

# SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY INITIAL STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

This form and the descriptive information in the application package constitute the contents of Initial Study pursuant to County Guidelines under Ordinance 3040 and Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

## PROJECT LABEL:

<b>APN:</b>	0446-033-07, -09, -11, -13
<b>APPLICANT:</b>	OMYA CALIFORNIA, INC.
<b>PROPOSAL:</b>	REVISION TO AN APPROVED ACTION TO RECOGNIZE 15 ACRES OF LIMESTONE ROCK STORAGE AT THE EXISTING OMYA CALIFORNIA LUCERNE VALLEY PLANT OPERATION ON A PORTION OF 109.79 AC. LUCERNE VALLEY / 3 <sup>RD</sup> SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT
<b>COMMUNITY:</b>	LUCERNE VALLEY / 3 <sup>RD</sup> SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT
<b>LOCATION:</b>	AT THE INTERSECTION OF CRYSTAL CREEK ROAD AND FURNACE CREEK ROAD
<b>PROJECT NO.:</b>	P201200005/RMC
<b>STAFF:</b>	TRACY CREASON
<b>REP:</b>	CHRISTINE GRANQUIST

**USGS Quad:** LUCERNE VALLEY  
**T, R, Section:** T3N R1W Sec. 1 NW ¼

**Thomas Bros.:** P4571 GRID: A4

**Planning Area:** LUCERNE VALLEY COMMUNITY PLAN

**LUZD:** LV/IC  
**Overlays:** BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES  
FS-2 - FIRE SAFETY OVERLAY  
AR-4 - AIRPORT REVIEW OVERLAY

## PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Lead agency:** County of San Bernardino  
Land Use Services Department, Planning Division  
15900 Smoke Tree Street  
Hesperia, CA 92345

**Contact person:** Tracy Creason, Senior Planner  
**Phone No:** (760) 995-8143  
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**Project Sponsor:** Christine Granquist  
7225 Crystal Creek Road  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356  
christine.granquist@omya.com

**Phone No:** (760) 248-5223

**Fax No:** (760) 248-9115

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed project is a Revision to an approved action to recognize another 15 acres for limestone rock storage to the existing Omya California – Lucerne Valley plant operation on 109.79 acres in unincorporated Lucerne Valley. The project is located at the intersection of Crystal Creek Road and Furnace Creek Road. The County General Plan designates the project site Lucerne Valley Community Plan, Community Industrial (LV/IC). The Biological Resources Overlay, the FS-2 Fire Safety Overlay, and the AR-4 Airport Review Overlay regulate the site.

## ENVIRONMENTAL/EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS:

According to the web site <http://www.omya-na.com/>, "Omya's plant in Lucerne Valley, California is a dry grinding facility providing bright white calcium carbonate products ranging in size from the coarsest products with a median diameter of 45 microns down to the finest product with a median diameter of 2 microns. The Lucerne Valley facility utilizes stone that has excellent color and is very pure and it produces and ships finished products in bulk railcars, semi-bulk bags and 50 pound bags to paint, plastics and building products customers throughout the southwestern United States." According to the representative for this revision, "recent technological advances and processing equipment modernization at the Omya Plant Site allow more efficient and optimized use of the mineral resources. The proposed additional rock storage area will provide Omya with the opportunity to capitalize on the increased efficiency and productivity of the plant equipment." The 15 acres is used partially for limestone storage; it is surrounded on three

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sides by the existing Omya plant site. There are approximately 30 Joshua trees on the 15 acres. The County Plant Protection Ordinance protects them and dictates methods for transplanting them.

County Staff previously evaluated this Revision to an Approved Action to add 15 acres of limestone rock storage to the existing Omya California – Lucerne Valley plant operation as part of a 2007 project proposal. Staff is using the Initial Study prepared for that project (County project #P200700409/RMC) as the baseline for this evaluation. This Environmental Checklist includes only those areas in which there has been a change in circumstance since the previous document.

AREA	EXISTING LAND USE	LAND USE ZONING DISTRICT
Site	Omya Limestone Rock Storage / Vacant	LV/IC
North	Omya Plant / ATSF Railroad	LV/IR
South	Vacant	LV/IC
East	Vacant	LV/IC
West	Vacant	LV/RL-20

