



STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

For Meeting Date: December 13, 2012

Agenda Item No. 20: Presentation of 2012 SMARA Surface Mine Inspection Reports for Nine 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-nine (49) individual surface mining operations, including operations located in three counties (Alpine County, El Dorado County and Yuba County), nine San Francisco Bay marine dredging operations, and eight cities that do not have SMGB certified mining ordinances. SMGB staff also conducts annual SMARA inspections at individual sites within other jurisdictions where it has been determined that a potential conflict of financial interest exists per California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 3504.5(c). SMARA inspection reports for nine surface mining operations are being presented for acceptance consideration.

MINE INSPECTION REPORTS FOR THE SMGB'S ACCEPTANCE CONSIDERATION:

The 2012 SMARA mine inspection reports to be presented at the SMGB's December 13, 2012, regular business meeting for acceptance consideration are as follows:

- Timm Mine (CA Mine ID #91-09-0006), County of El Dorado.
- Snows Quarry (CA Mine ID #91-09-0012), County of El Dorado.
- 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.
- Santa Paula Materials (CA Mine ID #91-56-0034), City of Santa Paula.
- Knife River Hallwood (CA Mine ID #91-58-0002), County of Yuba.
- Dantoni Pit (CA Mine ID #91-58-0011), County of Yuba.
- Simpson Lane Project (CA Mine ID #91-58-0025), County of Yuba.

A summary of violations, corrective measures and inspector's recommendations noted in the annual inspection reports for the above surface mining operations are presented below.

Timm Mine (CA Mine ID #91-09-0006), County of El Dorado:

No violations or corrective measures were noted based on inspection of the Timm Mine on October 25, 2012.



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Snows Quarry (CA Mine ID #91-09-0012), County of El Dorado:

No violations were noted based on inspection of the Snows Quarry on October 24, 2012.

One corrective measure is noted:

1. A revised financial assurance cost estimate should be completed by the current operator of the Snows Quarry and submitted to SMGB staff for review per CCR Section 3804.

Atkinson Pit 1(CA Mine ID #91-19-0004), City of Compton:

No violations or corrective measures were noted based on inspection of the Atkinson Pit 1 mine on November 14, 2012.

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

It is noted that the operator of the Super Creek Quarry continues to actively manage the site in an attempt to minimize erosion from tailings slopes and to eliminate significant impacts to the Super Creek fluvial system. The operator also continues to engage professional consultants in the pursuit of an amended reclamation plan that fully addresses slope stability, erosion and revegetation violations that have been previously documented at the site.

Considering the above, four ongoing violations are noted:

- Slope instability: Existing tailings slopes are over steepened in some areas and have not been definitively demonstrated to be stable.
- Inadequate soil erosion control measures: Fine material continues to erode from portions of the tailings slopes in amounts that could potentially impact Super Creek if aggressive monitoring and maintenance of 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:

- The operator should continue to engage professional consultants in order to complete an amended reclamation plan that adequately addresses the above violations.

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

No violations or corrective measures were noted based on inspection of the Garnet Pit on November 15, 2012.

Santa Paula Materials (CA Mine ID #91-56-0034), City of Santa Paula:

No violations or corrective measures were noted based on inspection of the Santa Paula Materials mine on October 26, 2012.

Knife River Hallwood (CA Mine ID #91-58-0002), County of Yuba:

No violations or corrective measures were noted based on inspection of the Knife River Hallwood mine on October 25, 2012.

Dantoni Pit (CA Mine ID #91-58-0011), County of Yuba:

No violations or corrective measures were noted based on inspection of the Dantoni Pit on October 30, 2012.

Simpson Lane Project (CA Mine ID #91-58-0025), County of Yuba:

No violations or corrective measures were noted based on inspection of the Simpson Lane Project on October 30, 2012.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Executive Officer recommends that the SMGB accept the nine 2012 SMARA surface mining inspection reports as complete, and transmit the findings contained therein to the SMARA lead agencies and mine operators.

SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE:

To accept eight 2012 SMARA surface mine inspection reports as presented:

Mr. Chairman, in light of the information before the State Mining and Geology Board today, I move that the SMGB accept the nine 2012 SMARA mine inspection reports as presented, and direct the Executive Officer to transmit the findings to the respective SMARA lead agencies and mine operators.

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Respectfully submitted:



Stephen M. Testa
Executive Officer