting would not impact the upstream properties. This request does not appear increase the headcutting and therefore potential impacts related to flooding would be less than significant. The proposal would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site, change the rate and amount of surface runoff, expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding nor would the project change the amount of surface water in any water body.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

WRONG!

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

LAND USE/PLANNING Would the project

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
27. Land Use				
a) Result in a substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Affect land use within a city sphere of influence and/or within adjacent city or county boundaries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan, GIS database, Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact: a-b) The subject site is currently designated by the County General Plan as Open Space: Rural (OS: RUR) and designated by County Ordinance No. 348 as Natural Assets (N-A). The existing and proposed land uses are currently consistent with the existing designations as well as the planned use for the area. The site is located adjacent to the City of Blythe Sphere of Influence but is not located within the sphere's boundary.

Mitigation: No mitigation measures are required

Monitoring: No monitoring measures are required

28. Planning				
a) Be consistent with the site's existing or proposed zoning?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Be compatible with existing surrounding zoning?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be compatible with existing and planned surrounding land uses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be consistent with the land use designations and policies of the General Plan (including those of any applicable Specific Plan)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Disrupt or divide the physical arrangement of an established community (including a low-income or minority community)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan Land Use Element, Staff review, GIS database

Findings of Fact: The subject site is currently designated by the Riverside County General Plan as Open Space: Rural (OS: RUR) and designated by County Ordinance No. 348 as Natural Assets (N-A). The existing and proposed land uses are currently consistent with the existing designations, the planned use for the area as well as General Plan policies. The proposal is consistent with existing surrounding zoning as the surrounding zones allow similar uses as well. The project will not disrupt or divide the physical arrangement of an established community.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

WRONG!

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

MINERAL RESOURCES Would the project

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
29. Mineral Resources				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region or the residents of the State?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be an incompatible land use located adjacent to a State classified or designated area or existing surface mine?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or property to hazards from proposed, existing or abandoned quarries or mines?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Riverside County General Plan Figure OS-5 "Mineral Resources Area"

Findings of Fact: This site is located in an area classified as MRZ-4 (Areas of no known mineral occurrence). The site has not been designated as being of regional or statewide significance relative to mineral resources. The project is a surface mine which results in the beneficial use of the aggregates at this site. The mining operation is governed under SMARA and, thus, inspected by the County mine inspector a minimum of one time per year to confirm the mine's operational status and condition; and, the mining operation is also required to maintain adequate financial assurance for reclamation of the mine site.

IMPORTANT!

Mitigation: Pursuant to SMARA requirements and Conditions of Approval 20.PLANNING.1 and 10.BS GRADE.3, financial assurance for reclaiming the surface mine shall be updated annually and maintained for the life of the mining operation. The update and maintenance of the financial assurance estimates and mechanisms are the responsibility of the mine owner and operator.

Monitoring: Pursuant to SMARA annual inspection requirements and financial assurance requirements, Condition of Approval 20.PLANNING.1 and 10.BS GRADE.3, financial assurance for reclaiming the surface mine shall be reviewed and approved by the County and the California Department of Conservation on an annual basis.

NOISE Would the project result in

Definitions for Noise Acceptability Ratings

Where indicated below, the appropriate Noise Acceptability Rating(s) has been checked.

- NA - Not Applicable A - Generally Acceptable B - Conditionally Acceptable
- C - Generally Unacceptable D - Land Use Discouraged

30. Airport Noise				
a) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/>				
b) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Findings of Fact: a-c) The proposal does not include recreational facilities and does not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities nor does the proposal include the use of existing recreational facilities which may cause substantial physical deterioration of the facility. The subject site is not located within a CSA or within a Community Parks and Recreation Plan.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

42. Recreational Trails

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Source: Riv. Co. 800-Scale Equestrian Trail Maps, Open Space and Conservation Map for Western County trail alignments

Findings of Fact: No recreational trails currently exist or are being proposed in the project area.

Mitigation: No Mitigation Measures are required

WRONG!

Monitoring: No Monitoring Measures are required

TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC Would the project

43. Circulation

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing a measure of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation, including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?

b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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d) Alter waterborne, rail or air traffic?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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e) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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f) Cause an effect upon, or a need for new or altered maintenance of roads?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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g) Cause an effect upon circulation during the project's construction?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------

h) Result in inadequate emergency access or access

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Findings of Fact: N/A

Mitigation: N/A

Monitoring: N/A

MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

51. Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

Source: Staff review, Project Application Materials

WRONG!

