



STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

801 K Street • Suite 2015 • Sacramento, California 95814

PHONE: 916 / 322-1082 • FAX: 916 / 445-0738 • TDD: 916 / 324-2555 • INTERNET: conservation.ca.gov/smgb

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July 24, 2015

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Consideration of Mineral Resources Lands of Statewide or Regional Significance, Temescal Valley Production Region, Riverside County, 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 designated areas of statewide or regional significance and specify the boundaries thereof, for mineral resources lands located in the Temescal Valley Production Region, Riverside County, 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 January 8, 2015, regular business meeting, the SMGB accepted California Geological Survey (CGS) Special Report 231 titled "*Mineral land classification of the Temescal Valley Area, Riverside County, California: California Department of Conservation Division of Mines and Geology Portions of the Production.*" CGS Special Report 231 updated information previously provided in SR 143 Parts III and SR 206 titled "*Mineral land classification of the Greater Los Angeles Area, Part III, classification of sand and gravel resource areas, Orange County-Temescal Valley Production-Consumption Region: California Division of Mines and Geology, Special Report 143, Part III*" and "*Update of mineral land classification for Portland cement concrete-grade aggregate in the San Bernardino Production-Consumption Region, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, California*", respectively.

The updated report noted the following conclusions:

- Since the designation in 1984 and 1987 of 3,189 acres containing 568 million tons of aggregate resources, 141 million tons (about 25%) has been lost to urbanization.
- In this update report, an additional 2,602 acres of undesignated land containing an estimated 1,558 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources are identified in the Temescal Valley Production Area.
- An estimated 2,198 million tons of Portland cement concrete-grade aggregate resources, both designated and non-designated, are identified in the Temescal Valley Production Area.
- The anticipated production of PCC-grade aggregate in the Temescal Valley Production Area for the next 50 years (through the year 2062) is estimated to be 1,057 million tons.
- The 917 million tons of currently permitted reserves of PCC-grade aggregate are projected to last to the year 2057, 44 years from the present (2013).
- Presently, about half of the aggregate produced in the Production Area is exported to neighboring consumption regions.

On June 11, 2015, the SMGB accepted the recommendations set forth by the State Geologist for the update of the designation of mineral resources lands of regional significance in the Temescal Valley Production Region, Riverside County.

The Temescal Valley Production area has a complex mineral land classification and designation history. Six previous mineral land classification studies have evaluated all, or parts, of the Temescal Valley Production Area. Of the six previous mineral land classification reports, only SR 165 included the entire area covered in Special Report 231. The six reports are listed below by date of publication:

- 1981, Special Report 143, Part III, (Miller and Corbaleya, 1981)
- 1984, Special Report 143, Part VII, (Miller, 1984)
- 1991, Special Report 165, (Miller and others, 1991)
- 2007, Special Report 200, (Busch and Miller, 2007)
- 2008, Special Report 206, (Miller and Busch, 2008)
- 2009, Special Report 212/Revised, (Miller, 2009)

In addition to the six classification studies, three designation reports cover parts of the Temescal Valley Production Area. These three reports are listed below by date of publication:

- 1984, SMARA Designation Report No.3 (1984)
- 1987, SMARA Designation Report No. 5 (1987)
- 2014, SMARA Designation Report No. 14 (2014)

In these three SMGB designation actions, twelve areas (Sectors) were designated within the Temescal Valley Production Area as having aggregate resources of regional significance. Three of these Sectors (D, H, and I) were found to be depleted in Special Report 206. The designated status of these three Sectors was terminated by the SMGB in 2014 (California Department of Conservation, 2014) and they are not discussed further nor shown on the attached Plate. Only nine Sectors are currently designated within the current study area. Special Report 231 evaluates the impacts of the land-use changes that have taken place in those areas (Sectors A, E, H, K, O, P, Q, R, and S) since designation and identifies new areas not previously designated within the Temescal Valley Production Area.

In addition to the previously designated sectors described above, Special Report 231 identifies an additional 2,602 acres of land within the Production Area containing an estimated 1,558 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources (new Sectors AA through GG). This is in addition to the 640 million tons of aggregate resources remaining in the previously designated areas (Sectors A, E-14, E-17, E-19, E-20, E-22, E-23, E-24, H, O, P, Q, R, and S). Approximately 862 acres of the previously designated areas have been lost due to either urbanization or depletion by mining.

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 FOR DESIGNATION

Each Sector, described below, meets or exceeds the SMGB's threshold economic value, and each Sector may be considered for designation as an area of regional or statewide significance by the SMGB pursuant to Article 6, Section 2790 *et seq.* (SMARA). None of these areas have been considered by the SMGB for designation in any of the three previous designation processes.

