

SMGB Designation Report No. 13

STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

Update of Mineral Land Designation for Regionally Significant Portland Cement Concrete-Grade Aggregate Resources in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region, Riverside County, California



Department of Conservation Natural Resources Agency January 2015 This Designation Report No. 13 by the State Mining and Geology Board was prepared with assistance from the California Department of Conservation California Geological Survey

Cover: Portion of City of Palm Springs showing the open pit surface mining operation known as Garnet Pit which is underlain by alluvial and wind-blown sands.



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Stephen M. Testa, Executive Officer State Mining and Geology Board 801 K Street, MS 20-15 Sacramento, California 95814-3528

Telephone: (916) 322-1082 Facsimile: (916) 445-0738 smgb@conservation.ca.gov http://conservation.ca.gov/smgb

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Update of Mineral Land Designation for Portland Cement Concrete-Grade Aggregate in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region, Riverside County, California

Stephen M. Testa Executive Officer State Mining and Geology Board

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Designation is the formal recognition by the State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB) of lands containing mineral resources of regional economic significance that are needed to meet the demands of the future. Designation requires lead agencies to evaluate areas designated by the SMGB to be of regional significance prior to permitting use which would threaten the potential to extract minerals in that area. In 1989, the SMGB designated 9,054 acres containing a minimum of 815 million tons of aggregate resources, deemed to be of regional significance in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption (P-C) Region. In 2007, an updated mineral land classification report published by California Geological Survey (CGS) which provided updated information on the resources within the Palm Springs P-C Region. Following acceptance by the SMGB of the updated classification report, a process to amend regulations commenced, and ended on July 1, 2014, when amended regulations became effective and were incorporated into Title 14, Division 2, of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 3550.15. Of the original 9,054 acres designated in 1989, 811 acres have had their designated status terminated due to land uses incompatible with mining, with a loss of about 176 million tons of aggregate resources. An additional 4,027 acres of land has been removed from designation consideration in the Palm Springs P-C Region reflecting conservation consideration. About 2,715 acres newly identified resources have been have been designated to be of regional significance. Within 12 months of receiving such information, affected lead agencies are required to establish Mineral Resources Management Policies (MRMP) and incorporate such policies in their General Plans. This designation report describes the designation process and specific amendments to the previous designation within the Palm Springs P-C Region resulting from this process. Within 12 months of receiving the designation of an area of regional significance within its jurisdiction, a lead agency shall, in accordance with state policy, establish mineral resource management policies (MRMP) to be incorporated in its general plan.

INTRODUCTION

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. In 1985, the California Division of Mines and Geology (CDMG; now CGS) published Special Report 159 (SR 159) – *Mineral Land*

Classification: Aggregate Materials in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region (Miller, 1988). In response to this classification report, the SMGB, in 1989, designated construction aggregate resource areas of regional significance in the Palm Springs P-C Region as presented in the report titled "SMARA Designation *Report No. 10 - Designation of Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region*". At its December 13, 2007, regular business meeting, the SMGB accepted CGS Special Report 198 which updated information on Portland cement concrete-grade (PCC) aggregate in the Palm Springs P-C Region previously presented in SR 159 titled "Update of Mineral Land Classification for Portland Cement Concrete-Grade Aggregate in the Palm Springs Production Consumption Region, Riverside County, *California*" (Busch, 2007).

Portland cement is the basic ingredient of concrete and the most common type of cement used worldwide. Concrete is formed when portland cement creates a paste with water that binds with sand and rock to harden. Cement is manufactured through a closely controlled chemical combination of calcium, silicon, aluminum, iron and other ingredients. Common materials used to manufacture cement include limestone, shells, and chalk or marl combined with shale, clay, slate, blast furnace slag, silica sand, and iron ore (Figure 1). These ingredients, when heated at high temperatures form a rock-like substance that is ground into the fine powder that we commonly think of as cement.

Sand, gravel, and crushed rock, collectively referred to as aggregate, provides bulk and strength to PCC, in addition to asphaltic concrete (AC), Class II Base, and other grades of aggregate and commodities. Because material specifications for PCC-grade aggregate are more restrictive than specifications for other grades of aggregates, such deposits for use as PCC aggregate are the scarcest and most valuable of aggregate resources.



Figure 1. PCC-grade sand at the Garnet Pit located in Palm Springs.

Following acceptance of CGS SR 198, the State Geologist recommended several candidate areas which met or exceeded the SMGB's threshold economic value. Each candidate area was considered by the SMGB for designation as an area of regional significance. New information reported by Busch (2007) and obtained since the publication of the 1985 Mineral Land Classification study noted 472 million tons of newly identified PPC-grade aggregate mineral lands. Between 1985 and 2005, about 48 million tons of PCC-grade aggregates were mined. Furthermore, about 203 million tons of resources were deemed no longer available for mining reflecting construction of electrical-power-generating windmills and other infrastructure.

This designation report covers the Palm Springs P-C Region and addresses 1) the importance of PCC-grade construction aggregate in the Palm Springs P-C Region, 2) the classification-designation process, 3) description of the Palm Springs P-C Region, 4) lead agency requirements, and goals and policies pertaining to inclusion of such information in Mineral Resources Management Policies (MRMP), 5) the administrative process pursued, and 6) description of mineral lands including those where designation continues, those where designation has been terminated, and newly designated areas.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PCC-GRADE CONSTRUCTION AGGREGATE IN THE PALM SPRINGS P-C REGION

Sand, gravel, and crushed stone are "construction materials." These commodities, collectively referred to as construction aggregate, provide the bulk and strength to portland cement concrete (PCC), asphaltic concrete (AC, commonly called "black top"), plaster, and stucco. Aggregate is also used as road base, subbase, railroad ballast, and fill. Aggregate normally provides from 80 to 100% of the material volume in the above uses. Because material specifications for PCC-grade aggregate are more restrictive than specifications for other grades of aggregates, deposits suitable for use as PCC aggregate are the scarcest and most valuable of aggregate resources.

The value of construction materials such as PCC-grade aggregates is reflected in PRC Section 2711, which states "the production and development of local mineral resources that help maintain a strong economy and that are necessary to build the state's infrastructure are vital to reducing transportation emissions that result from the distribution of hundreds of millions of tons of construction aggregates that are used annually in building and maintaining the state." Also recognized is "the need of the state to provide local governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and other relevant planning agencies with the information necessary to identify and protect mineral resources are vital, finite, and important natural resources and the responsible protection and development of these mineral resources is vital to a sustainable California."

THE CLASSIFICATION - DESIGNATION PROCESS

The rapid growth of many California communities, particularly during the past several decades, has served to emphasize the continuing importance of mineral resource conservation as a land-use issue. To support the maintenance of existing community structure, and state infrastructure, adequate supplies of a variety of mineral commodities must be available. Urban expansion, however, has been a major cause of a decline in the availability of many important minerals. In many areas, for example, pressure from competing land use has severely reduced or completely eliminated access to available construction mineral resources such as sand and gravel. This includes local permitting of land uses incompatible with mining activities. Land set aside for species and habitat conservation has also taken a significant toll in reducing access to mineral resources.

In an effort to mitigate this issue, the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) provides for a mineral lands inventory process termed "classification-designation". The Department of Conservation's CGS, and the SMGB are the state agencies responsible for administering this process. The primary objective of this process is twofold. First is to provide local agency decision makers with information on the location, need and importance of mineral resources within their respective jurisdiction. Second is to assure that this information will be considered in local land-use planning decisions. This second objective is met through the lead agency adoption of local MRMP.

Classification

During the first phase of this process, known as classification, the State Geologist is responsible for preparing a geological inventory of selected mineral commodities within a defined study region. This is accomplished by classifying areas into various Mineral Resource Zones (MRZs) based on their mineral resource potential. As set forth in Section 2761(b) of SMARA, the State Geologist classifies land solely on the basis of geologic factors and without regard to existing land use and economic factors according to the SMGB's Guidelines.

Areas subject to mineral land classification studies are divided by the State Geologist into various MRZ categories that reflect varying degrees of mineral resource potential. When the original mineral land classification study was completed in 1984, the nomenclature for mineral land classification consisted of four categories: MRZ-1, MRZ-2, MRZ-3, and MRZ-4 (Figure 2). Since then, the nomenclature has been expanded to include subdivision of the MRZ-2 and MRZ-3 categories into "a" and "b" subcategories, as explained in the SMGB's Guidelines for Classification and Designation of Mineral Lands under Section I, part 3. However; in updating the mineral land classification for the region it was determined that the original mineral land classification categories remained valid and, for simplicity, they were retained in the updated mineral land classification report (Bush, 2009). In the updated mineral land classification report, lands within the study area were classified for three construction aggregate grades: PCC-grade, AC-grade, and base and fill. However; only those mineral resources classified for PCC-grade aggregate were recommended for designation. In the case of construction aggregate, "reserves" are deposits in land owned or controlled by an aggregate producer and permitted for mining. "Resources" are all deposits of aggregate, including the permitted reserves.