Findings of Fact: Implementation of the proposed project would not substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife populations to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, or reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.

52. Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, other current projects and probable future projects)?

Source: Staff review, Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact: The project does not have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.

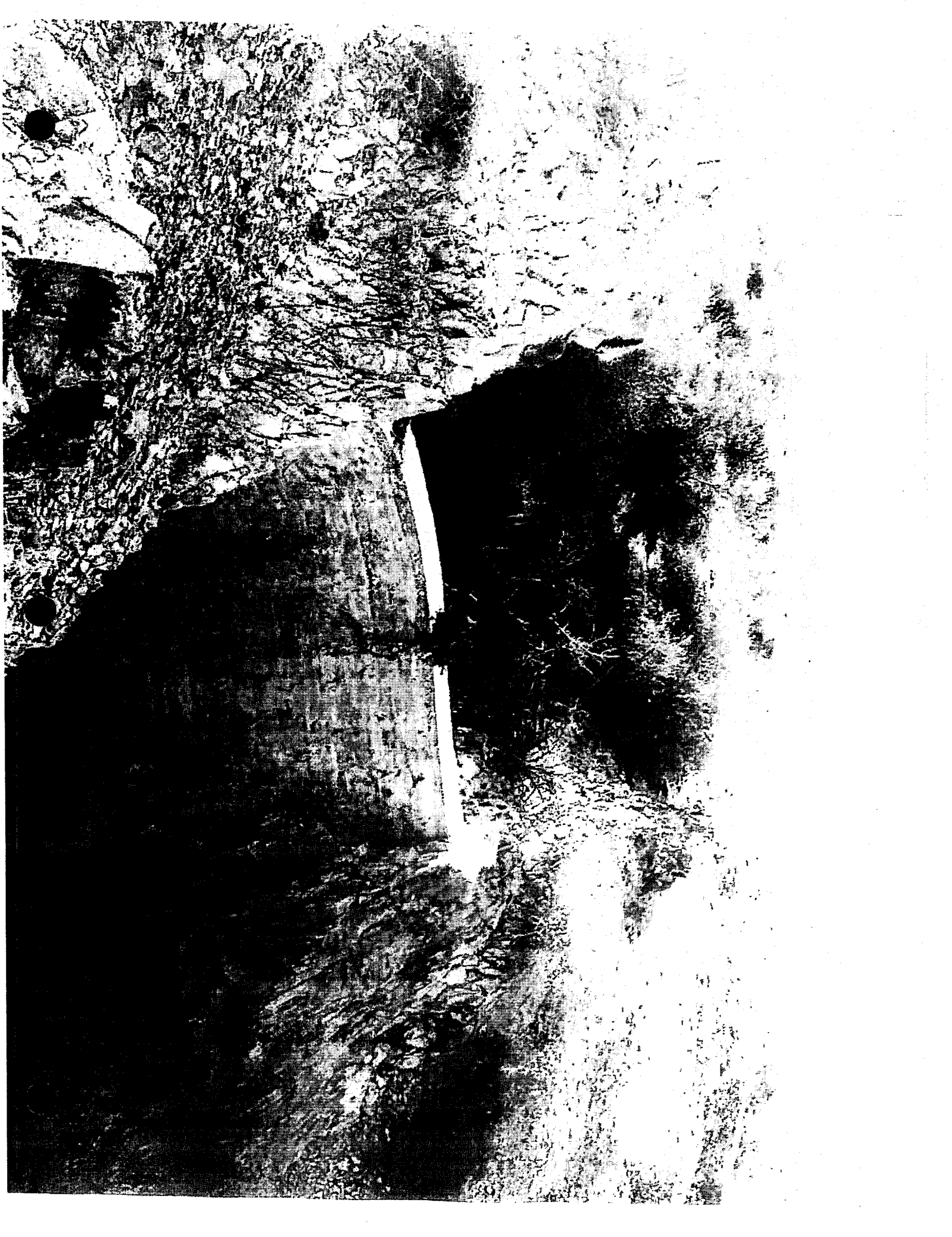
53. Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