**Other public agencies whose approval may be required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.):**

Federal: Fish and Wildlife

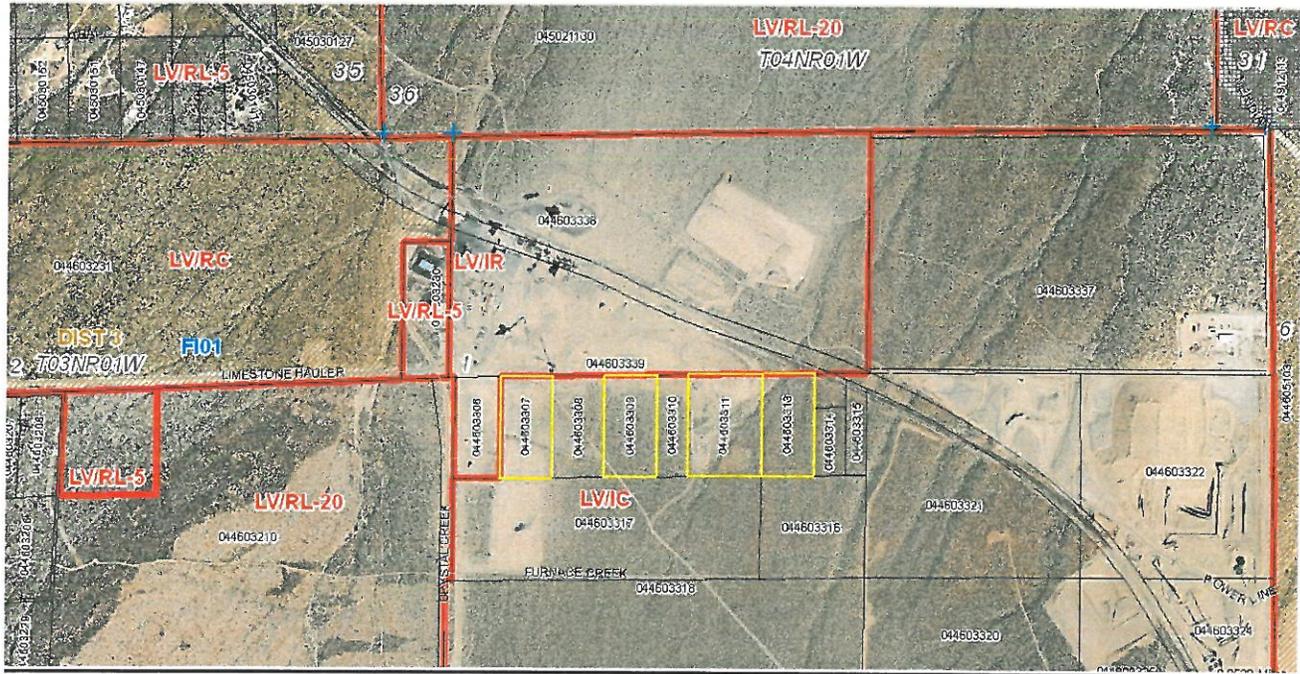
State of California: Regional Water Quality Control Board – Colorado River Basin Region, Fish & Game

County of San Bernardino: Land Use Services – Building and Safety; Public Health – Environmental Health Services;

Public Works – Roads/Drainage; and County Fire

Local: Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD)

### PROJECT LOCATION MAP





**EVALUATION FORMAT**

This initial study is prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. This format of the study is presented as follows. The project is evaluated based upon its effect on 18 major categories of environmental factors. Each factor is reviewed by responding to a series of questions regarding the impact of the project on each element of the overall factor. The Initial Study Checklist provides a formatted analysis that provides a determination of the effect of the project on the factor and its elements. The effect of the project is categorized into one of the following four categories of possible determinations:

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
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Substantiation is then provided to justify each determination. One of the four following conclusions is then provided as a summary of the analysis for each of the major environmental factors.

1. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.
2. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.
3. Possible significant adverse impacts have been identified or anticipated and the following mitigation measures are required as a condition of project approval to reduce these impacts to a level below significant. The required mitigation measures are: (List mitigation measures)
4. Significant adverse impacts have been identified or anticipated. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required to evaluate these impacts, which are (Listing the impacts requiring analysis within the EIR).

At the end of the analysis the required mitigation measures are restated and categorized as being either self-monitoring or as requiring a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

**ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:**

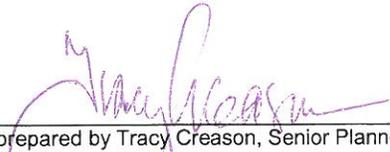
The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics               | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources     | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology /Soils                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials      | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/ Planning       | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing     | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic   | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems        | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

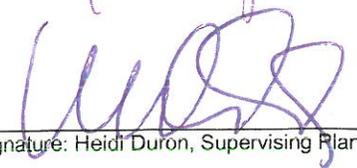
**DETERMINATION:** (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation, the following finding is made:

- The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

  
Signature (prepared by Tracy Creason, Senior Planner):

12 OCT 12  
Date

  
Signature: Heidi Duron, Supervising Planner

10/23/2012  
Date

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>I. AESTHETICS - Would the project</b>				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION** (Check  if project is located within the view-shed of any Scenic Route listed in the General Plan): State Highway 18