Sector AA - Granitic deposits of the Stone Valley Quarry in the Jurupa Hills north of the community of Glen Avon: This Sector covers about 40 acres. The aggregate reserves and resources are proprietary.

Sector BB - Granitic deposits of the Atkinson Quarry in the Jurupa Hills north of the community of Rubidoux: This Sector covers about 72 acres. The aggregate reserves and resources are proprietary.

Sector CC - An area underlain by Mesozoic-age igneous rocks in the hills southeast of the City of Corona: This Sector covers 1,387 acres and is estimated to contain 1,125 million tons of aggregate resources.

Sector DD - An area in the Harlow Quarry south of Cajalco Road: This Sector is about 79 acres. The aggregate reserves and resources are proprietary.

Sector EE - An area west of Interstate Highway 215 and south of Cajalco Road: This Sector covers about 577 acres. The aggregate resources are proprietary.

Sector FF - An area northwest of the City of Lake Elsinore: This Sector covers about 47 acres. The aggregate reserves and resources are proprietary.

Sector GG (the formerly proposed Liberty Quarry site) is not being recommended for designation. This was a controversial project in Riverside County a few years ago and was opposed by the City of Temecula and the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians. The Tribe claimed that the property is a tribal sacred site and part of the Tribe's traditional homelands. Ultimately the Tribe purchased the property from the mining company that proposed the quarry, ending the company's efforts to permit the mine. It is unlikely that the Tribe would allow mining on a tribal sacred site and, because the Tribe currently owns and controls the property, it is unlikely to be mined in the foreseeable future.

CANDIDATE AREAS FOR TERMINATION OF DESIGNATION

Sectors A, H, O, P, Q, R, and S were originally designated in SMARA Designation Report No. 3 - Designation of Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resource Areas in the Orange County-Temescal Valley and San Gabriel Valley Production-Consumption Regions (California State Mining and Geology Board, August 1984). Sector E-24 was originally designated in SMARA Designation Report No. 5 - Designation of Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resource Areas in the Claremont-Upland and San Bernardino Production-Consumption Regions (California Department of Conservation, 1987). The designated status of a portion of Sector E-24 was terminated in 2014 during the revision of the designation of the San Bernardino P-C Region (SMARA Designation Report Number 14 - Updated Designation in the San Bernardino Production-Consumption (P-C) Region, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, California, California Department of Conservation, 2014). The changes described below have occurred since the re-evaluation of the P-C Region in Special Report 206 and are not reflected in SMARA Designation Report 14. Parts of Sector A in the channel of the Santa Ana River downstream of Prado Dam - About 31 acres were urbanized in 1982 and a further 45 acres since.

Sector H - Hillside area east of Prado Dam. The eastern 33 acres of the Sector has been urbanized.

Sector O - Sector O is in the City of Corona on the southeast side of Cota Street. All of this Sector has been urbanized.

Sector P- This Sector is in the City of Corona near the intersection of the Riverside Freeway (91) and Interstate Highway 15. All of this Sector has been urbanized.

Part of Sector Q - This Sector is in the City of Corona in the Temescal Wash between Cajalco Road and Magnolia Avenue. The northern 222 acres have been urbanized or depleted by mining.

Parts of Sector R -This Sector includes alluvial deposits of Temescal Wash. from the confluence of Olsen Canyon to Lee Lake. About 148 acres of the Sector have been urbanized.

Parts of Sector S - This Sector includes fan deposits of Coldwater and Mayhew canyons. About 118 acres of the Sector have been urbanized.

Part of Sector E-24- Area in and adjacent to the Santa Ana River in the City of Jurupa Valley. About 114 acres have been urbanized.

PUBLIC HEARING AND WRITTEN COMMENT

The public comment period commences on July 24, 2015 and ends on September 22, 2015. The SMGB has scheduled a public hearing on this proposed action, to receive public comments, for August 18, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. The public hearing will take place in the Riverside County Administrative Center, 12th Floor, Conference Room 12A, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, CA 92501.

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:

Mr. Stephen M. Testa, Executive Officer
State Mining and Geology Board
801 K Street, Suite 2015
Sacramento, California 95814
Phone: (916) 322-1082
Fax: (916) 445-0738
www.conservation.ca.gov/smgb

or

Amy Scott, Executive Assistant
State Mining and Geology Board
801 K Street, Suite 2015
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 322-1082
Fax: (916) 445-0738
www.conservation.ca.gov/smgb