Los Padres Mine AML Investigation, Remediation, Vandalism

Los Padres Mine
S36, T4N, R5E, SBBM
Parcel # 191-038
San Bernardino County

Greg Pelka
California State Lands Commission
February 17, 2010
Map 1: Location Of The Los Padres Mine.

Located 8 Miles North Of Landers in S36, T4N, R5E, SBBM, San Bernardino County Within Johnson Valley OHV Area and Contiguous to 29 Palms Marine Base
Los Padres Mine History

• California Journal of Mines and Geology 1953 Report
  1943: Belongs to Los Padre Mining Company (LA)
  Steeply Dipping Au Bearing Quartz Veins in Gneiss
  150’ Deep Inclined Shaft Drifts at 50’
  At 150’ Drifts Along Vein 380’ and Connects to 700’
    Crosscut Haulage Level to Waste Dump
  High Grade Au Ore in Upper Workings
• Parcel Under Federal Ownership at This Time, Mining Claims?
View North at Los Padres Mine With Waste Dump and Mill Site

12/06/2005
S36, T4N, R5E, SBBM Parcel History

1853 School Land Act For California

S16 and S36 Of Every Township Become School Lands
Upon Completion of Survey by Surveyor General
Title Passed to State For This Parcel in January 1961

1968: LLNL Installs Nuclear Seismic Detection Station in Mine

?Year: CSLC Issues General Lease for Public Agency Use

1991: Miner Joseph Haklitch Challenges State Ownership

Has 9 Unpatented Federal Mining Claims From 1950’s
Claims Not Properly Maintained, Abandons Claims

Search For Buried Dynamite with SB Co. Bomb Squad

2003: QC Lease, Weld Steel Door Shut, Abandon Equipment
Abandoned Mine Program With DOC OMR

• 2003: CSLC/DOC Enter Into MOU to Inventory/Remediate Mines

12/2005: CSLC/DOC Inventory Los Padres Mine Features

Find Sealed Crosscut, Collapsed Upper Workings, 50’ Shaft

01/2006: Dr. Brown/Berry Perform Internal Inspection of 50’ Shaft

Find No Bat Habitat, Recommends Foam Plug, No Waste Rock
Foam Plug Installed in 50’ Shaft by Frontier Environmental Solutions in November 2006 With Help From DOC OMR

November 1, 2006
Los Padres Mine Crosscut Portal Found Vandalized

May 2, 2008
9” Thick Rebar Reinforced Concrete Violated
Secondary Steel Door Appears Intact

May 2, 2008
CSLC Repair Rebar, Set Form For Concrete

May 28, 2008
Repair Concrete, Drill And Install High Tensile Strength Red Head Bolts, Weld On Expandi Metal Screen, Add Cement Grout
Vandalism Since May 28, 2008 (5 Months)

- Vandals Break Welds and Pull Screen Down
- Concrete Repair Remains Intact

October 15, 2008
Repair of October 30, 2008

- Put Screen Back in Place
- Weld Large Steel Washers To Redheads and Expandi Metal
- Weld Angle Iron to Existing Steel Structure/Expandi Metal

October 15, 2008
Minor Vandalism to Screen and Concrete

September 21, 2009
Expandi Metal Cut and Bent, Redheads Bent Welds Holding OK
Vandals Digging at Interface of Concrete and Gneissic Bedrock to Bypass Concrete Wall

September 21, 2009
Main Steel Door Shows Vandal Scars From Thermite, Plasma Cutter, Torch, Cutoff Wheels, Grinders, Etc.

September 21, 2009
Vandals Within 3 Months Succeed, Cut Metal & Concrete, Gain Total Entry Into Mine

December 30, 2009
Recent Photo of Broken Concrete, Cut Rebar
CSLC/DOC OMR Options and Considerations

• Need Permanent Fix, Needs To Be Vandal Proof

1. Blast Shut, Not Available for Any Future Use, Exploration or Development for State Teachers Retirement System?

2. Cover With 10’ Mine Waste Rock, Blend with Hillside?

3. Bat Compatible Closure?

• Need to Consider Bats and Other Wildlife Since Open

• Internal Survey With Dr. Pat Brown in Next Few Weeks

• CSLC To Discuss Options with DOC OMR Along With CDFG, SHPO to Find Best Solution!