

State of California • Natural Resources Agency
Department of Conservation
Division of Mine Reclamation
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May 15, 2018

VIA EMAIL: jdargel@countyofsb.org ORIGINAL SENT BY MAIL

Mr. Joseph Dargel Santa Barbara County Planning and Development Department 123 E. Anapamu Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101

ELLWOOD QUARRY, CA MINE ID #91-42-0020 REVISED CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT AND AMENDED RECLAMATION PLAN COUNTY CASE NOS: 18RVP-00000-00016 AND 02RPP-00000-00001

Dear Mr. Dargel:

The Division of Mine Reclamation (DMR) has reviewed the amended reclamation plan (plan) and revised conditional use permit (CUP) for the Ellwood Quarry, also known as Ellwood Ranch Quarry. The applicant, Santa Barbara Sand and Topsoil Corporation, is proposing to extend the period of mining sand on an existing 19-acre surface mining facility for an additional 25 years. No other changes are proposed to the permit conditions, reclamation plan (as approved 11/20/2002), or operation or reclamation of the Ellwood Quarry.

The mining operation is located on approximately 12 acres of 191-acre property just west of Goleta. The end uses for the site will be agriculture and open space/wildlife habitat.

SMARA (Public Resources Code (PRC) Division 2, Chapter 9, Section 2710 et seq.) and associated regulations (California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14, Division 2, Chapter 8, Subchapter 1, Articles 1 and 9) require that specific items be addressed or included in reclamation plans. Prior to approving the reclamation plan, please consider the following comments, which were prepared by a restoration ecologist and a geologist pursuant to PRC Section 2772.1(b)(2).

### **General Considerations**

(Refer to PRC Sections 2770, 2772, 2773 and 2776 and CCR Sections 3502, 3709, and 3713)

#### Comment 1-

To fulfil the requirements of PRC Section 2772.1, the lead agency should ensure the map requirements are met as summarized under the heading *Post-Approval Procedures*.

#### **Notice: Updated Procedures**

The passage of Assembly Bill 1142 in 2016 (specifically, the newly-created PRC Section 2772.1) changed the administrative requirements for submitting, reviewing, and approving a reclamation plan or reclamation plan amendment (hereafter: Plan). We have summarized the updated procedures below. Please ensure that your agency allows adequate time in the approval process to meet these new requirements. The full text of the current statute and regulations can be found at this website: http://www.conservation.ca.gov/index/Pages/lawsregs.aspx.

Mr. Joseph Dargel May 15, 2018 Page 2

# Pre-Approval Procedures:

Once DMR has provided comments, the lead agency must provide a written response to the comments at least 30 days before you intend to approve the Plan.

- The proposed response must include a description of how you propose to adopt DMR's comments; and/or a detailed description of the reasons for not adopting DMR's comments.
- Forward a copy of DMR's comments and your responses to the operator.
- Provide at least 30 days' notice of the time, place, and date of the approval hearing, or if no hearing is required, provide 30 days' notice to DMR of the Plan approval date.

## Post-Approval Procedures:

Within 30 days following approval of the Plan, notify DMR of the approval. Within 60 days following the approval, provide DMR an official copy of the approved Plan that incorporates all approved modifications. Additionally,

- The Approved Plan should include an Appendix containing copies of any permit conditions
  of approval and any binding mitigation measures (pursuant to CEQA) that are needed to
  meet the requirements of SMARA.
- The permit conditions of approval and binding mitigation measures (and their locations) should be shown in an Index.
- All maps, diagrams, and calculations that require preparation in accordance with the California Business and Professions Code must include the licensed professional's license number, name, signature, and seal/stamp [PRC Section 2772(c)(5)(f)].

If you have any questions on these comments or require any assistance with other mine reclamation issues, please contact either of us at (916) 323-9198.

Sincerely.

Beth Hendrickson, Manager Environmental Services Unit Ian Stevenson, Manager Engineering Geology Unit