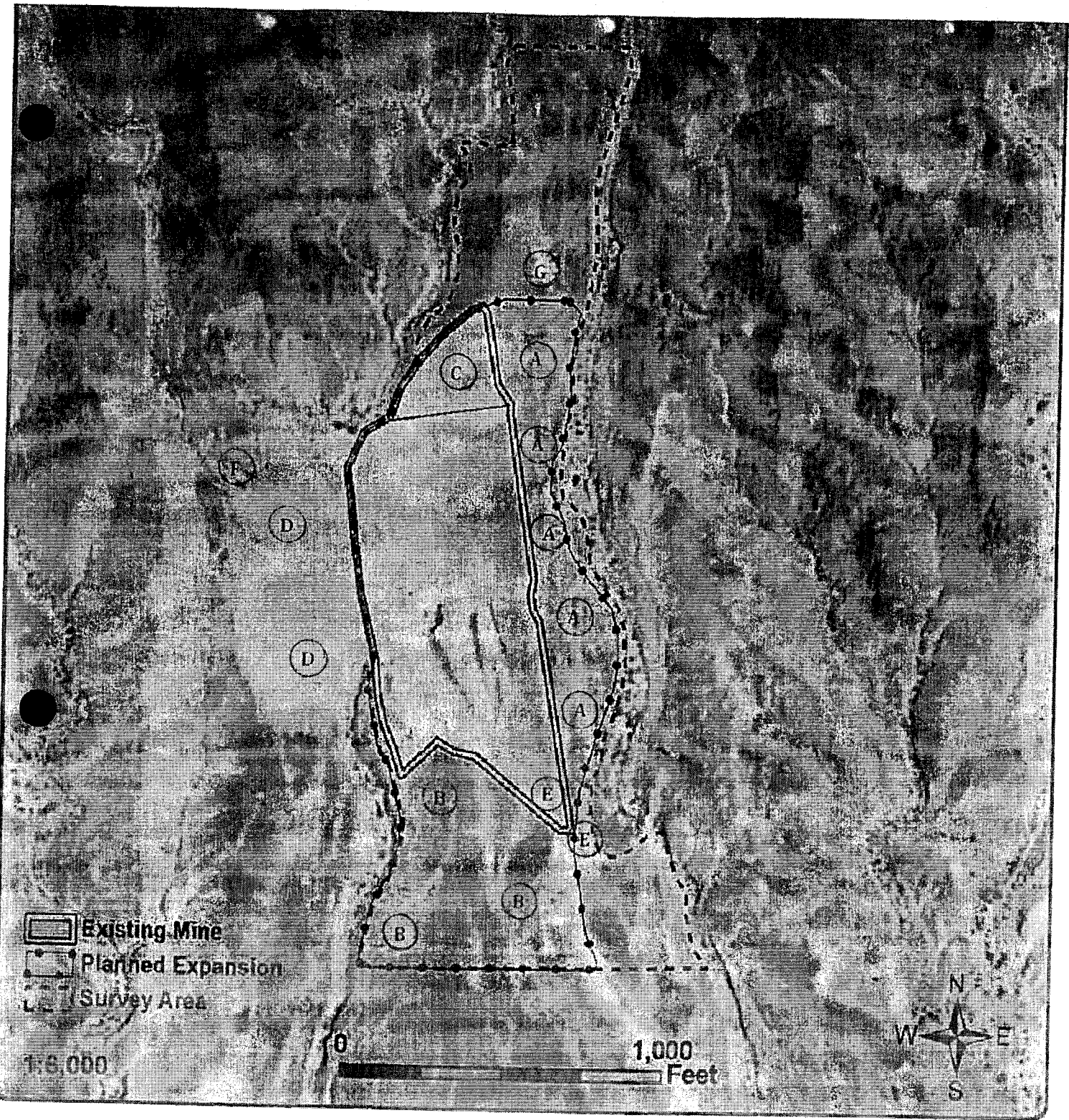
Source: Staff review, Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact: The proposed project would not result in environmental effects which would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.



