



# STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

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April 4, 2014

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

### Consideration of Mineral Lands of Statewide or Regional Significance North San Francisco Bay Production-Consumption Region Sonoma, Napa, Marin, and Southwestern Solano Counties, 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 areas of statewide or regional significance and specify the boundaries thereof, for mineral lands located in the North San Francisco Bay Production-Consumption Region Sonoma, Napa, Marin, and Southwestern Solano Counties, 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 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 November 14, 2013, regular business meeting, the State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB) accepted California Geological Survey (CGS) Special Report 205, titled *“Update of Mineral Land Classification: Aggregate Materials in the North San Francisco Bay Production-Consumption Region, Sonoma, Napa, Marin, and Southwestern Solano Counties, California.”* This report updated information previously presented in a classification report on Portland cement concrete-grade (PCC) aggregate in the North San Francisco Bay Production-Consumption (P-C) Region first published in 1987. The previous report was published by the California Division of Mines and Geology (CDMG; now CGS) as Special Report 146, Part III – *“Mineral Land Classification: Aggregate Resource Areas, North San Francisco Bay Production-Consumption Region.”*

Special Report 205 updated the classification portion of the two-step *Classification-Designation process* mandated by the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA). The second part of that process, designation, is the formal recognition by the SMGB of lands containing mineral resources of regional or statewide economic significance needed to meet the demands of the future.

As reported in Special Report 205, the 115 million tons of currently permitted reserves of all construction aggregate grades are projected to last through the year 2023, 10 years from the present (2013). An additional 3,069 acres of land containing 853 million tons of construction-grade aggregate resources are identified in the North San Francisco Bay P-C Region. Since the designation of 7,579 acres containing 1,876 million tons of aggregate resources in 1987, about 3% has been lost to urbanization.

On March 13, 2014, the SMGB accepted the recommendations set forth by the State Geologist for designation, and termination of designation, of mineral resources lands of regional or statewide economic significance in the North San Francisco Bay Production-Consumption Region, Sonoma, Napa, Marin, and Southwestern Solano Counties, California, based on the information in Special Report 205.

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**

### **Candidate Areas for Designation**

Each Sector, or group of Sectors, described below, meets or exceeds the Board's threshold economic value, and each Sector may be considered for designation as an area of regional or statewide significance by the Board pursuant to Article 6, Section 2790 *et seq.* (SMARA).

Sector AA (subsectors AA-1, AA-2, and AA-3) - (PCC-grade) Alluvial deposits along the Gualala River in northwestern Sonoma County: This Sector covers about 860 acres and is estimated to contain 8.2 million tons of aggregate resources. *Note: These resources are too far from the major urban areas of the North Bay P-C Region to be included in the available resource total for the P-C Region, but they are important local sources of material for the Gualala area because of its remoteness.*

Sector BB - (PCC-grade) Alluvial deposits along the west side of the middle reach of the Russian River south of Healdsburg: This Sector covers about 174 acres and is estimated to contain 28.2 million tons of aggregate resources.

Sector CC - (PCC-grade) Alluvial deposits along the east side of the middle reach of the Russian River south of Healdsburg: This Sector covers about 26 acres and is estimated to contain 4.2 million tons of aggregate resources.

Sector DD (subsectors DD-1 and DD-2)- (AC-grade) Located on Porter Creek Road approximately four miles east of the community of Mark West Springs in Sonoma County. This Sector covers about 691 acres; the resource amount is proprietary.

Sector EE - (Class II Base-grade) Located approximately one mile west of the community of Forestville and south of Highway 16: This Sector covers about 93 acres; the resource amount is proprietary.

Sector FF - (Class II Base-grade) Located approximately one mile west of the community of Forestville and north of Highway 16: This Sector covers about 114 acres; the resource amount is proprietary.

Sector GG - (Class II Base-grade) Located approximately 1.5 miles north of Duncan Mills on Austin Creek in western Sonoma County: This Sector covers about 227 acres; the resource amount is proprietary.

Sector HH- (PCC-grade) Located approximately 1.5 miles north of Duncan Mills on Austin Creek in western Sonoma County: This Sector covers about 15 acres; the resource amount is proprietary.

Sector II - (PCC-grade) Located approximately 1.5 miles north of Duncan Mills on Austin Creek in western Sonoma County: This Sector covers about 27 acres; the resource amount is proprietary.

Sector JJ - (Class II Base-grade) Located west of the City of Cotati on Stony Point Road in Sonoma County: This Sector covers about 30 acres; the resource amount is proprietary.

Sector KK - (PCC-grade) An area south of Roblar Road approximately five and a quarter miles west of the City of Cotati in Sonoma County. This Sector covers about 113 acres; the resource amount is proprietary.

Sector LL- (Class II Base-grade) An area south of Roblar Road approximately four and a half miles west of the City of Cotati in Sonoma County. This Sector covers about 186 acres; the resource amount is proprietary.

Sector MM- (PCC-grade) Located southeast of the City of Napa in Napa County: This Sector covers about 513 acres and contains an estimated 278 million tons of aggregate resources.

### **Candidate Areas for Termination of Designation**

Parts of Sectors B-2a.B-2b.B-2c.B-2d.B-4d and B-4e - (PCC-grade) Located along the Middle Reach of the Russian River from Healdsburg south to its confluence with Mark West Creek: There are four areas depleted by mining and one area urbanized in Sector B-2a; two areas depleted in Sector B-2b;

four areas depleted in Sector B-2c; two areas depleted in Sector B-2d; three areas urbanized in Sector B-4d; and one area urbanized in Sector B-4e.

Sector C - (PCC-grade) Sector C-2a along Sonoma Creek, north of the City of Sonoma and Sector C-3 on the northwestern edge of the City of Sonoma. These two areas have been urbanized.

Part of Sector D - (PCC-grade) Sector D-2 is at the southern end of a prominent ridge in the easternmost part of the City of Novato. The northern half of Sector D-2 has been urbanized.

Sector E- (AC-grade) This Sector is at the northern end of Petaluma Hill and is mostly within the City of Petaluma. Sector E has been urbanized.

Sector J - (AC-grade) This Sector is at the eastern end of Burdell Mountain. This Sector has been urbanized.

Sector Q - (Subbase-grade) This Sector is north of Highway 1, about 2.5 miles east of the community of Bodega Bay. The Sector has been depleted by mining.

Part of Sector V - (AC-grade) This Sector is on Burdell Mountain. Six acres of the Sector have been urbanized.

Part of Sector X - (Subbase-grade) This Sector is on the east side of Highway 121, about seven miles south of Sonoma. The northern 35 acres of the Sector have been urbanized.

## **PUBLIC HEARING AND WRITTEN COMMENT**

The SMGB has scheduled a public hearing on this proposed action to receive public comments for May 14, 2014. The public hearing will take place in the City Council Chambers, Napa City Hall, 955 School Street, Napa, CA 94559 at 9:00 a.m.

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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