In many regions, large portions of the areas classified as MRZ-2 are already committed to various urban uses which limit or prohibit access to underlying resources. As an aid to local planning agencies, classification reports prepared for metropolitan areas also identify MRZ-2 areas that have not been urbanized. These non-urbanized areas, called resource sectors, are areas judged to contain a significant deposit of construction quality aggregate that is available, from a general land-use perspective, to meet future needs (50 years) of the region. In other words, areas currently permitted for mining and areas found to have land uses compatible with possible mining are identified as sectors.

Designation

Once a classification report, or updated classification report, has been completed, the SMGB may choose, based on recommendations from the State Geologist, to proceed with the second step in SMARA's mineral land identification process, known as designation. As part of this process, the SMGB considers designating those mineral deposits that are of regional economic significance.

In contrast to classification, which inventories mineral deposits without regard to land use or land ownership, the purpose of designation is to identify those deposits that are

potentially available from a land-use perspective, and are of prime importance in meeting future aggregate needs of the region. Areas considered for designation are those deposits situated within the resource sectors.

LEAD AGENCY REQUIREMENTS

General Plan Recognition

Classification and designation reports are transmitted to the appropriate affected agency (county and/or city). Within 12 months of the receipt of this information, local lead agencies are required by PRC Section 2762(a) to establish Mineral Resources Management Policies (MRMP) in their general plans. The MRMP 1) recognizes the mineral information classified by the State Geologist and transmitted to the SMGB; 2) assists in the management of land use that affects areas of regional significance (designated areas); and 3) emphasizes the conservation and development of the identified mineral deposit. Every lead agency is required to submit proposed MRMP to the SMGB for review and comment prior to adoption. Any subsequent amendment of the MRMP previously reviewed by the SMGB shall also require review and comment by the SMGB.

Classification

If an area is classified by the State Geologist, and the lead agency either has designated that area in its general plan as having important minerals to be protected, or otherwise has not yet acted, then prior to permitting a use which would threaten the potential to extract minerals in that area, the lead agency shall prepare, in conjunction with preparing any environmental document required by Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000). If no such document is required, a statement specifying its reasons for permitting the proposed use, and shall forward a copy to the State Geologist and the board for review.

If the proposed use is subject to the requirements of Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000), the lead agency shall comply with the public review requirements of that division. Otherwise, the lead agency shall provide public notice of the availability of its statement by 1) publishing the notice at least one time in a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected by the proposed use, and 2) directly mailing the notice to owners of property within one-half mile of the parcel or parcels on which the proposed use is located as those owners are shown on the latest equalized assessment role.

The public review period shall not be less than 60 days from the date of the notice and shall include at least one public hearing. The lead agency shall evaluate comments received and shall prepare a written response. The written response shall describe the disposition of the major issues raised. In particular, when the lead agency's position on the proposed use is at variance with recommendations and objections raised in the comments, the written response shall address in detail why specific comments and suggestions were not accepted.



Figure 2. Relationship of MRZ categories to the resource/reserve classification system (Adapted from U.S. Bureau of Mines/United States Geological Survey, 1980).

Prior to permitting a use which would threaten the potential to extract minerals in an area classified by the State Geologist as an area containing mineral deposits but the significance of which requires further evaluation, the lead agency may cause to be prepared an evaluation of the area in order to ascertain the significance of the mineral deposit located therein. The results of such evaluation shall be transmitted to the State Geologist and the SMGB.

PRC Section 2763 notes that if an area is designated by the SMGB as an area of regional significance, and the lead agency either has designated that area in its general plan as having important minerals to be protected pursuant to PRC Section 2762(a), or otherwise has not yet acted pursuant PRC Section 2762(a), then prior to permitting a use which would

threaten the potential to extract minerals in that area, the lead agency shall prepare a statement specifying its reasons for permitting the proposed use, in accordance with the requirements set forth in PRC Section 2762(d). Lead agency land use decisions involving areas designated as being of regional significance shall be in accordance with the lead agency's MRMP and shall also, in balancing mineral values against alternative land uses, consider the importance of these minerals to their market region as a whole and not just their importance to the lead agency's area of jurisdiction.

Designation

If an area is designated by the SMGB as an area of statewide significance, and the lead agency either has designated that area in its general plan as having important minerals to be protected pursuant PRC Section 2762(a), or otherwise has not yet acted pursuant to PRC Section 2762(a), then prior to permitting a use which would threaten the potential to extract minerals in that area, the lead agency shall prepare a statement specifying its reasons for permitting the proposed use, in accordance with the requirements set forth in PRC Section 2762(d). Lead agency land use decisions involving areas designated as being of statewide significance shall be in accordance with the lead agency's MRMP and shall also, in balancing mineral values against alternative land uses, consider the importance of the mineral resources to the state and nation as a whole.

PRC Section 2764 further notes that upon the request of a surface mining operator or other interested person and payment by the requesting person of the estimated cost of processing the request, the lead agency having jurisdiction shall amend its general plan, or prepare a new specific plan or amend any applicable specific plan. The amended general plan or new specific plan, with respect to the continuation of the existing surface mining operation for which the request is made, must address future land uses in the vicinity of, and access routes serving, the surface mining operation in light of the importance of the minerals to their market region as a whole, and not just their importance to the lead agency's area of jurisdiction.

In adopting amendments to the general plan, or adopting or amending a specific plan, the lead agency shall make written legislative findings as to whether the future land uses and particular access routes will be compatible or incompatible with the continuation of the surface mining operation, and if they are found to be incompatible, the findings shall include a statement of the reasons why they are to be provided for, notwithstanding the importance of the minerals to their market region as a whole or their previous designation by the SMGB, as the case may be. Any evaluation of a mineral deposit prepared by a lead agency shall be transmitted to the State Geologist and the SMGB. These procedures are not to be undertaken in any area that has already been designated and if a MRMP has been established and incorporated in the lead agency's general plan.

Mineral Resources Management Policies (MRMP) Goals and Policies

The criteria to be used by affected cities and counties in developing their own MRMP are noted in the SMGB's regulations (California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Section 3676), and include but should not be limited to the following:

- A summary of the data and analysis provided in the classification and/or designation reports, incorporation of PRC Section 2710, et seq., and state policy by reference (together with maps of the identified mineral deposits), or incorporation by reference of the classification and/or designation reports and maps.
- Policies that recognize the mineral information transmitted by the SMGB, assist in the management of land uses affecting areas of regional and statewide significance, and emphasize the conservation and development of the identified mineral deposits.
- Implementation measures, including:
 - Reference in the general plan to the location of identified mineral deposits and a discussion of those areas targeted for conservation and possible future resource extraction.
 - Use of maps to clearly delineate identified mineral deposits and those areas targeted for conservation and possible future resource extraction.
 - At least one of the following:
 - Special purpose overlay zones, mineral resource/openspace zoning, or any other appropriate zoning that identifies the presence of mineral deposits and restricts the encroachment of incompatible land uses in those areas that are to be conserved.
 - Requirements for recording notice of the presence of identified mineral deposits in the chain of property title.
 - Conditions placed upon incompatible land uses within and next to any areas containing identified mineral deposits for the purpose of mitigating any significant land use conflicts.

MRMP are reviewed by the SMGB. If upon review are deemed to be in accordance with SMARA and the SMGB's regulations, MRMP are formally recognized by the SMGB.

Once policies have been incorporated into the general plan to protect areas that have been classified or designated, all of the lead agency's (i.e., city or county) land use decisions affecting the designated areas must be in accordance with those policies.

When making land use decisions involving identified mineral deposits, the jurisdiction must consider the importance of the mineral resource to the market region for deposits of regional significance rather than simply their importance within the jurisdiction.

If a lead agency intends to approve a use that would threaten the potential to extract minerals from an area classified by the State Geologist, the city or county must prepare, in conjunction with preparing any environmental document required by California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). If no such document is required the county or city must prepare a statement specifying its reasons for permitting the proposed use, and forward such Statement of Reasons to the State Geologist and the SMGB (PRC Section 2762(d)). Prior to approving the use which would threaten the potential to extract minerals in an area classified by the State Geologist, the agency may also cause to be prepared an evaluation of the area in order to ascertain the significance of the mineral deposit (PRC Section 2762(e)).

If a city or county intends to approve a use that would threaten the potential to extract minerals from an area designated by the SMGB, the lead agency must prepare, in conjunction with preparing any environmental document required by California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). If no such document is required the lead agency must prepare a statement specifying its reasons for permitting the proposed use, and forward such Statement of Reasons to the State Geologist and the SMGB in accordance with PRC Section 2762(d). Lead agencies land use decisions involving areas designated as being of regional significance are required to be in accordance with their respective MRMP, and also, in balancing mineral values against alternative land uses, consider the importance of these minerals to their market region as a whole and not just their importance to the lead agency's area of jurisdiction (PRC Section 2763(a)).