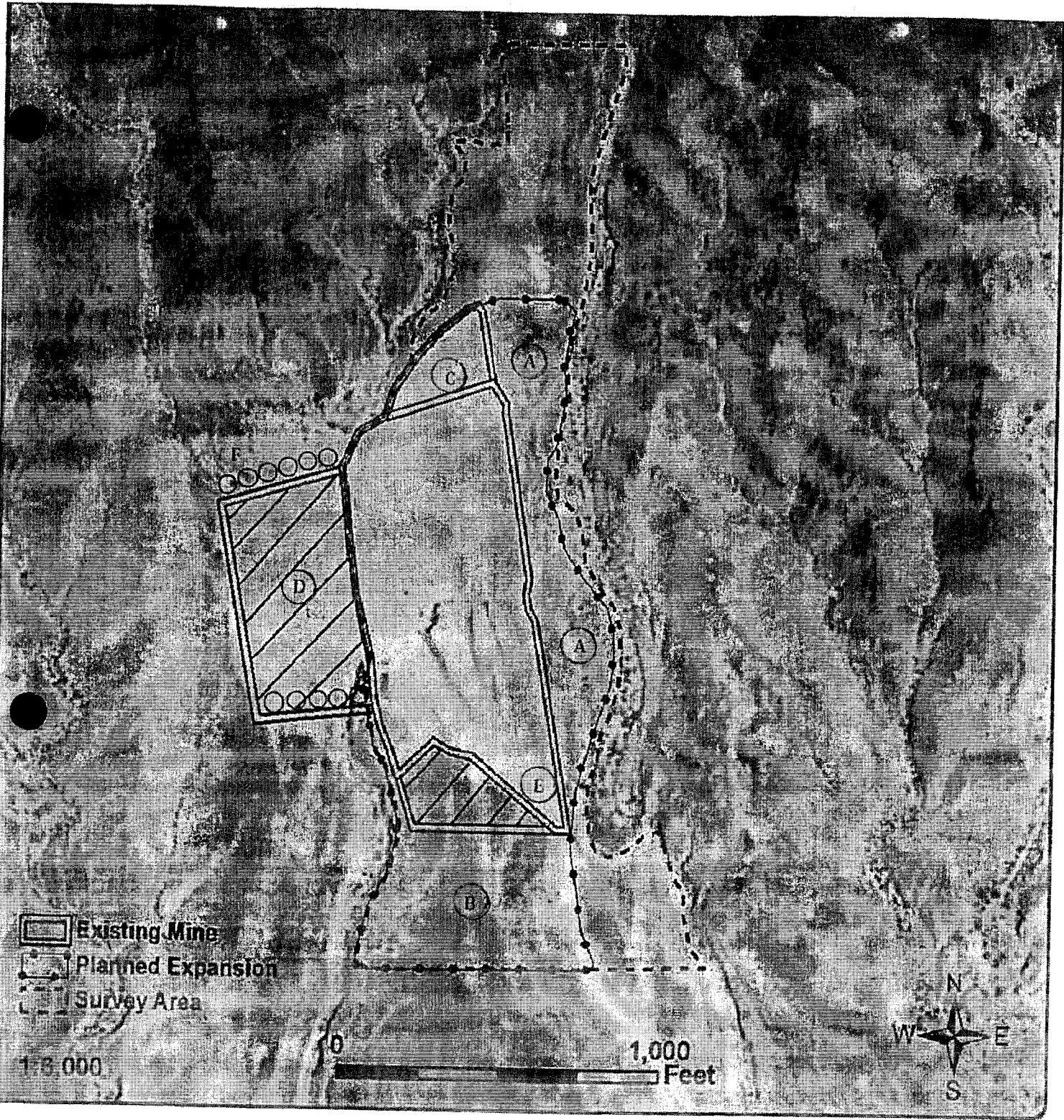






- Area A-Possible Indian artifact & historic WWII staging area, forested wildlife area.
- Area B-Pristine desert soil with relatively undisturbed dark rock top layer.
- Area C-Mountainous peak of approximate 500+'
- Area D-Older area that has been flattened uphill by a tractor blade.
- Point E-Old cement dam of 30' high by 30' wide.
- Area F-Pristine solid rock falls
- Area G-Archeological Bouse Formation

Aerial Photograph Figure 3
PVID NORTH GRAVEL PIT
County of Riverside, California
 (Photo provided by TerraServer, 5/27/2009)
 (Exhibit provided by L&L Environmental)
Southland Engineering
 2200 Business Way, Suite 100
 Riverside, CA 92051
 951-788-8100