- I a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed project is located within the viewshed of State Highway 18, a designated Scenic Corridor. Development already exists adjacent to the project site. The project is proposed on property adjacent to the existing plant. There will be no additional impact on the existing visual character of the site. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- I b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would not substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to rock outcroppings and historic buildings within a state scenic highway. There are no rock outcroppings or historic buildings on the project site. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- I c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed project will not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings. The project is consistent with the existing visual character of the area. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- I d) **No Impact.** The proposed project will not create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. Other aspects of the plant surround the storage site. There is no lighting proposed as part of the revision project. Any lighting would be required to adhere to the Glare and Outdoor Lighting standard for the Mountain and Desert Regions as contained in the County Development Code. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

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**II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES** - In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state’s inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project, and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

Potentially Significant Impact      Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated      Less than Significant Impact      No Impact

- a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?
- b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?
- c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?
- d) Result in the loss of forestland or conversion of forestland to non-forest use?
- e) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forestland to non-forest use?

**SUBSTANTIATION** (Check  if project is located in the Important Farmlands Overlay):

II a-e) **No Impact.** The proposed project will not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use. The proposed project is located in an area designated “grazing” and “other” land on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program due to long-term mineral processing activities in the area. The proposed project site is in the high desert of Southern California, an area of extreme high and low temperatures, extremely low humidity, and water scarcity and will have no impact on forest resources. With the exception of the addition of Forest resources to this checklist, there has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>III. AIR QUALITY</b> - Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions, which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION** (Discuss conformity with the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management Plan, if applicable):

- III a) **No Impact.** The project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of any air quality plan because the rock storage does not exceed the established standards. All development proposed will adhere to the appropriate grading and building requirements. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- III b) **No Impact.** The project would not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation, because adherence with MDAQMD standards will control the generation of particulate matter during grading. Staff notified the MDAQMD of this project. They had no comment. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- III c) **No Impact.** The project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors), because the proposed uses do not exceed established thresholds of concern. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- III d) **No Impact.** The project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations, because there are no identified concentrations of substantial pollutants and the project is not located within ¼ mile of a use considered a sensitive receptor. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- III e) **No Impact.** The project would not create odors affecting a substantial number of people because there are no identified potential uses that would result in the production of objectionable odors. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - Would the project:</b>				
a) Have substantial adverse effects, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION** (Check if project is located in the Biological Resources Overlay or contains habitat for any species listed in the California Natural Diversity Database 

In September 2012, Lilburn Corporation prepared a *Desert Tortoise Presence/Absence Survey for the Omya Lucerne Valley Plant Expansion*.

IV a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Although the site is located within a designated Desert Tortoise habitat area (Category 3), it has operated as a calcium carbonate plant for decades. Lilburn Corporation observed no desert tortoise or tortoise sign in the project area or in the influence area up to 600 meters from the perimeter. Although a low probability exists for the presence of desert tortoise, the conditions of approval will include requirements for avoidance and minimization.

IV b) **No Impact.** This project would not have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service because no such habitat has been identified or is known to exist on the project site. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

IV c) **No Impact.** This project would not have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means, because the project is not within an identified protected wetland. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

- IV d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** This project would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. No such corridors or nursery sites are within or the project site. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- IV e) **Less Than Significant Impact.** This project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources. Future land disturbance must adhere with the standard condition that all grading and/or building permits require a pre-construction inspection to verify the location of Joshua trees. Any removal must comply with the County's ordinance regarding tree protection. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- IV f) **No Impact.** This project will not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan, because no such plan has been adopted in the area of the project site. The site is within the proposed boundary of the West Mojave Plan, which covers 9.3 million acres in the western portion of the Mojave Desert. This interagency habitat conservation plan remains under review. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no potentially significant impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>V. CULTURAL RESOURCES</b> - Would the project				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION** (Check if the project is located in the Cultural  or Paleontologic  Resources overlays or cite results of cultural resource review):

- V a) **No Impact.** This project would not impact nor cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource because the project site is not located on or near a known historical resource, as defined in §15064.5. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- V b) **No Impact.** This project would not cause a substantial adverse change to an archaeological resource because the San Bernardino County Museum was notified of this project and had no comment regarding archaeological resources on the site, as defined by §15064.5. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- V c) **No Impact.** This project would not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature because the San Bernardino County Museum was notified of this project and had no comment regarding paleontological resources on the site. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- V d) **No Impact.** This project would not disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries because no such burial grounds have been identified in the project area. If during construction of this project, the developer discovers any human remains he must contact the County Coroner, County Museum for determination of appropriate mitigation measures, and a Native American representative, if the remains are determined to be of Native American origin. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS - Would the project:</b>				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map Issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv. Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on or off site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the California Building Code (2001) creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION** (Check  if project is located in the Geologic Hazards Overlay District):