THE PALM SPRINGS PRODUCTION-CONSUMPTION REGION

P-C Regions reflect the extent of the market region served by a particular production district. However, study areas may be a county, a portion of a county, or a P-C region that may contain part(s) of one or more counties. P-C regions were originally selected such that the majority (95%) of the construction aggregate produced in the region was consumed in the region. When a P-C Region is updated, the situation may change and the 95% criteria may no longer be valid, reflecting changes in marketing patterns, depletion of resources and/or consolidation of companies in the region. P-C regional boundaries may then be changed.

The Palm Springs P-C Region is situated in the Coachella valley in west-central Riverside County and encompasses all or part of 16 quadrangles totaling about 631 square miles. The Palm Springs P-C Region covers the areas east of Cabazon, south of Morongo Valley and Joshua Tree National Park, west of the Mecca Hills, and north of the community of Mecca and the San Jacinto Mountains. The Palm Springs P-C Region is shown in Figure 3.

A lead agency is a city, county, the SMGB of other jurisdiction, which has the principal responsibility for administering SMARA. The lead agencies within the Palm Springs P-C

Region includes the County of Riverside and the SMGB. The SMGB is a lead agency when an unincorporated city has a surface mining operation within its jurisdiction, but does not maintain a mining ordinance certified by the SMGB (Table 1). As of January 2006, there were seven companies operating 11 surface mining operations to produce PCC-grade aggregates in the Palm Springs P-C Region.



Figure 3. Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region (outlined in blue).

The SMGB, as specified in its *Guidelines for Classification and Designation of Mineral Lands* (SMGB, 2000), requires that mineral land classification reports for regions containing construction materials classified as MRZ-2 include, "*An estimate of the total quantity of each such construction material that will be needed to supply the requirements of both the county and the marketing region in which it occurs for the next 50 years. The marketing region is defined as the area within which such material is usually mined and marketed. The amount of each construction material mineral resource needed for the next 50 years shall be projected using past consumption rates adjusted for anticipated changes in market conditions and mining technology."*

At its December 13, 2007, regular business meeting, the SMGB accepted CGS Special Report 198 which updated information on PCC-grade aggregate in the Palm Springs P-C Region previously presented in SR 159. The updated mineral classification report prepared by CGS, SR 198, presented the following conclusions:

- As of January 2006, eleven mines, operated by seven different mining companies, were producing PCC-grade aggregate in the Palm Springs P-C Region. In 1985, there were eight mines operated by five mining companies. In addition to PCC aggregates, these mines also produced a full range of lower aggregate grades for such products as asphaltic concrete and base.
- The anticipated consumption of aggregate in the Palm Springs P-C Region through the year 2056 is estimated to be 307 million tons, of which 45 percent, or 138 million tons, must be PCC quality. This is nearly double the 50-year consumption estimate made in SR 159.
- Since 1985, permitted PCC-grade aggregate reserves have increased from 67 million tons to 167 million tons, extending the projected depletion date from 2012 to 2038.
- Approximately 10 percent, or 923 acres of the 9,094 acres of lands designated by the SMGB in 1989, has been lost to land uses incompatible with mining.
- An additional 6,638 acres of land containing an estimated 472 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources have been identified in the Palm Springs P-C Region.

Information provided in CGS Special Report 159 identified 28.2 square miles of sectorized lands available to meet future aggregate needs, and approximately 67 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources. A reevaluation and update as presented in CGS Special Report 198 identified an additional 6,638 acres of land containing an estimated 472 tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources.

Discussion of the updated estimate of the 50-year consumption of aggregate, correlation between aggregate production and population, population and aggregate demand projections through the year 2058, and comparison of the 50-year aggregate demand with current PCC-grade aggregate reserves, are discussed by Kohler (2010). The impact of potential alternative sources of aggregate and recycled aggregate is also discussed by Kohler (2010). Aggregate sustainability is discussed by Clinkenbeard (2012).

Table 1

Lead Agencies within the Palm Springs P-C Region

Lead Agency (County, City or SMGB)	Jurisdictions with Active PCC- Aggregate Surface Mining Operations within their Jurisdiction	Lead Agencies with Land Classified as MRZ-2a or MRZ- 2b for PCC-Grade Aggregate within their Jurisdiction	
Counties			
Riverside	Riverside	x	
Cities			
	Cathedral City		
	Coachella		
	Indian Wells		
	Indio		
	La Quinta		
	Rancho Mirage		
State Mining and Geology Board			
SMGB	Palm Springs	X	

In 2012, the California Geological Survey (CGS) in their statewide report titled "*Map Sheet 52 (Updated 2012), Aggregate Sustainability in California*" noted that the Palm Springs P-C Region 50-year demand for aggregate was on the order of 295 million tons. Permitted aggregate resources were on the order of 152 million tons. The percentage of permitted aggregate resources, as compared to the 50-year demand, was 52 percent, significantly lower than the projected demand. Projected years remaining was estimated to be 21 to 30 years.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS LEADING TO DESIGNATION, AND TERMINATION OF DESIGNATION WITHIN THE PALM SPRINGS P-C REGION

The value of PCC aggregates is reflected in PRC Section 2711, which states "the production and development of local mineral resources that help maintain a strong economy and that are necessary to build the state's infrastructure are vital to reducing transportation emissions that result from the distribution of hundreds of millions of tons of construction aggregates that are used annually in building and maintaining the state." Also recognized is "the need of the state to provide local governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and other relevant planning agencies with the information necessary to identify and protect mineral resources within general plans", and "that the state's mineral resources are vital, finite, and important natural resources and the responsible protection and development of these mineral resources is vital to a sustainable California."

As discussed above, 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. A chronology of pertinent events and actions is summarized in Table 2.

In 1985, the CDMG published SR 159 – *Mineral Land Classification: Aggregate Materials in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region* (Miller, 1988). In response to this classification report, the SMGB, in 1989, designated construction aggregate resource areas of regional significance in the Palm Springs P-C Region as presented in the report titled "SMARA Designation Report No. 10 - Designation of Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region".

The publication of Special Report 159, and its updated Special Report 198, accomplished part-one of the two-part *Classification-Designation process*. Part-two of the two-step process, designation, is the formal recognition by the SMGB of lands containing mineral resources of regional or statewide economic significance needed to meet the demands of the future. In the years since the original publication of Special Report 159, the designation process has been amended.

Following the SMGB's acceptance of updated CGS Special Report 198, the State Geologist subsequently recommended several candidates, or areas, which met or exceeded the SMGB's threshold economic value, thus, each area may be considered for designation as an area of regional or statewide significance by the SMGB. Included were eight areas recommended for designation. The State Geologist also recommended five areas for termination of designation. The SMGB at its October 14, 2010, regular business meeting accepted the State Geologist's recommendations for designation, and termination of designation, of certain mineral lands.

Table 2

Chronology of Pertinent Events and Actions Leading to Designation within the Palm Springs P-C Region

Date	Event and/or Action Taken
1985	California Division of Mines and Geology publishes Special Report 159 titled <i>"Mineral Land Classification:</i> <i>Aggregate Materials in the Palm Springs Production-</i> <i>Consumption Region</i> (Miller, 1988)."
1989	SMGB publishes Designation Report titled "SMARA Designation Report No. 10 - Designation of Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region".
December 13, 2007	SMGB accepts CGS updated classification report SR 198 titled "Update of Mineral Land Classification for Portland Cement Concrete-Grade Aggregate in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region, Riverside County".
April 1, 2008	State Geologist offers recommendations to SMGB for designation and termination of designation.
April 10, 2008	SMGB accepts State Geologist's recommendations for designation and termination of designation.
2009	Public comment period commencing on February 6, 2009, and ending April 7, 2009; public hearing held by the SMGB Mineral and Geologic Resources Committee to receive preliminary comments held on March 11, 2009.
October 14, 2010	SMGB accepts proposed amended regulations with modification.
2012	Public comment period commencing October 5, 2012, and ending November 19, 2012.
2012	45-day public comment period regarding Economic Impact Analysis commencing October 5, 2012, and ending November 19, 2012.
2013-2014	45-day public comment period regarding revised regulatory text commencing December 6, 2013, and ending January 20, 2014.
April 10, 2014	SMGB adopts final amended regulatory language.
April 11, 2014	Office of Administrative Law approves amended regulation.
July 1, 2014	Amended regulation enacted.

Following acceptance of the State Geologist's recommendations on April 10, 2008, the SMGB scheduled a 60-day public comment period which commenced on February 6, 2009, and ended on April 7, 2009. In addition, pursuant to PRC Sections

2760, 2790 and 2791, a public hearing was held in the City of Palm Springs on March 11, 2009, to seek the recommendations of concerned federal, state, and local agencies, educational institutions, civic and public interest organizations, and private organizations and individuals, in the identification of areas of regional significance. During such hearing, comments were received and responses were subsequently prepared. Written comments were received from the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy (CVMC), and the Friends of the Desert Mountains, and addressed. At its October 14, 2010, regular business meeting, the SMGB accepted the proposed regulation with modification in consideration of public comments received.

