



STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



ARNOLD
SCHWARZENEGGER
GOVERNOR

For Meeting Date: February 14, 2008

Agenda Item No. 11: Presentation of Select 2007 SMARA Surface Mine Inspection Reports for Eight Active Surface Mining Sites 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 six surface mining operations located in El Dorado and two surface mining operations located in Yuba County are being presented for acceptance consideration.

MINE INSPECTION REPORTS FOR THE SMGB'S ACCEPTANCE CONSIDERATION:

The 2007 SMARA mine inspection reports to be presented at the SMGB's February 14, 2008 Regular Business Meeting for acceptance consideration by the SMGB are:

- Bear Creek Aggregates (CA ID #91-09-0001), El Dorado County.
- Chile Bar Slate Mine (CA ID #91-09-0004), El Dorado County.
- Timm Mine (CA ID #91-09-0006), El Dorado County.
- Somerset Sand Mine (CA ID #91-09-0009), El Dorado County.
- Lawyer Pit (CA ID #91-09-0010), El Dorado County.
- Marin Quarry (CA ID #91-09-0015), El Dorado County.
- Simpson Lane (CA ID #91-58-0025), Yuba County.
- Bullards Bar Quarry (CA ID #91-09-00XX), Yuba County.

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

Bear Creek Aggregates (CA Mine ID #91-09-0001): No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection, December 14, 2007; however, the financial assurance amount should be re-evaluated and adjusted, as appropriate, to reflect current equipment, labor and fuel rates.



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Chile Bar Slate Mine (CA Mine ID #91-09-0004): No violations were noted at time of inspection, December 14, 2007; however, the financial assurance should be adjusted to reflect existing disturbed acreage and current labor, equipment, and fuel rates.

Timm Mine (CA Mine ID #91-09-0006): No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection, December 14, 2007; however, the financial assurance should be re-evaluated and adjusted, as appropriate, to account for current equipment, fuel, and labor rates.

Somerset Sand Mine (CA Mine ID #91-09-0009): No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection, December 18, 2007; however, the financial assurance amount should be re-evaluated and adjusted, as appropriate, to reflect current equipment, fuel, and labor rates.

Lawyer Borrow Pit (CA Mine ID #91-09-0010): No violations are noted at time of inspection, December 14, 2007; however, the following corrective measures were offered:

- Revegetation and soil erosion control measures should be completed and monitored on perimeter cut slopes that have achieved final configurations.
- Efforts to control and eradicate the growth of yellow star thistle need to be maintained.

It is recommended that the financial assurance be re-evaluated and adjusted, as appropriate, to reflect recent grading activities, and to reflect current equipment, labor and fuel rates.

Marin Quarry (CA Mine ID #91-19-0015): No violations were noted at time of inspection, November 2, 2007; however, the following corrective measures were offered:

- All slopes (rock cut slopes, side fill slopes, soil stockpiles, etc.) should continue to be periodically evaluated for potential instability. Such work should be performed on a periodic basis (i.e., no less than annually), and should be performed either by a California Licensed Professional Engineer, Registered Geologist or Certified Engineering Geologist, and documented appropriately.
- Maintenance of sediment and erosion control structures on and adjacent to the southern and western fill slopes should continue on a regular basis.



- When expansion of mining commences in the future, all topsoil should be stockpiled in a designated demarcated area in a manner consistent with criteria stated in the approved reclamation plan.

The following recommendation was offered:

- The financial assurance amount should be adjusted to reflect current equipment, labor, and fuel rates.

Simpson Lane (CA Mine ID #91-58-0025): No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection, December 21, 2007.

Bullards Bar Quarry (CA Mine ID #91-58-00XX): No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection, August 23, 2007.

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

SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE:

To accept eight 2007 SMARA mine inspection reports:

Mr. Chairman, in light of the information before the SMGB today, I move that the SMGB accept the eight 2007 SMARA mine inspection reports, and transmit the findings to each mine operator and their respective lead agency. These sites are Bear Creek Aggregates, Chile Bar Slate Mine, Timm Mine, Somerset Sand Mine, Lawyer Borrow Pit, and Marin Quarry located in El Dorado County, and Simpson Lane and Bullards Bar Quarry located in Yuba County.

Respectfully submitted:

Stephen M. Testa
Executive Officer