

**STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD**

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

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June 7, 2012

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Consideration of Mineral Resources Lands
of Statewide or Regional Significance
San Gabriel Production-Consumption Region
Los Angeles 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 revise designated areas of statewide or regional significance and specify the boundaries thereof, for mineral resources lands located in the San Gabriel Production-Consumption Region, Los Angeles 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 State Mining and Geology Board (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 September 9, 2010, regular business meeting, the State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB) accepted California Geological Survey (CGS) Special Report 209 which updates information previously presented in a classification report on Portland cement concrete-grade (PCC) aggregate in the San Gabriel Valley Production-Consumption (P-C) Region first published in 1982.

The SMGB previously designated construction aggregate resource areas of regional significance in the San Gabriel P-C Region in SMARA Designation Report No. 3 - *Designation of Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources in the Orange County - Temescal Valley and San Gabriel Valley Production-Consumption Regions* (August, 1984). In the years since the designation of the San Gabriel P-C Region, about 27 percent, or 1,234 acres of the 4,642 acres of lands originally designated by the SMGB have been lost to land uses incompatible with mining. Those 1,234 acres lost

contain approximately 483 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources, which is 20 percent of the 2,402 million tons of aggregate resources designated in 1984. The updated Mineral Land Classification study identified an additional 281 acres of land containing more than 311 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate in areas previously classified MRZ-3. These areas were reclassified as MRZ-2 in the update.

On March 10, 2011, the SMGB accepted the recommendations set forth by the State Geologist for designation of mineral resources lands of regional or statewide economic significance in the San Gabriel Production-Consumption Region, Los Angeles County, based on the information in Special Report 209.

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 AND TERMINATION OF DESIGNATION

The State Geologist has identified each sector, or group of sectors that meets or exceeds the SMGB's threshold economic value. 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). Candidates for designation (i.e., areas reclassified MRZ-2) are further discussed and described below.

The candidate areas for designation or termination of designation are shown on the two Plates. *Candidate Areas for Updated Designation in the San Gabriel Valley Production District, Los Angeles County, California* and *Candidate Areas for Updated Designation in the Eaton Wash, Devils Gate Reservoir, and Palos Verdes Areas*. A description of each candidate area is given below.

Each Sector, or group of Sectors, described below, meets or exceeds the SMGB's threshold economic value for the type of mineral resource described, 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).

Candidates for Designation -- Areas Reclassified MRZ-2:

New information obtained since the publication of the 1984 Mineral Land Classification study has resulted in the reclassification of some areas originally classified MRZ-3 in that study. Sectors J, K, L, and M are newly identified aggregate resource sectors that were not originally designated. Sector J delineates land that has been reclassified in OFR 91-14 to MRZ-2 from MRZ-3 (Miller, 1994). Sectors K, L, and M delineate lands that were classified MRZ-2 in SR 143 Part IV, but were not included in part of a sector.

Each of the Sectors below meets or exceeds the mineral resource threshold value as established by the SMGB. At the time of the updated classification study, that threshold value amounted to approximately 1.1 million tons of aggregate. The permitted aggregate resources amounts contained in individual Sectors are considered proprietary.

Candidate Sector J (289 acres): This Sector is in Sections 21 and 22, T1N, R10W, SBBM. It is bounded to the southeast by Sectors A and B and on the north by National Forest land. Sector J comprises one parcel of land totaling 289 acres covering most of the area referred to as the Fish Canyon Quarry site, an active mine operated by Vulcan Materials Company. Resources (including reserves) for this area total 311 million tons. Reserves for Sector J are proprietary.

Candidate Sector K (2 acres): This Sector is in Section 33 T1N, R10W, SBBM. It is bounded to the southeast by the roadways and on the northwest by Sector E. Sector K includes a two-acre unmined parcel of land located adjacent to the east side of Sector E in the City of Azusa. It is owned by CEMEX and is part of the company's Azusa Quarry site. The land now defined as Sector K was classified MRZ-2 in SR 143 Part IV, but at that time it was considered unavailable to mining and was not included as part of Sector E. A reevaluation of the land indicates that it can be mined in conjunction with the active CEMEX Azusa Quarry. The resources and reserves in Sector K are proprietary.

Candidate Sector L (9 acres): This Sector is in Section 3 T1S, R10W, SBBM. It is bounded to the southeast by roadways and developments, and on the northwest by Sector E. Sector L includes a small nine acre unmined parcel of land adjacent to the south side of Sector E in the city of Azusa. The western half of the sector is owned by CEMEX and is part of the company's Azusa Quarry site. The land now defined as Sector L was classified MRZ-2 in SR 143 Part IV, but at that time it was considered unavailable to mining and was not included as part of Sector E. A reevaluation of the land indicates that it can be mined in conjunction with the active CEMEX Azusa Quarry. The resources and reserves in Sector L are proprietary.

Candidate Sector M (5 acres): This Sector is in Section 1 T1S, R11W, SBBM. It is bounded to the east and west by Sector D and to the south by Arrow Highway. Sector M is a five acre strip of land in the City of Irwindale that formerly was occupied by Buena Vista Street. The land now defined as Sector M was classified MRZ-2 in SR 143 Part IV, but at that time it was considered unavailable to mining because Buena Vista Street

occupied this space. In 2004, United Rock Products paid to realign Buena Vista Street so that it could mine the land underlying Sector M in conjunction with the United Rock Product's Pit #2. The resources and reserves in Sector L are proprietary.

Candidate Areas for Termination of Designation

Six Sectors are identified as potential candidates for termination of designation status because of high-value incompatible land use developments, particularly urbanization and land filling. These areas are indicated on the accompanying Plates.

Candidates for Termination of Designation in Sector A (263 acres): There are six separate areas that are now incompatible with mining. Forty-three million tons of resources in these areas have been lost because of urbanization and 24 million tons of resources have been lost because of landfill operations.

Candidate for Termination of Designation in Sector B (12 acres): There is one area that has become incompatible with mining. Eight million tons of resources have been lost to urbanization.

Candidates for Termination of Designation in Sector C (42 acres): There are two areas that have become incompatible with mining. Thirty-six million tons of resources have been lost to urbanization.

Candidates for Termination of Designation in Sector D (391 acres): There are eleven areas that are now incompatible with mining. Fifty-two million tons of resources have been lost to urbanization and 64 million tons of resources have been lost because of landfill operations.

Candidates for Termination of Designation in Sector E (422 acres): There are six areas that have become incompatible with mining. Fourteen million tons of resources have been lost to urbanization, and 179 million tons of resources have been lost to landfill operations.

Candidates for Termination of Designation in Sector I (104 acres): There are two areas that have become incompatible with mining. Fifteen million tons of resources have been lost to landfill operations.

PUBLIC HEARING AND WRITTEN COMMENT

The SMGB has scheduled a public hearing on this proposed action, to receive public comments, for Tuesday, July 10, 2012. The public hearing will take place in the City Council Chambers, Irwindale, 5050 N. Irwindale Avenue, Irwindale, CA 91706, at 10:00 A.M.

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:

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