- Area A-Possible Indian artifact & historic WWII staging area.
- Area B-Pristine desert soil with relatively undisturbed dark rock top layer.
- Area C-Mountainous peak of approximate 500+'
- Area D-Older area that has been flattened uphill by a tractor blade.
- Point E-Old cement dam of 30' high by 30' wide.
- Area F-Pristine solid rock falls
- Area O-Piled rock dam

Aerial Photograph Figure 3
PVID NORTH GRAVEL PIT
County of Riverside, California
 (Photo provided by TerraServer, 5/27/2009)
 (Exhibit provided by L&L Environmental)
Southland Engineering
 2200 Business Way, Suite 100
 Riverside, CA 92051
 951-700-0100

JUL 08 2013

LARRY W. WARD, CLERK

M. Meyer
Deputy

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
and
INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

PUBLIC HEARING has been scheduled, pursuant to Riverside County Land Use Ordinance No. 348, before the **RIVERSIDE COUNTY DIRECTOR'S HEARING** to consider the project shown below:

RECLAMATION PLAN NO. 161, REVISED NO. 1, - Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration - Applicant: Palo Verde Irrigation District - Fourth/Fourth Supervisorial District - Location: BLM Land North of Blythe, North of US Hwy 95, East of Midland Road, South of Big Maria Mountains - 48 Gross Acres - Zoning: Natural Assets (N-A), - **REQUEST:** RCL00161R1 proposes to expand the operation located on BLM land from the existing approx. 14.3 to approx. 29.4 acres, mining 11.5 million cu.yds. of material, and provide for 37 years of mining operations (expires in 2047). (Quasiposited)

Neg. Declaration
Mining
Clerk
Determination
1152

TIME OF HEARING: **1:30 pm** or as soon as possible thereafter
August 12, 2013
RIVERSIDE COUNTRY DESERT PERMIT CENTER
38-686 EL CERRITO ROAD
PALM DESERT, CA 92211

Removed: **JUL 08 2013**
By: 8.14.13
County of Riverside, State of California Dept.

For further information regarding this project, please contact Project Planner, Tamara Harrison, at 951-955-9721 or email tharriso@rctlma.org or go to the County Planning Department's Director's Hearing agenda web page at http://www.rctlma.org/planning/content/hearings/dh/current_dh.html.

The Riverside County Planning Department has determined that the above project will not have a significant effect on the environment and has recommended adoption of a mitigated negative declaration. The Planning Director will consider the proposed project and the proposed mitigated negative declaration, at the public hearing. The case file for the proposed project and the proposed mitigated negative declaration may be viewed Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the County of Riverside Planning Department, 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor, Riverside, CA 92501. For further information or an appointment, contact the project planner.

Any person wishing to comment on a proposed project may do so, in writing, between the date of this notice and the public hearing or appear and be heard at the time and place noted above. All comments received prior to the public hearing will be submitted to the Planning Director, and the Planning Director will consider such comments, in addition to any oral testimony, before making a decision on the proposed project.

If you challenge this project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing, described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Director at, or prior to, the public hearing. Be advised that, as a result of public hearings and comment, the Planning Director may amend, in whole or in part, the proposed project. Accordingly, the designations, development standards, design or improvements, or any properties or lands, within the boundaries of the proposed project, may be changed in a way other than specifically proposed.

Please send all written correspondence to:
RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
Attn: Tamara Harrison
P.O. Box 1409, Riverside, CA 92502-1409



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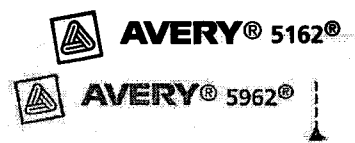
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Basic Printing Tips

Be sure to read the tips for your device, with every new format you use.

- Adjust printer settings for "Paper Type" to "Labels" to optimize print quality.
- Check the alignment of your printed labels by first printing on a plain sheet of paper. Hold the printed sheet behind the Avery label to check the alignment of your label. When satisfied with the layout, substitute the Avery product.
- Never use a sharp object to peel labels from your printer. If you are concerned about the safety of your printer, please refer to the user manual for your printer. To check for more information, visit www.avery.com.
- When printing labels on a dark or reflective surface, use a laser printer. Labels may not print on glossy or metallic surfaces. Labels may not print on a dark or reflective surface.

