



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION CALIFORNIA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

www.conservation.ca.gov

SPECIAL REPORT 215 RELEASE December 2011

Update of Mineral Land Classification: Concrete Aggregate in the San Luis Obispo – Santa Barbara Production-Consumption Region, California

by Lawrence L. Busch and Russell V. Miller

BACKGROUND:

California's Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) requires the State Geologist to classify land into Mineral Resource Zones (MRZs), based on the known or inferred mineral resource potential of that land. The process is based solely on geology, without regard to existing land use or land ownership. The primary goal of mineral land classification is to help ensure that the mineral resource potential of lands is recognized and considered in the land-use planning process.

SUMMARY:

This report updates the mineral land classification for concrete aggregate in the San Luis Obispo-Santa Barbara Production-Consumption Region. The mineral land classification of the area was previously described in California Department of Conservation's Division of Mines and Geology (now California Geological Survey) Special Report 162 – *Mineral Land Classification: Portland Cement Concrete Aggregate and Active Mines of All Other Mineral Commodities in the San Luis Obispo-Santa Barbara Production-Consumption Region* – published in 1989. Special Report 162 emphasized the classification of portland cement concrete-grade aggregate resources, but also classified active mines of other mineral commodities such as asphaltic concrete aggregate, base, subbase, fill, and diatomite that were being mined in the region at that time.

This report presents a reevaluation and update of concrete (portland cement concrete-grade and asphaltic concrete-grade) aggregate resources in the San Luis Obispo-Santa Barbara Production-Consumption Region for the benefit of local lead agencies in the region. Deposits that meet the specifications for concrete aggregate are among the scarcest and most valuable construction aggregate resources. The broader category of "construction aggregate" includes materials that meet the specifications for concrete aggregate but also includes lower grade materials that are used in products such as base, subbase, and fill.

This report also provides an updated 50-year projection of construction aggregate needs for the San Luis Obispo-Santa Barbara Production-Consumption Region through the year 2060. This report does not update or alter the status of other mineral resources previously classified in Special Report 162.

In this update report, the following conclusions are reached:

- The 75 million tons of currently permitted construction aggregate reserves are projected to last through the year 2026, 16 years from the present (2010).
- In this update report, an additional 2,991 acres of land containing concrete aggregate resources are identified in areas in and near the San Luis Obispo-Santa Barbara Production-Consumption Region.
- The anticipated consumption of construction aggregate in the San Luis Obispo-Santa Barbara Production-Consumption Region for the next 50 years (through the year 2060) is estimated to be 263 million tons, of which 137 million tons must be concrete-grade. This is 57 million tons more than the prior 50-year projection made in 1989.

- An estimated 10,700 million tons of concrete aggregate resources are identified in the San Luis Obispo-Santa Barbara Production-Consumption Region.

AVAILABILITY:

Report 215 is available at the California Geological Survey offices in Sacramento, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Price.....\$105.00

Shipping and handling.....\$8.00

(Check, money order or credit card number must be included with order)

**801 K Street MS 14-34 345
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone:(916) 445-5716
Fax:(916) 327-1853**

**Middlefield Road, MS 520
Menlo Park, CA 94025
Phone:(650) 688-6329
Fax:(650) 688-6329**

Sacramento Information Office, 801 K STREET, 14th Floor, MS 14-34, Sacramento, CA 95814-3532, (916)445-5716
Los Angeles Information Office, 888 Figueroa Street, Suite 475, Los Angeles, CA 90017, (213)239-0878
Menlo Park Information Office, 345 Middlefield Road, MS 520, Menlo Park, CA 94025, (650)688-6327