COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI) TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR GOLD, BROWN, LILAC QUARRIES AMENDED MINING AND RECLAMATION PLAN

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines, County Staff prepared a Draft Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) that identify and evaluate the environmental impacts of the below-named project.

Project Title: Gold, Brown, Lilac Quarries, Amended Mining & Reclamation Plan

Project No.: AP20120010

Project Location: Approximately 1.5 miles south of Interstate 15, 4 miles eastg of Barstow

Project Description: Revision to Mining & Reclamation Plan to expand the mining operation and reclamation boundaries from 47 to 47.2 acres, reconfigure the quarries to allow greater excavation depth, and combine the smaller quarries into one large quarry to allow access to desired ore-body.

Environmental Review and Public Comment: The circulation of the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study is to encourage written public comments. Interested persons can review the Draft IS/MND at www.sbcounty.gov and at the following physical locations:

San Bernardino County Government Center Land Use Services Department, First Floor 385 N. Arrowhead Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92415 High Desert Government Center 15900 Smoke Tree St. Suite 131 Hesperia, CA 92345

If unavailable on the web site, the document may be obtained in electronic format by telephoning the Land Use Services Department at (909) 387-8311 or, or by emailing the project Planner at **reuben.arceo@lus.sbcounty.gov** to request a PDF version of the document.

The public comment period starts *March 21, 2014* and ends on *April 21, 2014* at 5:00 PM. Please submit comments to:

reuben.arceo@lus.sbcounty.gov or to: Reuben Arceo, Contract Project Planner County of San Bernardino Land Use Services Department, Planning Division 385 N. Arrowhead Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92415-0184

Public Hearing: A public hearing will be scheduled to consider adoption of the Final IS/MND at a future date. In advance of the hearing date, Staff will distribute a separate notice regarding that hearing.