Proposed action on regulation was published in the California Regulatory Notice Register on October 5, 2012, No. 40-Z (Notice File No. Z2012-0924-02). The 45-day public comment period was from October 5, 2012, to November 19, 2012. At its December 13, 2012, regular business meeting, the SMGB subsequently adopted the regulatory language for the designation of mineral lands of regional or statewide significance in the Palm Springs P-C Region, and directed the Executive Officer to proceed with the 45-day notice to adopt proposed regulations which would amend Section 3550.15 to Title 14, Article 2, of the CCR, and provide a description of the locations of mineral resource areas designated to be of regional significance.

An Economic Impact Analysis (EIA) was prepared and made available for public comment. The public comment period extended from September 18, 2013 to October 3, 2013. No public comments were received. The proposed regulatory text was revised to address clarity of nomenclature of certain sectors and subsectors in the language and on the maps. A 45-day public comment period commenced on December 6, 2013, and ended at the close of business on January 20, 2014. No additional comments were received.

Following review by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), changes in the proposed regulatory language for designation and termination of designation of certain mineral lands within the Palm Springs P-C Region, required re-adoption by the SMGB reflecting changes in nomenclature. The SMGB readopted such language prior to approval consideration by OAL at its April 10, 2014, regular business meeting. The amended regulation was approved by OAL on April 11, 2014, and became effective on July 1, 2014.

DESIGNATION OF RESOURCE AREAS IN THE PALM SPRINGS P-C REGION

Following receipt of recommendations received from the State Geologist, and consideration of comments received by various stakeholders, the SMGB considered and revised the proposed regulatory language which were subsequently adopted by the SMGB, and approved by the OAL, becoming effective on July 1, 2014. Mineral resource areas designated to be of regional significance, and where designation has been terminated, are shown on two Plates: *"Updated Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region, Riverside County, California (Western Area), 2013"* (Plate 1) and *"Updated*

Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region, Riverside County, California (Eastern Area), 2013" (Plate 2). These two Plates are included with this designation report (in pocket and shown in Figures 4 and 5).



Figure 4. Updated regionally significant construction aggregate resource areas in the Palm Springs P-C Region, Western Area, Riverside County (Plate 1 in pocket). Shown are previously designated areas (light green), and terminated designations (dark green).



Figure 5. Updated regionally significant construction aggregate resource areas in the Palm Springs P-C Region, Eastern Area, Riverside County (Plate 2 in pocket). Shown are previously designated areas (light green), newly designated areas (light tan) and terminated designations (dark green).

Previously Designated Sectors

The updated designations for the Palm Springs P-C Region, incorporates those sectors or portions of sectors previously designated in 1988 and remain designated, newly designated sectors, and portions of designated sectors that have since been terminated due to incompatible land uses since the original designation in 1989. A description of each Sector is discussed and summarized on Table 3. Also provided is information on sector designation, location, estimated acres and designated resources in millions of tons.

Those resource areas previously designated in 1985 included Sectors A-1, A-2, B-1, B-2-b, B-3-a, B-3-c, B-3-e, B-4, B-5-a, B-5-c, C-1, D, E-1, E-2, F, G-1, G-2, G-3, H-1, H-2 and H-3. These Sectors have been modified to reflect in part those portions terminated. Resource areas previously designated and that have now been terminated include Sectors A-3, B-2-a, B-3-b, B-3-b, B-3-d and C-2. Newly designated resource areas include Sectors I, J, J-4, J-5, J-6, K-1, K-2, K-3, K-4, K-5, K-6, K-7 and K-8.

Table 3
Summary of Previous Designated Areas

Sector	Location	Acres	Designated Resources (million tons)	Status
A-1	Aggregate deposits located adjacent to the southeast border of the community of Cabezon at the base of the San Jacinto Mountains.	185	36	No change
A-2	Aggregate deposits located between the Colorado River Aqueduct and the Morongo Indian Reservation.	22	2	No change
A-3	Aggregate deposit located south of Interstate Highway 10.	146	NA ^(a)	146 acres terminated
B-1	Aggregate deposit located at the mouth of the Whitewater Canyon north of Interstate 10.	203	40	No change
B-2-b	Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Interstate 10 at the intersection of Highway 62.	238/167	12	167 acres terminated
В-3-а	Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Sector B-2 and east of the San Gorgonio Pass to Garnet Hill.	636/401	NA	401 acres terminated
В-3-с	Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Sector B-2 and east of the San Gorgonio Pass to Garnet Hill.	Included in B-3-a	NA	No change
В-3-е	Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Sector B-2 and east of the San Gorgonio Pass to Garnet Hill.	Included in B-3-a	NA	No change
B-4	Aggregate deposit located east of Indian Avenue and south of Garnet Hill.	115	10	No change
B-5-a	Aggregate deposit located south of Interstate 10.	126/86	NA	86 acres terminated
B-5-c	Aggregate deposit located adjacent to the northern border of Sector B-3 and the southern border of Interstate 10 near Garnet Hill.	Included in B-5-a	NA	No change
C-1	Aggregate deposit located in the Little Morongo Canyon.	54/11	1	11 acres terminated
D	Aggregate deposit located in a small unnamed wash in the foothills of the community of Thousand Palms.	51	1	No change
E-1	Aggregate deposit located northeast of Dillon Road, approximately six miles northeast of the City of Indio.	1,420	150	No change
E-2	Aggregate deposit located approximately six miles northeast of the City of Indio.	1,159	125	No change
F	Aggregate deposit located approximately four miles northeast of the City of Indio.	3,312	330	No change
G-1	Aggregate deposit located approximately three miles north of the City of Indio.	650	NA	No change
G-2	Aggregate deposit located approximately three miles north of the City of Indio.	Included in G-1	NA	No change
G-3	Aggregate deposit located approximately three miles north of the City of Indio.	Included in G-1	NA	No change

Sector	Location	Acres	Designated Resources (million tons)	Status
H-1	Aggregate deposit located approximately four miles east of the community of Thermal.		Proprietary	No change
H-2	Aggregate deposit located northeast of the H-2 Coachella Canal approximately three and a half miles east of the community of Thermal.		Proprietary	No change
H-3 Aggregate deposit located southwest of the Coachella Canal approximately three miles east of the community of Thermal.		456	22	No change
Total		9,054	815 (minimum)	

a) NA = Not available

Resource Areas Removed from Consideration

The State Geologist recommended new areas for designation. These areas were referenced as Sectors I, J-1 through J-6, and K-1 through K-8. In updating the designation of significant mineral resources within the Palm Springs P-C Region, areas under consideration may be excluded from designation either by removal from consideration during the classification-designation process, or via termination of previously designated areas. In prior designations, the SMGB has excluded lands from designation within the Palm Springs P-C Region for a number of reasons including areas within a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), sectors identified as a sensitive resources area (i.e., Fringed-toes lizard habitat), high wind areas, scenic corridors, existing wind turbines and gas lines, potential for high water and Floodplain Reserve areas (i.e., endangered species). These considerations are discussed below.

As part of the designation process, comments were received requesting that certain new areas proposed by the State geologist to be designated, be excluded or removed from designation consideration. Based on comments received parts of Sector J, and Sector K were proposed to be removed from designation consideration as summarized in Table 4. Mineral lands removed from designation consideration include Sectors I, J-1, J-2 and J-3, and parts of Sectors K-1 and K-4.

Consideration for the removal of a portion of Sector I situated in part of the Thermal Canyon wash area reflected this area being considered an important wildlife movement corridor which links the Mecca Hills Wilderness and Joshua Tree National Park. This area is also targeted for conservation within the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan/National Community Conservation Plan (NCCP).

Sectors J-1 and J-2 are situated on lands acquired in 2004 by a partnership of conservation entities for the purpose of protecting wildlife habitat and other conservation values as part of the NCCP Reserve System, and acquired primarily or entirely with Proposition 40 bond funds. Portions of Sector J-3 are managed in part by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and in part by State Parks. BLM used federal funds specifically to protect the habitat value of the property as part of the Coachella Valley

Fringe-toed Lizard Area of Critical Environmental Concern, which is part of the Habitat Conservation Plan to satisfy the federal Endangered Species Act. In addition, State Parks used Proposition 40 bond funds specifically for the purpose of protecting wildlife habitat and other conservation values.

A portion of Sector K-1 is owned by State Parks and is within the Indio Hills unit of the State Parks system; whereas, State Parks is a Permittee under the NCPP and is obligated to manage the land for its habitat conservation values in perpetuity. A portion of Sector K-4 is owned by State Parks and within the Indio Hills unit of the State Park system.

In summary, the aforementioned sectors have been acquired with funds restricted to the conservation of wildlife habitat and are part of the NCCP Reserve System. Although designation does not prevent the conservation of these areas, the SMGB elected to exclude these specific areas from designation.

Designation Terminated

Six sectors or portions of sectors previously designated were terminated because of high-value incompatible land use developments. These sectors, or portions of such sectors, were A-3, B-2-a, B-3-b, B-3-d, B-5-d and C-2, as summarized in Table 4. The cause for termination is also summarized in Table 5. Of the 214 million tons of resources lost as a result of designation status having been terminated, 213 million tons reflect construction of wind-driven electrical generators and associated infrastructure, with one acre the result of residential and associated infrastructure development. About 816 acres total were lost as a result of previously designated lands that have been terminated.

