



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
CALIFORNIA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

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**SPECIAL REPORT 223 RELEASE
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**Mineral Land Classification of the Proposed Riddle Surface Mine Property Site,
Stanislaus County, California – for Construction Aggregate,**

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BACKGROUND:

In response to a petition submitted under the provisions of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA; Public Resources Code § 2712 *et seq.*), the State Geologist has investigated and subsequently classified a portion of the Newman Quadrangle, Butte County, as MRZ-2 for construction aggregate. The primary goal of mineral land classification is to help ensure that mineral resource potential of lands is recognized and considered in the land use planning process.

SUMMARY:

Special Report 223 evaluates the aggregate potential of the Proposed Riddle Surface Mine Property site based on geologic and materials testing data provided by the petitioner. This report explains the reclassification of the property and presents the conclusions reached in this study. It is intended for the use of the State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB), the petitioner and the County of Stanislaus that has permitting authority over this property under SMARA. For a mineral deposit to be considered significant, and therefore eligible for MRZ-2 classification, it must meet criteria established by the SMGB for material quality, marketability, and economic value. The significance of the resources was determined by evaluating the quality of the deposit and its suitability as a marketable commodity and by calculating the volume, tonnage, and value of available aggregate resources contained within the property. Data necessary to evaluate the property were compiled from geologic literature, proprietary company files, and limited field study by the California Geological Survey (CGS) staff

In this update report, the following conclusions are made:

- Aggregate test results provided by the petitioner and analyzed by CGS staff indicate that the material present on the Proposed Riddle Surface Mine Property site meet the specifications for a variety of construction aggregate uses up to and including PCC-grade aggregate.
- Aggregate resources present at the Power House Aggregate Project site exceed the minimum threshold value of \$17.1 million 2009-dollars established by the SMGB.
- The 436-acre Proposed Riddle Surface Mine Property site has been reclassified MRZ-2 for construction aggregate as shown on Figure 2 of this report.

AVAILABILITY:

Report 223 is available at the California Geological Survey offices in Sacramento, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Price.....\$8.00

Shipping and handling.....\$8.00

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

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