



STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Consideration of Mineral Resources Lands of Statewide or Regional Significance San Gabriel Valley Production-Consumption Region Los Angeles County, California

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB) proposes to hold a public hearing in order to consider adoption of regulations to designate, and terminate previously designated areas, of statewide or regional significance, and specify the boundaries thereof, for mineral resource lands located in the San Gabriel Valley Production-Consumption Region, Los Angeles County, in accordance with the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA), pursuant to Public Resources Code Division 2, Chapter 9, Article 6, Section 2790.

BACKGROUND

The State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB), based on recommendations from the State Geologist and public input, designates, or terminates the designation of, mineral deposits of regional or statewide significance within California. Designation is the formal recognition by the SMGB of lands containing mineral resources of regional or statewide economic significance that are needed to meet the demands of the future.

At its September 9, 2010, regular business meeting, the SMGB accepted California Geological Survey (CGS) Special Report 209 - *Update of Mineral Land Classification for Portland Cement Concrete-Grade Aggregate in the San Gabriel Valley Production-Consumption Region, Los Angeles County, California*. This report updated information on Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) aggregate in the original classification study of the San Gabriel Valley Production-Consumption (P-C) Region published in 1982 as Special Report 143, Part IV - *Mineral Land Classification of the Greater Los Angeles Area; Classification of Sand and Gravel Resource Areas, San Gabriel Valley Production-Consumption Region*.

The original classification study assisted the SMGB in its subsequent mineral land designation process; whereby, the SMGB formally recognized in regulation lands

containing resources of regional or statewide economic significance in the region. The SMGB designated construction aggregate resource areas of regional significance in the San Gabriel Valley P-C Region in SMARA Designation Report No. 3 - *Designation of Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources in the Orange County - Temescal Valley and San Gabriel Valley Production-Consumption Regions* (August, 1984).

In the years since the designation of the San Gabriel Valley P-C Region, about 27 percent, or 1,234 acres of the 4,642 acres of lands originally designated by the SMGB have been lost to land uses incompatible with mining. Those 1,234 acres lost contain approximately 483 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources, which is 20 percent of the 2,402 million tons of aggregate resources designated in 1984.

The updated Mineral Land Classification study identified an additional 281 acres of land containing more than 311 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate in areas previously classified MRZ-3. These areas were reclassified as MRZ-2 in the update.

The SMGB seeks recommendations of concerned federal, state, and local agencies, educational institutions, civic and public interest organizations, and private interest organizations, and private organizations and individuals, in the proposed actions.

CANDIDATE AREAS FOR DESIGNATION: The candidate areas for designation, or termination of designation, are shown on the two Plates. *Candidate Areas for Updated Designation in the Northern San Gabriel Valley Production-Consumption (P-C) Region, Los Angeles County, California* and *Candidate Areas for Updated Designation in the Eaton Wash, Devils Gate Reservoir, and Palos Verdes Areas*. Each Sector may be considered for designation as an area of regional or statewide significance by the SMGB pursuant to Article 6, Section 2790 *et seq.* (SMARA).

New information obtained since the publication of the 1984 Mineral Land Classification study has resulted in the reclassification of some areas originally classified MRZ-3 in that study. Sectors J, K, L, and M are newly identified aggregate resource sectors that were not originally designated. Sector J delineates land that has been reclassified in OFR 91-14 to MRZ-2 from MRZ-3 (Miller, 1994). Sectors K, L, and M delineate lands that were classified MRZ-2 in SR 143 Part IV, but were not included in part of a sector.

Each of the Sectors below meets or exceeds the mineral resource threshold value as established by the SMGB. At the time of the updated classification study, that threshold value amounted to approximately 1.1 million tons of aggregate. The permitted aggregate resources amounts contained in individual Sectors are considered proprietary. A description of each candidate area is given below and shown on Plates 1 and 2.

Candidate Sector J (289 acres): This Sector is in Sections 21 and 22, T1N, R10W, SBBM. It is bounded to the southeast by Sectors A and B and on the north by National Forest land. Sector J comprises one parcel of land totaling 289 acres covering most of the area referred to as the Fish Canyon Quarry site, an active mine operated by Vulcan Materials Company. Resources (including reserves) for this area total 311 million tons. Reserves for Sector J are proprietary.