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Consejos Básicos de Impresión

Para consejos en español de cómo imprimir, visite la sección Ayuda de nuestra página y chatee con nosotros.

- Ajuste la configuración de su impresora para "Tipo de Papel" para optimizar la calidad de impresión.
- Compruebe la alineación de sus documentos imprimiendo primero en una hoja de papel común. Sostenga la hoja impresa detrás del producto Avery para verificar la impresión. Una vez comprobado, sustituya el documento por el producto Avery.
- Nunca use un objeto agudo para despegar las etiquetas de su impresora. Si está preocupado por la seguridad de su impresora, consulte el manual de su impresora. Para obtener más información, visite www.avery.com.
- No utilice la bandeja de salida de su impresora para almacenar etiquetas. Las etiquetas pueden dañarse si se almacenan en la bandeja de salida de su impresora.
- No use etiquetas Avery en superficies oscuras o reflectantes.

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**Riverside County Board of Supervisors
Request to Speak**

Submit request to Clerk of Board (right of podium),
Speakers are entitled to three (3) minutes, subject
to Board Rules listed on the reverse side of this form.

SPEAKER'S NAME: ~~LEA MERRILL~~ Allen Marfa

Address: 2200 BASSINSS WAY # 700

(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: Riverside

Zip: 92506

Phone #: 909-238-2436

Date: 10/8/13

Agenda #: 2-11

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

Support **Oppose** **Neutral**

Note: If you are here for an agenda item that is filed
for "Appeal", please state separately your position on
the appeal below:

Support **Oppose** **Neutral**

I give my 3 minutes to: _____

BOARD RULES

Requests to Address Board on "Agenda" Items:

You may request to be heard on a published agenda item. Requests to be heard must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board before the scheduled meeting time.

Requests to Address Board on items that are "NOT" on the Agenda:

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these rules, member of the public shall have the right to address the Board during the mid-morning "Oral Communications" segment of the published agenda. Said purpose for address must pertain to issues which are under the direct jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors. YOUR TIME WILL BE LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES.

Power Point Presentations/Printed Material:

Speakers who intend to conduct a formalized Power Point presentation or provide printed material must notify the Clerk of the Board's Office by 12 noon on the Monday preceding the Tuesday Board meeting, insuring that the Clerk's Office has sufficient copies of all printed materials and at least one (1) copy of the Power Point CD. Copies of printed material given to the Clerk (by Monday noon deadline) will be provided to each Supervisor. If you have the need to use the overhead "Elmo" projector at the Board meeting, please insure your material is clear and with proper contrast, notifying the Clerk well ahead of the meeting, of your intent to use the Elmo.

Individual Speaker Limits:

Individual speakers are limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes. Please step up to the podium when the Chairman calls your name and begin speaking immediately. Pull the microphone to your mouth so that the Board, audience, and audio recording system hear you clearly. Once you start speaking, the "green" podium light will light. The "yellow" light will come on when you have one (1) minute remaining. When you have 30 seconds remaining, the "yellow" light will begin flash, indicating you must quickly wrap up your comments. Your time is up when the "red" light flashes. The Chairman adheres to a strict three (3) minutes per speaker. **Note: If you intend to give your time to a "Group/Organized Presentation", please state so clearly at the very bottom of the reverse side of this form.**

Group/Organized Presentations:

Group/organized presentations with more than one (1) speaker will be limited to nine (9) minutes at the Chairman's discretion. The organizer of the presentation will automatically receive the first three (3) minutes, with the remaining six (6) minutes relinquished by other speakers, as requested by them on a completed "Request to Speak" form, and clearly indicated at the front bottom of the form.

Addressing the Board & Acknowledgement by Chairman:

The Chairman will determine what order the speakers will address the Board, and will call on all speakers in pairs. The first speaker should immediately step to the podium and begin addressing the Board. The second speaker should take up a position in one of the chamber aisles in order to quickly step up to the podium after the preceding speaker. This is to afford an efficient and timely Board meeting, giving all attendees the opportunity to make their case. Speakers are prohibited from making personal attacks, and/or using coarse, crude, profane or vulgar language while speaking to the Board members, staff, the general public and/or meeting participants. Such behavior, at the discretion of the Board Chairman may result in removal from the Board Chambers by Sheriff Deputies.