	Table 4		
Summary of New Area	s Considered	but not	Designated

Sector	Location	Acres	Resource Removed (million tons)	Land Use Consideration
J-1	North of the community of Indio Hills in Sections 20, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, T3S, R7E; and Sections 3 and 5, T4S, R7E, SBBM. It is separated from Sector J-2 to the south by Dillon Road.	2,633	191	This is a portion of the 8,881 acres acquired in 2004 by a partnership of conservation entities to conserve the lands in perpetuity as part of the NCCP Reserve System. The lands are currently managed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks), the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) and the Friends of the Desert Mountains (Friends). These lands were acquired primarily or entirely with Proposition 40 bond funds approved by the voters specifically for the purpose of protecting wildlife habitat and other conservation values.
J-2	West of the community of Indio Hills in Sections 31, and 32, T3S, R7E; and Section 5, T4S, R7E, SBBM. It is separated from Sector J-1 on the north by Dillon Road and from Sector J-3 on the south by a utility corridor.	103	6	This is a portion of the 8,881 acres acquired in 2004 by a partnership of conservation entities to conserve the lands in perpetuity as part of the NCCP Reserve System. The lands are currently managed by State Parks. These lands were acquired primarily or entirely with Proposition 40 bond funds approved by the voters specifically for the purpose of protecting wildlife habitat and other conservation values.
J-3	West of the community of Indio Hills in Section 36, T3S, R6E; Section 1, T4S, R6E; and Sections 5, and 6, T4S, R7E, SBBM. It is separated from Sector J-2 to the north by a utility corridor.	1,135	83	This is a portion of the 8,881 acres acquired in 2004 by a partnership of conservation entities to conserve the lands in perpetuity as part of the NCCP Reserve System. The lands are currently managed by State Parks. These lands were acquired primarily or entirely with Proposition 40 bond funds approved by the voters specifically for the purpose of protecting wildlife habitat and other conservation values.
Subtotal		3,871	280	
K-1 ^(a)	Aggregate deposits located in Section 33, T4S, R7E, SBBM. It is bounded to the north by the Mission Creek Branch of the San Andreas Fault near the base of the south flank of the Indio Hills. Adjacent to the original Sector G on the east. On the south it is bounded by a utility corridor, which separates it from Sector K-2.	52	Proprietary	The portion of this Sector that is in Section 28 is owned by State Parks and is within the Indio Hills unit of the State Park system. State Parks is a Permittee under the NCCP and is obligated to manage the land for its habitat conservation values in perpetuity.
K-4 ^(a)	Aggregate deposits located in Sections 27, and 34, T4S, R7E, SBBM. It is bounded on the south by the Mission Creek Branch of the San Andreas Fault.	4	Proprietary	The portion of this Sector that is in Section 27 is owned by either State Parks and is within the Indio Hills unit of the State Park system and the NCCP Reserve System, or by the Friends of the Desert Mountains. State Parks is a Permittee under the NCCP and is obligated to manage the land for its habitat conservation values in perpetuity. The Friends is a non-profit conservation organization that holds land for the purpose of conserving the resource values on the land. The Friends' land is also with the NCCP Reserve System.
Subtotal		56	Proprietary	
Total		3,927	289 (minimum)	

a) Partial

Table 5Summary of Previous Designated Areas Terminated and Resources Lost

	Acres	Location		Resources Lost (million tons)	
Sector			Cause for Termination	Wind- farms	Urbanization
A-3	146	Aggregate deposits located directly south of Interstate 10 two miles east of the community of Cabazon.	Construction of wind-driven electrical generators and associated infrastructure has occurred. It is likely that this development will preclude the future mining of the 38 million tons of resources contained in Sector A-3.	38	
B-2-a	167	Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Interstate 10.	Construction of wind-driven electrical generators and associated infrastructure has occurred in the western portion (207 acres) of Sector B-2. It is likely that this development will preclude future mining of the approximately 44 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in that part of Sector B-2.	36	
B-3-b	300	Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Interstate 10 and north of the main line of the Southern Pacific Railroad.	Construction of wind-driven electrical generators and associated infrastructure has occurred in the western half (372 acres) of this Sector. It is likely that this high-value development will preclude future mining of the approximately 117 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in those parts of subsectors B-3-b and B-3-d.	86	
B-3-d	101	Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Interstate 10 and north of the main line of the Southern Pacific Railroad.	Construction of wind-driven electrical generators and associated infrastructure has occurred in the eastern sixth (101 acres) of this Sector. It is likely that this high-value development will preclude future mining of the approximately 117 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in those parts of subsectors B-3-b and B-3-d.	Refer to B-3-b	Refer to B-3-b
B-5-b	86	Aggregate deposit located south of Interstate 10.	Development of wind-driven electrical generators and associated infrastructure has occurred on approximately 86 acres of Sector B-5. It is likely that this high-value development will preclude the future mining of approximately 15 million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in the Sector.	15	
C-2	11	Aggregate deposit located in the Little Morongo Canyon approximately one mile north of the City of Desert Hot Springs.	The southern one-quarter of Sector C (11 acres) has undergone development in the form of residential construction and associated infrastructure (roads, flood control improvements, etc.) thus precluding future mining from this portion of the Sector. The one million tons of PCC-grade aggregate resources contained in the southern one-quarter of the sector are considered lost to urbanization.		1
Total	811			175	1

Description of Newly Designated Resource Areas

Thirteen new resource areas have been designated and include Sectors I, J, J-4, J-5, J-6, K-1, K-2, K-3, K-4, K-5, K-6, K-7 and K-8. Four new resource sectors that were not previously designated are summarized in Table 6, and described below.

<u>Sector I</u>: Sector I includes parts of Thermal Canyon wash and alluvial fan within the boundary of the Palm Springs P-C Region encompassing 683 acres. The average percentage of sand is estimated at 50 percent, with fine and-sized particles increasing from the east to west. The gravel fraction is composed of equal amounts of granitic and metamorphic clasts, with minor amounts of Tertiary-age sedimentary clasts. No estimate of reserves are available. No surface mining operations currently exist in this area.

<u>Sector J</u>: Sector J includes three new designated subsectors, J-4, J-5 and J-6, and incorporates a series of coalescing alluvial fans deposited from material discharged from canyons cut north into the Little San Bernardino Mountains. Subsectors J-4, J-5 and J-6 contains 1,068, 148 and 260 acres, respectively. Resources are estimated at 71, 7 and 15 million tons, respectively. No surface mining operations are currently located within these resource areas. However, local material was historically used for small infrastructure projects associated with the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct.

<u>Sector K</u>: Sector K includes eight subsectors, K-1 through K-8, and incorporates unconsolidated alluvium overlying bedrock formations, and composed of sand with lesser percentages of gravel. Granite Construction owns all of subsector K-1, K-2, K-4, K-5, K-6, K-7 and K-8, and a significant part of K-3. Resources are deemed proprietary.

Table 6				
Summary	of New	Desig	gnated	Areas

Sector	Location	Acres	Designated Resources (million tons)	Status
1	Aggregate deposits comprising part of Thermal Canyon wash, south of Interstate Highway 10, east of the Coachella Canal, and four miles northeast of the community of Thermal. Sector I is approximately one mile north of the previously designated Sectors H-1, H-2, and H-3 (Plate 2, Inset Map A).	683	NA	New
J	Aggregate deposits located near the community of Indio Hills that formed as a series of coalescing alluvial fans deposited from material discharged from canyons cut northward into the Little San Bernardino Mountains.	-	-	New
J-4	Aggregate deposits located north and east of the community of Indio Hills in Sections 1, 2, 11, and 12, T4S, R7E, SBBM. It is separated from Sector J-5 to the southeast by a public road and residential development in the community of Indio Hills (Figure 6a).	1,086	71	New
J-5	Aggregate deposits located east of the community of Indio Hills in Sections 13, and 24, T4S, R7E; and Section 19, T4S, R8E, SBBM. It is separated from Sector J-4 to the northwest by a public road and urbanization in the community of Indio Hills, and from Sector J-6 to the south by Dillon Road and a utility easement. Sector J-5 is contiguous with Sector E-1, to the southeast (Figure 6a).	148	7	New
J-6	Aggregate deposits located southeast of the community of Indio Hills in Sections 13 and 24, T4S, R7E, SBBM. It is separated from Sector J-5 to the north by Dillon Road and a utility easement. Sector J-6 is contiguous with Sector E-2, to the southeast (Figure 6c).	260	15	New
K-1	Aggregate deposits located in Section 33, T4S, R7E, SBBM, and bounded to the north by the Mission Creek Branch of the San Andreas Fault near the base of the south flank of the Indio Hills. It is adjacent to the original Sector G on the east. On the south it is bounded by a utility corridor, which separates it from Sector K-2 (Figure 6b).	60	Proprietary	New
K-2	Aggregate deposits located in Section 33, T4S, R7E, SBBM, and bounded to the north by a utility corridor, which separates it from Sector K-1. On the south, it is bounded by a second utility	125	Proprietary	New
К-3	Aggregate deposits located in Sector K-3 (Figure 6b). Aggregate deposits located in Section 33, T4S, R7E; and Section 3, T5S, R7E, SBBM, and adjacent to the original Sector G on the east, and bounded to the north by a utility corridor, which separates it from Sector K-2. On the south, it is bounded by agricultural land of the Coachella Valley (Figure 6b).	152	Proprietary	New
K-4	Aggregate deposits located in Sections 27, and 34, T4S, R7E, SBBM, and bounded on the south by the Mission Creek Branch of the San Andreas Fault (Figure 6b).	136	Proprietary	New
K-5	Aggregate deposits located in Sections 33, 34, and 35, T4S, R7E, SBBM, and adjacent to the original Sector G on the south. On the north, it is bounded by the Mission Creek Branch of the San Andreas Fault, which separates it from Sector K-4 (Figure 6b).	34	Proprietary	New