Candidate Sector K (2 acres): This Sector is in Section 33 T1N, R10W, SBBM. It is bounded to the southeast by the roadways and on the northwest by Sector E. Sector K includes a two-acre unmined parcel of land located adjacent to the east side of Sector E in the City of Azusa. It is owned by CEMEX and is part of the company's Azusa Quarry site. The land now defined as Sector K was classified MRZ-2 in SR 143 Part IV, but at that time it was considered unavailable to mining and was not included as part of Sector E. A reevaluation of the land indicates that it can be mined in conjunction with the active CEMEX Azusa Quarry. The resources and reserves in Sector K are proprietary.

Candidate Sector L (9 acres): This Sector is in Section 3 T1S, R10W, SBBM. It is bounded to the southeast by roadways and developments, and on the northwest by Sector E. Sector L includes a small nine acre unmined parcel of land adjacent to the south side of Sector E in the city of Azusa. The western half of the sector is owned by CEMEX and is part of the company's Azusa Quarry site. The land now defined as Sector L was classified MRZ-2 in SR 143 Part IV, but at that time it was considered unavailable to mining and was not included as part of Sector E. A reevaluation of the land indicates that it can be mined in conjunction with the active CEMEX Azusa Quarry. The resources and reserves in Sector L are proprietary.

Candidate Sector M (5 acres): This Sector is in Section 1 T1S, R11W, SBBM. It is bounded to the east and west by Sector D and to the south by Arrow Highway. Sector M is a five acre strip of land in the City of Irwindale that formerly was occupied by Buena Vista Street. The land now defined as Sector M was classified MRZ-2 in SR 143 Part IV, but at that time it was considered unavailable to mining because Buena Vista Street occupied this space. In 2004, United Rock Products paid to realign Buena Vista Street so that it could mine the land underlying Sector M in conjunction with the United Rock Product's Pit #2. The resources and reserves in Sector M are proprietary.

CANDIDATE AREAS FOR TERMINATION OF DESIGNATION: Parts of six sectors are identified by the State Geologist as potential candidates for termination of designation status because of high-value incompatible land use developments,

particularly urbanization and land filling. These areas are indicated on the accompanying Plates.

Candidates for Termination of Designation in Sector A (263 acres): There are six separate areas that are now incompatible with mining. Forty-three million tons of resources in these areas have been lost because of urbanization and 24 million tons of resources have been lost because of landfill operations.

Candidate for Termination of Designation in Sector B (12 acres): There is one area that has become incompatible with mining. Eight million tons of resources have been lost to urbanization.

Candidates for Termination of Designation in Sector C (42 acres): There are two areas that have become incompatible with mining. Thirty-six million tons of resources have been lost to urbanization.

Candidates for Termination of Designation in Sector D (391 acres): There are eleven areas that are now incompatible with mining. Fifty-two million tons of resources have been lost to urbanization and 64 million tons of resources have been lost because of landfill operations.

Candidates for Termination of Designation in Sector E (422 acres): There are six areas that have become incompatible with mining. Fourteen million tons of resources have been lost to urbanization, and 179 million tons of resources have been lost to landfill operations.

Candidate for Termination of Designation in Sector I (104 acres): There are two areas that have become incompatible with mining. Fifteen million tons of resources have been lost to landfill operations.

PUBLIC HEARING AND WRITTEN COMMENT

The SMGB has scheduled a public hearing on this proposed action and to receive comments for August 30, 2011, at 10:00 a.m.. The public hearing will take place in the Council Chambers of the Irwindale City Hall, 5050 N. Irwindale Avenue, Irwindale, CA 91706.

The hearing facility will be barrier free in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. At the hearing, any person may present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the proposed action. The SMGB requests, but does not require, that persons who make oral comments at the hearing also submit a written copy of their testimony. Comments can also be provided in writing up to ten days prior to the scheduled meeting.

CONTACT PERSON

Inquiries concerning the substance of the adopted regulation should be directed to:

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