



STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



ARNOLD
SCHWARZENEGGER
GOVERNOR

For Meeting Date: January 14, 2010

Agenda Item No. 11: Presentation of Select 2009 SMARA Surface Mine Inspection Reports for Fifteen 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-four (44) individual surface mining operations, including operations located in two counties (El Dorado County and Yuba County), twelve (12) San Francisco Bay marine dredging operations, and ten (10) cities that do not have mining ordinances. SMARA inspection reports for fifteen (15) surface mining operations are being presented for acceptance consideration.

MINE INSPECTION REPORTS FOR THE SMGB'S ACCEPTANCE CONSIDERATION:

The 2009 SMARA mine inspection reports to be presented at the SMGB's January 14, 2010, regular business meeting for acceptance consideration by the SMGB are as follows:

- Atkinson Pit I (CA Mine ID #91-19-0004), City of Compton.
- Super Creek Quarry (CA Mine ID #91-33-0003), City of Desert Hot Springs.
- Garnet Pit (CA Mine ID #91-33-0031), City of Palm Springs.
- Hanson Alcatraz, Presidio, Point Knox (CA Mine ID #91-38-0001), BCDC.
- Hanson Point Knox South (CA Mine ID #91-38-0002), BCDC.
- Hanson Point Knox Shoal (CA Mine ID #91-38-0003), BCDC.
- Hanson Alcatraz South Shoal (CA Mine ID #91-38-0004), BCDC.
- Hanson Suisun Bay (CA Mine ID #91-38-0005), BCDC.
- Hanson Suisun Bay Middleground (CA Mine ID #91-38-0006), BCDC.
- Jerico Suisun Bay Middleground (CA Mine ID #91-38-0007), BCDC.
- CEMEX Carquinez Straits (CA Mine ID #91-38-0008), BCDC.
- CEMEX Alcatraz Sand Shoal (CA Mine ID #91-38-0009), BCDC.
- CEMEX Suisun Bay Middleground (CA Mine ID #91-38-00010), BCDC.
- Morris Tug & Barge Marine Oyster Shell Mining (CA Mine ID #91-38-00011), BCDC.
- San Francisco Marina Dredging Operation (CA Mine ID #91-38-00012), BCDC.

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

Atkinson Pit No. I (CA Mine ID #91-19-0004), City of Compton:

No violations were noted at time of inspection on November 17, 2009.



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The following corrective measures are offered at this time:

- The operator intends to continue with engineered backfill activities such that the entire excavated pit is backfilled to the natural ground surface. As such, the operator should provide revised Existing Conditions and Final Reclamation Plan Maps (with accompanying cross sections) to the SMGB.
- A revised financial assurance cost estimate, as required per California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 3804(c), should be submitted to the SMGB for review and approval consideration.

Super Creek Quarry (CA Mine ID #91-33-0003), City of Desert Hot Springs:

Four ongoing violations are noted at time of inspection on November 30, 2009:

- Slope instability: Existing tailings slopes are over steepened in some areas and have not been demonstrated to be stable.
- Inadequate soil erosion control measures: Fine material continues to erode from the tailings slopes in amounts that could potentially impact Super Creek if aggressive monitoring and maintenance of the recently installed sediment catchment structures is not adhered to.
- Off-site encroachment: Surface mining activities have occurred beyond the boundary of the approved reclamation plan. Inadequate implementation of soil erosion control measures during past mining activities has resulted in impacts to the Super Creek drainage outside of the approved reclamation plan boundary.
- Inadequate revegetation efforts: The revegetation program has not been implemented in accordance with the approved reclamation plan.

The following corrective measure is offered:

- An amended reclamation plan that adequately addresses the above violations should be completed.

The following recommendations are offered:

- The financial assurance amount should be recalculated based upon further direction from the SMGB pertaining to tailings slope stability alternatives and subsequent SMGB and OMR staff reviews of an adequately revised amended reclamation plan.
- An interim financial assurance in the amount of \$138,742.00 should be provided to the SMGB while approval of an amended reclamation plan is pending.



Garnet Pit (CA Mine ID #91-33-0031), City of Palm Springs:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on November 17, 2009.

Hanson Alcatraz, Presidio, Point Knox (CA Mine ID #91-38-0001), BCDC:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on December 30, 2009.

Hanson Point Knox South (CA Mine ID #91-38-0002), BCDC:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on December 30, 2009.

Hanson Point Knox Shoal (CA Mine ID #91-38-0003), BCDC:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on December 30, 2009.

Hanson Alcatraz South Shoal (CA Mine ID #91-38-0004), BCDC:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on December 30, 2009.

Hanson Suisun Bay (CA Mine ID #91-38-0005), BCDC:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on December 30, 2009.

Hanson Suisun Bay Middleground (CA Mine ID #91-38-0006), BCDC:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on December 30, 2009.

Jerico Suisun Bay Middleground (CA Mine ID #91-38-0007), BCDC:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on December 31, 2009.

CEMEX Carquinez Straits (CA Mine ID #91-38-0008), BCDC:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on December 28, 2009.

CEMEX Alcatraz Sand Shoal (CA Mine ID #91-38-0009), BCDC:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on December 28, 2009.

CEMEX Suisun Bay Middleground (CA Mine ID #91-38-0010), BCDC:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on December 28, 2009.



Morris Tug & Barge Marine Oyster Shell Mining (CA Mine ID #91-38-0011), BCDC:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on December 31, 2009.

San Francisco Marina Dredging Operation (CA Mine ID #91-38-0012), BCDC:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on December 31, 2009.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Executive Officer recommends that the SMGB accept the fifteen 2009 SMARA mine inspection reports, and transmit the findings contained therein to their respective local lead agency and each mine operator.

SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE:

To accept fifteen 2009 SMARA surface mine inspection reports:

Mr. Chairman, in light of the information before the SMGB today, I move that the SMGB accept the fifteen 2009 SMARA mine inspection reports, and transmit the findings to the respective local lead agencies and each mine operator. These surface mining operations are the Atkinson Pit No. 1, Super Creek Quarry, Garnet Pit, Hanson Alcatraz, Presidio, Point Knox, Hanson Point Knox South, Hanson Point Knox Shoal, Hanson Alcatraz South Shoal, Hanson Suisun Bay, Hanson Suisun Bay Middleground, Jerico Suisun Bay Middleground, CEMEX Carquinez Straits, CEMEX Alcatraz Sand Shoal, CEMEX Suisun Bay Middleground, Morris Tug & Barge Marine Oyster Shell Mining, San Francisco Marina Dredging Operation.

Respectfully submitted:

Stephen M. Testa
Executive Officer

