



## NOTICE OF INFORMATION

January 26, 2017

TO: ALL LEAD AGENCIES

SUBJECT: REPORT TO THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE ON THE ACTIVITIES OF  
LEAD AGENCIES AND SURFACE MINING OPERATIONS

As a result of Senate Bill 447 (Lara), which was signed by Governor Brown in September 2013, the Department of Conservation's Division of Mine Reclamation (DMR), as noted in Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 2717(c)(1-10), is required to submit a report to the California Legislature on the activities of lead agencies and surface mining operations. To facilitate preparation of a timely report, DMR intends to collaborate with Surface Mine and Reclamation Act Lead Agencies (Lead Agency) located throughout the state to ensure accurate information is presented to the California Legislature. Initially, DMR staff will generate data tables and information about mining and regulatory oversight, covering the period from January 1, 2012, to December 31, 2016, outlined in PRC §2717 by reviewing data collected during the past four years. DMR will provide the tabulated data to each Lead Agency during February 2017. We are seeking Lead Agency review of the information and help with addressing data gaps and accuracy of the data prior to preparation of the report. It is important that the information presented in the legislatively mandated report be appropriately validated as current and accurate by both the DMR and Lead Agencies.

Reviewing, gathering, and submitting the necessary data will require each Lead Agency to dedicate staff time to compile the requested information on the activities of Lead Agencies and surface mining operations.

The Report to the Legislature will include responses to the following requests:

1. The number of financial assurance cost estimates reviewed and approved each year by each Lead Agency (PRC §2717(c)(1)).
2. The number of annual mine inspections performed each year by each Lead Agency (PRC §2717(c)(2)).
3. The number and location of idle mines, and the number and locations of mining operations for which interim management plans have been approved by each Lead Agency (PRC §2717(c)(3)).
4. The number and location of mining operations that are no longer in operation with no intent to resume and are in the process of reclamation, and how many years each of these mining operations has claimed that status (PRC §2717(c)(4)).

5. The number and location of mines with reclamation plans approved prior to the adoption of the 1993 reclamation standards (January 15, 1993, PRC §2717(c)(6)).
6. The number and location of mining operations that appear on the "AB 3098" List that are subject to – and in compliance with - an order to comply stipulated to by the Lead Agency PRC §2717(c)(7)).

DMR staff will be contacting individual Lead Agencies regarding data gathering and the submission process over the next several months for assistance in preparing the Report to the California Legislature (Report). The Report will be delivered to the Legislature on July 1, 2017. The Report will summarize Lead Agency input as well as areas where deficiencies exist in the review and validation of mining information within each jurisdiction.

DMR encourages your participation and is available should your agency have any questions. Please continue to check our website for updates on the data collection process and progress in completing the report.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the Report, please do not hesitate to contact Paul Fry, Senior Geologist, at (916) 323-9198 or [paul.fry@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:paul.fry@conservation.ca.gov).