Sector	Location	Acres	Designated Resources (million tons)	Status
K-6	Aggregate deposits located in Section 2, T5S, R7E, SBBM, east of the original Sector G, and bounded by the Mission Creek Branch of the San Andreas Fault on the north and a utility corridor to the south. Sector K-6 has less than the threshold amount of material within it; however, it could be mined in conjunction with Sector G (Figure 6b).	6	Proprietary	New
K-7	Aggregate deposits located in Section 2, T5S, R7E, SBBM, southeast of the original Sector G. Utility corridors separate it from Sector K-6 to the north and Sector K-8 to the west (Figure 6b).	16	Proprietary	New
K-8	Aggregate deposits located in Section 2, T5S, R7E, SBBM, southeast of the original Sector G. A utility corridor separates it from Sector K-7 to the east (Figure 6b).	9	Proprietary	New
Total		2,715		

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Questions on this designation report, the classification-designation program, or the requirements of SMARA, should be directed to the Executive Officer of the SMGB, at 801 K Street, Suite 2015, Sacramento, California 95814, telephone (916) 322-1082.

Copies of the classification study prepared for the Palm Springs P-C Region, Special Report 198, titled "Update of Mineral Land Classification for Portland Cement Concrete-Grade Aggregate in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region, Riverside County", are available from the California Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey, 801 K Street, Sacramento, California 95814.

REFERENCES

- Busch, Lawrence L., 2007, Update of Mineral Land Classification for Portland Cement Concrete-Grade Aggregate in the Palm Springs Production Consumption Region, Riverside County, California: 57 p., 3 Plates.
- Clinkenbeard, John P., 2012, Aggregate Sustainability in California Map Sheet 52 (Updated 2012): California Geological Survey.
- Department of Conservation, 1989, *Designation of Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region Final Environmental Impact Report*: SMARA Environmental Impact Report No. 10, SCH #88072510, prepared by the Department of Conservation under the direction of the State Mining and Geology Board, February 1989, 68 p. plus appendices.

- Miller, Russell V., 1988, *Mineral Land Classification: Aggregate Materials in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region*: California Division of Mines and Geology, Special Report 159, 23 p., 31 Plates.
- State Mining and Geology Board, 1989, *Designation of Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region: SMARA Designation Report No. 10*: December 1989, 14 p., 2 Plates.
- State Mining and Geology Board, 2000, *Guidelines for Classification and Designation of Mineral Lands*: 27 p.

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APPENDIX A

Glossary

APPENDIX A

Glossary

Aggregate Products. Decomposed granite, sand and gravel, slag, or stone. CCR Section 3695)

Area of regional significance. An area designated by the board pursuant to Section 2790 which is known to contain a deposit of minerals, the extraction of which is judged to be of prime importance in meeting future needs for minerals in a particular region of the state within which the minerals are located and which, if prematurely developed for alternate incompatible land uses, could result in the permanent loss of minerals that are of more than local significance. (PRC Section 2726)

Area of statewide significance. An area designated by the board pursuant to Section 2790 which is known to contain a deposit of minerals, the extraction of which is judged to be of prime importance in meeting future needs for minerals in the state and which, if prematurely developed for alternate incompatible land uses, could result in the permanent loss of minerals that are of more than local or regional significance. (PRC Section 2727)

Base Metals and Other Metals. Antimony, arsenic, chromite, copper, lead, manganese, mercury, molybdenum, nickel, pyrite, tin, titanium, tungsten, uranium, vanadium, and zinc. (CCR Section 3695)

Compatible Land Use. Land uses inherently compatible with mining and/or that require a minimum public or private investment in structures, land improvements, and which may allow mining because of the relative economic value of the land and its improvements. Examples of such uses may include, but shall not be limited to, very low density residential, geographically extensive but low impact industrial, recreational, agricultural, silvicultural, grazing, and open space.

Concrete-grade aggregate. An indispensable building material which includes Portland cement concrete (PPC) and asphalt concrete (AC) aggregate.

Gold, Silver, and Precious Metals. Gold (lode), gold (placer), platinum group metals, and silver. (CCR Section 3695)

Economic. Implies that profitable extraction or production under defined investment assumptions has been established, analytically demonstrated, or assumed with reasonably certainty.

Identified Mineral Resources. Resources whose location, grade, quality, and quantity are known or estimated from specific geologic evidence. Identified mineral resources include economic, marginally economic, and subeconomic components. To reflect varying degrees of geologic certainty, these economic divisions can be subdivided into demonstrated and inferred. DEMONSTRATED: A term for the sum of measured plus indicated.

Incompatible Land Use. Land uses inherently incompatible with mining and/or that require public or private investment in structures, land improvements, and landscaping and that may prevent mining because of the greater economic value of the land and its improvements. Examples of such uses may include, but shall not be limited to, high density residential, low

density residential with high unit value, public facilities, geographically limited but impact intensive industrial, and commercial. CCR Section 3675

Indicated. Quantity and grade and/or quality are computed from information similar to that used for measured resources, but the sites for inspection, sampling, and measurement are farther apart or otherwise less adequately spaced. The degree of assurance, although lower than that of measured resources, is high enough to assume continuity between points of observation.

Inferred. Estimates are based on an assumed continuity beyond measured and/or indicated resources, for which there is geologic evidence. Inferred resources may or may not be supported by samples or measurements.

Industrial Minerals. Borates, cinders, clay, diatomite, dolomite, gypsum, iron ore, lime, limestone, perlite, pumice, rare earth elements, saline compounds, salt, shale, silica, specialty sand, abrasives, asbestos, barite, bituminous rock, decorative rock, dimension stone, feldspar, fluorite, gemstones, graphite, kyanite, lignite, lithium, magnesite, mica, olivine, peat, phosphate, potash, pyrophyllite, quartz crystal, sea shells, sercite, talc, vermiculite, wollastonite, zeolites, and zircon. (CCR Section 3695)

Lead agency. The city, county, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, or the board which has the principal responsibility for approving a reclamation plan pursuant to this chapter. (PRC Section 2728)

Measured. Quantity is computed from dimensions revealed in outcrops, trenches, workings, or drill holes; grade and/or quality are computed from the results of detailed sampling. The sites for inspection, sampling, and measurement are spaced so closely and the geologic character is so well defined that size, shape, depth, and mineral content of the resource are well established.

Marginal reserves. The part of the demonstrated reserve base that, at the time of determination, borders on being economically producible. Its essential characteristic is economic uncertainty. Included are resources that would be producible, given postulated changes in economic or technologic factors.

Marginal resources. The part of the inferred resource base that, at the time of determination, would be economically producible, given postulated changes in economic or technologic factors.

Minerals. Any naturally occurring chemical element or compound, or groups of elements and compounds, formed from inorganic processes and organic substances, including, but not limited to, coal, peat, and bituminous rock, but excluding geothermal resources, natural gas, and petroleum. (CCR Section 3501)

Mineral Deposit. A mass of naturally occurring mineral material, (e.g., metal ores or nonmetallic minerals, usually of economic value, without regards to mode of origin). The mineral material may be of value for its chemical and/or physical characteristics.

Mineral Occurrence. Any ore or economic mineral in any concentration found in bedrock or as float; especially a valuable mineral in sufficient concentration to suggest exploration.

Mineral Resource. A concentration of naturally occurring solid, liquid, or gaseous material in or on the earth's crust in such form and amount that economic extraction of a commodity from the concentration is currently or potentially feasible. The terms reserves and mineral resources are synonymous and includes metallic and non-metallic minerals.

Production-Consumption (P-C) Region. The extent of the market region served by a particular production district. However, study areas may be a county, a portion of a county, or a P-C region that may contain part(s) of one or more counties.

Reserves. That part of the resource base that could be economically extracted or produced at the time of determination. The term reserves need not signify that extraction facilities are in place and operative. In the case of aggregates, the term includes only permitted resources.

Resource sectors. Areas judged to contain a significant deposit of construction quality aggregate that is available, from a general land-use perspective, to meet future needs (50 years) of the region.

Subeconomic resources. The part of identified resources that does not meet the economic criteria of marginal reserves and marginal resources.

