



STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



ARNOLD
SCHWARZENEGGER
GOVERNOR

For Meeting Date: April 10, 2008

Agenda Item No. 9: Presentation of 2007 SMARA Surface Mine Inspection Reports for Six Surface Mining Operations for Acceptance Consideration by the State Mining and Geology Board.

INTRODUCTION: The State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB) serves as the lead agency under SMARA for forty-eight (48) individual mining operations located in two counties (El Dorado County and Yuba County), eleven (11) San Francisco Bay dredging operations, and ten (10) cities that do not have mining ordinances. SMARA inspection reports for surface mining operations located in the City of Marina and the City of Red Bluff, and four surface mining operations located in the County of Yuba, are being presented for the SMGB's acceptance consideration.

MINE INSPECTION REPORTS FOR THE SMGB'S ACCEPTANCE CONSIDERATION:

The 2007 SMARA mine inspection reports to be presented at the SMGB's April 10, 2008 Regular Business Meeting for acceptance consideration by the SMGB are:

- CEMEX Lapis Sand Plant (CA Mine ID #91-27-0006), City of Marina.
- Adobe Road Borrow Pit (CA Mine ID #91-52-0039), City of Red Bluff.
- Western Aggregates (CA Mine ID #91-58-0001), Yuba County.
- Cal Sierra Development, Inc. (CA Mine ID #91-58-0003), Yuba County.
- Blue Point Clark Quarry (CA Mine ID #91-58-0015), Yuba County.
- Blue Point Mine (CA Mine ID #91-58-0021), Yuba County.

A summary of violations and corrective measures per surface mining operation inspected is presented below.

CEMEX Lapis Sand Plant (CA Mine ID #91-27-0006), City of Marina: At time of inspection, December 28, 2007, no violations or corrective measures were noted.

The following recommendations are offered:

- Revegetation efforts appear to have been successful in some cases, and not in others. Such efforts should continue on all portions of the site that will no longer be disturbed by mining activities.



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- The financial assurance amount requires re-evaluation and adjustment to reflect 1) the current status of site revegetation and future revegetation needs, and 2) current equipment, fuel and labor rates.

Adobe Road Borrow Pit (CA Mine ID #91-52-0039), City of Red Bluff: No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection, February 28, 2008.

The following recommendation was offered:

- Revegetation monitoring should continue on the western perimeter of Area I to ensure oak tree planting survival in this area.

Western Aggregates, Inc. (CA Mine ID #91-09-0001), Yuba County: At time of inspection, December 27, 2007; one violation was noted:

- Approximately 16 acres south and east of the approved Reclamation Plan boundary have been encroached upon by stockpiling of material.

In addition, the approved Reclamation Plan does not contain all necessary documents required by SMARA at the time the plan was approved by Yuba County. Such documents would include scaled maps, sections and other pertinent illustrations, current and future areas of mining operations and reclamation activities (i.e., Phasing Plan), final site grading plan, revegetation plan and complementary performance standards, clarification of proposed end use, and statement of maximum anticipated depth of mining. It is noted that the operator prepared an amended Reclamation Plan, dated April 2005, which has been reviewed by SMGB and OMR staff, and comments were provided to the operator for consideration. This amended Reclamation Plan contains many of the necessary elements listed above, including a Phasing Plan (i.e., Figure 14 of the April 2005 amended Reclamation Plan).

Furthermore, existing steep extraction pond perimeter slopes along the south-central margin of the site may be problematic when considering proposed future extraction pond margin slope angles, and potential property line setback issues.

The following recommendations are offered:

- The operator should consider implementing certain aspects of the proposed amended Reclamation Plan, dated April 2005, that is currently awaiting approval pending a vested rights determination. Specific consideration should be given to following the proposed Phasing Plan as submitted with the April 2005 amended Reclamation Plan;



- Existing and proposed extraction pond perimeter slope cross-sections should be constructed along the south-central Reclamation Plan boundary to assure planned final slope configurations can be achieved; and
- The financial assurance should be re-evaluated and adjusted, as appropriate, to reflect current site conditions, and current equipment, fuel, and labor rates.

Cal Sierra Development, Inc. (CA Mine ID #91-58-0003), Yuba County: No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection, December 27, 2007.

The following recommendation is offered:

- The financial assurance for reclamation of the site requires re-evaluation and adjustment, as appropriate, to reflect recently disturbed areas, and to reflect current equipment, fuel, and labor rates.

Blue Point Clark Quarry (CA Mine ID #91-58-0015), Yuba County: No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection, December 21, 2007.

Blue Point Mine (CA Mine ID #91-58-0021), Yuba County: No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection, December 21, 2007.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Executive Officer recommends that the SMGB accept the six 2007 SMARA mine inspection reports, and transmit the findings to each mine operator and their respective local lead agency.



SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE:

To accept six 2007 SMARA mine inspection reports:

Mr. Chairman, in light of the information before the SMGB today, I move that the SMGB accept the six 2007 SMARA mine inspection reports, and transmit the findings to each mine operator and their respective local lead agency. These sites are the CEMEX Lapis Sand Plant, Adobe Road Borrow Pit, Western Aggregates, Cal Sierra Development, Blue Point Clark Quarry, and the Blue Point Mine.

Respectfully submitted:

Stephen M. Testa
Executive Officer