State Mining and Geology Board Designation Report No. 13

APPENDIX B

Pertinent Statutory and Regulatory Authority

APPENDIX B

Pertinent Statutory and Regulatory Authority

PRC Section 2711 recognizes that the state's mineral resources are vital, finite, and important, and the responsible protection and development of these mineral resources is vital to a sustainable California, and states:

"(a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the extraction of minerals is essential to the continued economic well-being of the state and to the needs of the society, and that the reclamation of mined lands is necessary to prevent or minimize adverse effects on the environment and to protect the public health and safety.

(b) The Legislature further finds that the reclamation of mined lands as provided in this chapter will permit the continued mining of minerals and will provide for the protection and subsequent beneficial use of the mined and reclaimed land.

(c) The Legislature further finds that surface mining takes place in diverse areas where the geologic, topographic, climatic, biological, and social conditions are significantly different and that reclamation operations and the specifications therefor may vary accordingly.

(d) The Legislature further finds that the production and development of local mineral resources that help maintain a strong economy and that are necessary to build the state's infrastructure are vital to reducing transportation emissions that result from the distribution of hundreds of millions of tons of construction aggregates that are used annually in building and maintaining the state.

(e) The Legislature further finds and recognizes the need of the state to provide local governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and other relevant planning agencies with the information necessary to identify and protect mineral resources within general plans.

(f) The Legislature further finds that the state's mineral resources are vital, finite, and important natural resources and the responsible protection and development of these mineral resources is vital to a sustainable California."

PRC Section 2761 requires the SMGB to transmit mineral resource information on the classified areas described above, or on other designated areas, to a lead agency or a metropolitan planning organization within 30 days of receiving a request for the information and states:

"(a) On or before January 1, 1977, and, at a minimum, after the completion of each decennial census, the Office of Planning and Research shall identify portions of the following areas within the state that are urbanized or are subject to urban expansion or other irreversible land uses that would preclude mineral extraction:

(1) Standard metropolitan statistical areas and other areas for which information is readily available.

(2) Other areas as may be requested by the board.

(b) In accordance with a time schedule, and based upon guidelines adopted by the board, the State Geologist shall classify, on the basis solely of geologic factors, and without regard to existing land use and land ownership, the areas identified by the Office of Planning and Research, any area for which classification has been requested by a petition that has been accepted by the board, or any other areas as may be specified by the board, as one of the following:

(1) An area that contains mineral deposits and is not of regional or statewide significance.

(2) An area that contains mineral deposits and is of regional or statewide significance.

(3) An area that contains mineral deposits, the significance of which requires further evaluation.

(c) The State Geologist shall require the petitioner to pay the reasonable costs of classifying an area for which classification has been requested by the petitioner.

(d) The State Geologist shall transmit the information to the board for incorporation into the state policy and for transmittal to lead agencies.

(e) The board shall transmit mineral resource information on areas classified by the State Geologist pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision

(b), or on applicable areas designated by the board pursuant to Section 2790, or both, to a lead agency or a metropolitan planning organization within 30 days of receiving a request for the mineral resource information identified within the jurisdiction of the lead agency or the metropolitan planning organization."

PRC Section 2762 requires lead agencies to establish mineral resource management policies to be incorporated into their general plan and states:

"(a) Within 12 months of receiving the mineral information described in Section 2761, and also within 12 months of the designation of an area of statewide or regional significance within its jurisdiction, a lead agency shall, in accordance with state policy, establish mineral resource management policies to be incorporated in its general plan that will:

(1) Recognize mineral information classified by the State Geologist and transmitted by the board.

(2) Assist in the management of land use that affects access to areas of statewide and regional significance.

(3) Emphasize the conservation and development of identified mineral deposits.

(b) A lead agency shall submit proposed mineral resource management policies to the board for review and comment prior to adoption.

(c) A subsequent amendment of the mineral resource management policy previously reviewed by the board shall also require review and comment by the board.

(d) (1) If an area is classified by the State Geologist as an area described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 2761 and the lead agency either has designated that area in its general plan as having important minerals to be protected pursuant to subdivision (a), or otherwise has not yet acted pursuant to subdivision (a), then prior to permitting a use that would threaten the potential to extract minerals in that area, the lead agency shall prepare, in conjunction with preparing, if required, an environmental document required by Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000), or

if, a statement specifying its reasons for permitting the proposed use, and shall forward a copy to the State Geologist and the board for review.

(2) If the proposed use is subject to the requirements of Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000), the lead agency shall comply with the public review requirements of that division. Otherwise, the lead agency shall provide public notice of the availability of its statement by all of the following:

(A) Publishing the notice at least one time in a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected by the proposed use.

(B) Directly mailing the notice to owners of property within one-half mile of the parcel or parcels on which the proposed use is located as those owners are shown on the latest equalized assessment role.

(3) The public review period shall not be less than 60 days from the date of the notice and shall include at least one public hearing. The lead agency shall evaluate comments received and shall prepare a written response. The written response shall describe the disposition of the major issues raised. In particular, if the lead agency's position on the proposed use is at variance with recommendations and objections raised in the comments, the written response shall address in detail why specific comments and suggestions were not accepted.

(e) Prior to permitting a use that would threaten the potential to extract minerals in an area classified by the State Geologist as an area described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 2761, the lead agency may cause to be prepared an evaluation of the area in order to ascertain the significance of the mineral deposit located in the area. The results of the evaluation shall be transmitted to the State Geologist and the board."

PRC Section 2763 requires lead agencies to prepare a statement specifying reasons for permitting a proposed use involving areas designated as being of statewide significance and states:

"(a) If an area is designated by the board as an area of regional significance, and the lead agency either has designated that area in its general plan as having important minerals to be protected pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 2762, or otherwise has not yet acted pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 2762, then prior to permitting a use which would threaten the potential to extract minerals in that area, the lead agency shall prepare a statement specifying its reasons for permitting the proposed use, in accordance with the requirements set forth in subdivision (d) of Section 2762. Lead agency land use decisions involving areas designated as being of regional significance shall be in accordance with the lead agency's mineral resource management policies and shall also, in balancing mineral values against alternative land uses, consider the importance of these minerals to their market region as a whole and not just their importance to the lead agency's area of jurisdiction.

(b) If an area is designated by the board as an area of statewide significance, and the lead agency either has designated that area in its general plan as having important minerals to be protected pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 2762, or otherwise has not yet acted pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 2762, then prior to permitting a use which would threaten the potential to extract minerals in that area, the lead agency shall prepare a statement specifying its reasons for permitting the proposed use, in accordance with the requirements set forth in subdivision (d) of Section 2762. Lead agency land use decisions involving areas designated as being of statewide significance shall be in accordance with the lead agency's mineral resource management policies and shall also, in balancing mineral values against alternative land uses, consider the importance of the mineral resources to the state and nation as a whole."

PRC Section 2764 addresses amendments to, and adoption of, general plans and states:

"(a) Upon the request of an operator or other interested person and payment by the requesting person of the estimated cost of processing the request, the lead agency having jurisdiction shall amend its general plan, or prepare a new specific plan or amend any applicable specific plan, that shall, with respect to the continuation of the existing surface mining operation for which the request is made, plan for future land uses in the vicinity of, and access routes serving, the surface mining operation in light of the importance of the minerals to their market region as a whole, and not just their importance to the lead agency's area of jurisdiction.

(b) In adopting amendments to the general plan, or adopting or amending a specific plan, the lead agency shall make written legislative findings as to whether the future land uses and particular access routes will be compatible or incompatible with the continuation of the surface mining operation, and if they are found to be incompatible, the findings shall include a statement of the reasons why they are to be provided for, notwithstanding the importance of the minerals to their market region as a whole or their previous designation by the board, as the case may be.

(c) Any evaluation of a mineral deposit prepared by a lead agency for the purpose of carrying out this section shall be transmitted to the State Geologist and the board.

(d) The procedure provided for in this section shall not be undertaken in any area that has been designated pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with Section 2790) if mineral resource management policies have been established and incorporated in the lead agency's general plan in conformance with Article 4 (commencing with Section 2755)."

PRC Section 2790 provides the SMGB authority to consider areas of statewide significance for designation which states:

"After receipt of mineral information from the State Geologist pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 2761, the board may by regulation adopted after a public hearing designate specific geographical areas of state as areas of statewide or regional significance and specify the boundaries thereof. Such designation shall be included as a part of the state policy and shall indicate the reason for which the particular area designated is of significance to the state or region, the adverse effects that might result from premature development of incompatible land uses, the advantages that might be achieved from extraction of the minerals of the area, and the specific goals and policies to protect against the premature incompatible development of the area."

PRC Section 2793 provides statutory authority which allows the SMGB to terminate, in whole or in part, an area previously designated, and states:

"The board may, by regulation adopted after a public hearing, terminate, partially or wholly, the designation of any area of statewide or regional significance on a finding that the direct involvement of the board is no longer required."

CCR Section 3675 provides definition of compatible and incompatible land use, and states:

"Definitions. The following definitions as used herein shall govern the interpretation of these regulations:

Compatible Land Use. Land uses inherently compatible with mining and/or that require a minimum public or private investment in structures, land improvements, and which may allow mining because of the relative economic value of the land and its improvements. Examples of such uses may include, but shall not be limited to, very low density residential, geographically extensive but low impact industrial, recreational, agricultural, silvicultural, grazing, and open space.

Incompatible Land Use. Land uses inherently incompatible with mining and/or that require public or private investment in structures, land improvements, and landscaping and that may prevent mining because of the greater economic value of the land and its improvements. Examples of such uses may include, but shall not be limited to, high density residential, low density residential with high unit value, public facilities, geographically limited but impact intensive industrial, and commercial."

CCR Section 3676. This section provides a summary of information to be provided as part of MRMP and states:

Section 3676. "Mineral Resource Management Policies.

Lead agency mineral resource management policies adopted pursuant to the provisions of PRC Section 2762 shall include but not be limited to, the following:

(a) A summary of the information provided by the classification and/or designation reports, or incorporation of PRC Sections 2710 et seq., and state policy by reference, together with maps of the identified mineral deposits or incorporation by reference of the classification and/or designation maps provided by the Board. (b) Statements of policy in accordance with the provisions of PRC Section 2762(a).

(c) Implementation measures that shall include:

(1) Reference in the general plan of the location of identified mineral deposits, and a discussion of those areas targeted for conservation and possible future extraction by the lead agency.

(2) Use of overlay maps or inclusion of information on any appropriate planning maps to clearly delineate identified mineral deposits and those areas targeted by the lead agency for conservation and possible future extraction.

(3) At least one of the following:

(A) Use of special purpose overlay zones, mineral resource/open space zoning, or any other appropriate zoning that identifies the presence of identified mineral deposits and restricts the encroachment of incompatible land uses in those areas that are to be conserved.

(B) Record, on property titles in the affected mineral resource areas, a notice identifying the presence of identified mineral deposits.

(C) Impose conditions upon incompatible land uses in and surrounding areas containing identified mineral deposits for the purpose of mitigating the significant land use conflicts prior to approving a use that would otherwise be incompatible with mineral extraction."

APPENDIX C

Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region Designation Regulations

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Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region Designation Regulations

California Code of Regulations Section 3550.15. Construction Aggregates Resources, Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region.

§ 3550.15. Construction Aggregate Resources, Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region.

The areas for designation are shown on two plates: Updated Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region, Riverside County, California (Western Area) – SMARA Designation Report Number 13 – Plate 1 – March 2013, and Updated Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources in the Palm Springs Production-Consumption Region, Riverside County, California (Eastern Area) – SMARA Designation Report Number 13 – Plate 2 – March 2013, and are incorporated by reference into this regulation. These maps are available from the State Mining and Geology Board's office in Sacramento.

The construction aggregate deposits in the following areas are designated as being of regional significance:

Sector A-1 – Aggregate deposits located adjacent to the southeast border of the community of Cabezon at the base of the San Jacinto Mountains.

Sector A-2 – Aggregate deposits located between the Colorado River Aqueduct and the Morongo Indian Reservation.

Sector B-1 – Aggregate deposit located at the mouth of the Whitewater Canyon north of Interstate 10.

Sector B-2-b – Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Interstate 10 at the intersection of Highway 62.

Sector B-3-a – Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Sector B-2 and east of the San Gorgonio Pass to Garnet Hill.

Sector B-3-c – Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Sector B-2 and east of the San Gorgonio Pass to Garnet Hill.

Sector B-3-e – Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Sector B-2 and east of the San Gorgonio Pass to Garnet Hill.

Sector B-4 – Aggregate deposit located east of Indian Avenue and south of Garnet Hill.

Sector B-5-a – Aggregate deposit located south of Interstate 10.

Sector B-5-c – Aggregate deposit located adjacent to the northern border of Sector B-3 and the southern border of Interstate 10 near Garnet Hill.

Sector C-1 – Aggregate deposit located in the Little Morongo Canyon.

Sector D – Aggregate deposit located in a small unnamed wash in the foothills of the community of Thousand Palms (Plate 2, Inset Map B).

Sector E-1 – Aggregate deposit located northeast of Dillon Road, approximately six miles northeast of the City of Indio.

Sector E-2 – Aggregate deposit located approximately six miles northeast of the City of Indio.

Sector F – Aggregate deposit located approximately four miles northeast of the City of Indio.

Sector G-1 – Aggregate deposit located approximately three miles north of the City of Indio.

Sector G–2 - Aggregate deposit located approximately three miles north of the City of Indio

Sector G-3 – Aggregate deposit located approximately three miles north of the City of Indio

Sector H-1 – Aggregate deposit located approximately four miles east of the community of Thermal.

Sector H-2 – Aggregate deposit located northeast of the Coachella Canal approximately three and a half miles east of the community of Thermal.

Sector H-3 – Aggregate deposit located southwest of the Coachella Canal approximately three miles east of the community of Thermal.

Sector I – Aggregate deposits comprising part of Thermal Canyon wash, south of Interstate Highway 10, east of the Coachella Canal, and four miles northeast of the community of Thermal. Sector I is approximately one mile north of the previously designated Sectors H-1, H-2, and H-3 (Plate 2, Inset Map A).

Sector J – Aggregate deposits located near the community of Indio Hills that formed as a series of coalescing alluvial fans deposited from material discharged from canyons cut northward into the Little San Bernardino Mountains.

Sector J-4 – Aggregate deposits located north and east of the community of Indio Hills in Sections 1, 2, 11, and 12, T4S, R7E, SBBM. It is separated from Sector J-5 to the southeast by a public road and residential development in the community of Indio Hills.

Sector J-5 – Aggregate deposits located east of the community of Indio Hills in Sections 13, and 24, T4S, R7E; and Section 19, T4S, R8E, SBBM. It is separated from Sector J-4 to the northwest by a public road and urbanization in the community of Indio Hills, and from Sector J-6 to the south by Dillon Road and a utility easement. Sector J-5 is contiguous with Sector E-1, to the southeast.

Sector J-6 – Aggregate deposits located southeast of the community of Indio Hills in Sections 13 and 24, T4S, R7E, SBBM. It is separated from Sector J-5 to the north by Dillon Road and a utility easement. Sector J-6 is contiguous with Sector E-2, to the southeast.

Sector K-1 – Aggregate deposits located in Section 33, T4S, R7E, SBBM. It is bounded to the north by the Mission Creek Branch of the San Andreas Fault near the base of the south flank of the Indio Hills. It is adjacent to the original Sector G on the east. On the south it is bounded by a utility corridor, which separates it from Sector K-2.

Sector K-2 – Aggregate deposits located in Section 33, T4S, R7E, SBBM. It is bounded to the north by a utility corridor, which separates it from Sector K-1. On the south, it is bounded by a second utility corridor separating it from Sector K-3.

Sector K-3 – Aggregate deposits located in Section 33, T4S, R7E; and Section 3, T5S, R7E, SBBM. It is adjacent to the original Sector G on the east. It is bounded to the north by a utility corridor, which separates it from Sector K-2. On the south, it is bounded by agricultural land of the Coachella Valley.

Sector K-4 – Aggregate deposits located in Sections 27, and 34, T4S, R7E, SBBM. It is bounded on the south by the Mission Creek Branch of the San Andreas Fault.

Sector K-5 – Aggregate deposits located in Sections 33, 34, and 35, T4S, R7E, SBBM. It is adjacent to the original Sector G on the south. On the north, it is bounded by the Mission Creek Branch of the San Andreas Fault, which separates it from Sector K-4.

Sector K-6 - Aggregate deposits located in Section 2, T5S, R7E, SBBM, east of the original Sector G. It is bounded by the Mission Creek Branch of the San Andreas Fault on the north and a utility corridor to the south. Sector K-6 has less than the threshold amount of material within it; however, it could be mined in conjunction with Sector G.

Sector K-7 - Aggregate deposits located in Section 2, T5S, R7E, SBBM, southeast of the original Sector G. Utility corridors separate it from Sector K-6 to the north and Sector K-8 to the west.

Sector K-8 - Aggregate deposits located in Section 2, T5S, R7E, SBBM, southeast of the original Sector G. A utility corridor separates it from Sector K-7 to the east.

The construction aggregate deposits in the following areas are designated for termination of designation status due to high-value incompatible land use developments:

Sector A-3 – Aggregate deposits located directly south of Interstate 10 two miles east of the community of Cabazon.

Sector B-2-a – Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Interstate 10.

Sector B-3-b – Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Interstate 10 and north of the main line of the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Sector B-3-d – Aggregate deposit located immediately south of Interstate 10 and north of the main line of the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Sector B-5-b – Aggregate deposit located south of Interstate 10.

Sector C-2 – Aggregate deposit located in the Little Morongo Canyon approximately one mile north of the City of Desert Hot Springs.

NOTE

Authority cited: Sections 2790 and 2793, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 2761-2763 and 2790-2792, Public Resources Code.

Plates

Production-Consumption (Western Area)





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