- VI a) **No Impact.** (i-iv) The project would not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving; i) rupture of a known earthquake fault, ii) strong seismic ground shaking, iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction or iv) Landslides, because there are no such geologic hazards identified in the immediate vicinity of the project site. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- VI b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project would not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil because an erosion and sediment control plan is required to be submitted to County Building & Safety prior to grading or land disturbance. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- VI c) **No Impact.** The project is not identified as being located on a geologic unit or soil that has been identified as being unstable or having the potential to result in on or off site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse. As part of the conditions of approval, a geotechnical (soil) report will be required if earthwork quantities exceed 5,000 cubic yards. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- VI d) **No Impact.** The project site is not located in an area that has been identified by the County Building and Safety Geologist as having the potential for expansive soils. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

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VI e) **No Impact.** The overall project site currently supports the use of septic tanks. No additional personnel will result from the proposed projects. Additional wastewater will not result. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION:**

VII a, b) **Less than Significant Impact.** As discussed in Section III of this document, the proposed project’s primary contribution to air emissions is attributable to existing vehicle activity. According to the representative for this revision, the number of truck trips coming to or leaving the plant will not change from the existing. The stockpile expansion is simply to allow for additional operating space and increased efficiency in the management of the material. There is no change in the number of employees at the facility because of the project.

On December 6, 2011, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors adopted the County Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Reduction Plan. GHGs and criteria pollutants will remain unchanged. For this reason, it is unlikely that this project would impede the state’s ability to meet the reduction targets of AB32.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the Environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site, which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

- VIII a) **No Impact.** The project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials, because no use approved on the site is anticipated to be involved in such activities. If such uses are proposed on-site in the future, they would be subject to permit and inspection by the Hazardous Materials Division of the County Fire Department and in some instances additional land use review. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- VIII b) **No Impact.** The project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment, because any proposed use or construction activity that might use hazardous materials is subject to permit and inspection by the Hazardous Materials Division of the County Fire Department. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- VIII c) **No Impact.** The project uses would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school, because the project does not propose the use of hazardous materials and all existing and proposed schools are more than one-quarter mile away from the project site. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial

Study.

- VIII d) **No Impact.** The site is not on the CAL/EPA Facility Inventory Data Base Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites List dated April 15, 1998, as summarized by San Bernardino Land Use Services Department. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- VIII e) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Along with most of Lucerne Valley, the project site is within the AR-4 Overlay because of its relatively close proximity to Edwards Air Force Base and the US Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Training Center in Twentynine Palms. This project will not impact any flights over the area or present a safety hazard for workers at the site. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- VIII f) **No Impact.** The project site is not within the vicinity or approach/departure flight path of a private airstrip. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- VIII g) **No Impact.** The project would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan, because the project has adequate access from two or more directions. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- VIII h) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. The project, which is within a Fire Safety 2 area, is required to comply with the any County Fire Department requirements. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY - Would the project:</b>				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level, which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner, which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water, which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structure, which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

IX a) **No Impact.** The project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. The water system and the septic system for the existing [Omya California, Inc.](#) plant are owner provided. They meet requirements and standards established by County Environmental Health and [Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board](#). The stockpile project does not affect these systems. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

IX b) **No Impact.** The project would not substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level. There is currently sufficient capacity in the existing water system to serve the site. The proposed project will not increase water use over existing levels. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

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- IX c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site, because the project does not propose any alteration to a drainage pattern, stream or river. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- IX d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project would not substantially alter any existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site because the project does not propose any alteration to a drainage pattern, stream or river. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- IX e) **No Impact.** The project will not create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. County Public Works has reviewed the proposed project drainage. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- IX f) **No Impact.** The project would not otherwise substantially degrade water quality, because appropriate measures relating to water quality protection, including erosion control measures would be required and implemented prior to grading. The project must meet requirements and standards established by County Environmental Health and [Colorado River Basin](#) Regional Water Quality Control Board. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- IX g) **No Impact.** The project would not place unprotected housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map because the project is not designated as being in a flood hazard area. There is no housing proposed and County Public Works has reviewed the project and determined that it is not within any identified flood hazard areas. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- IX h) **No Impact.** The project would not place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows, because the site is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- IX i) **No Impact.** The project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam, because the project site is not within any identified path of a potential inundation flow that might result in the event of a dam or levee failure or that might occur from a river, stream, lake or sheet flow situation. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- IX j) **No Impact.** The project would not be impacted by inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow, because the project is not adjacent to any body of water that has the potential of seiche or tsunami nor is the project site in the path of any potential mudflow. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>X. LAND USE AND PLANNING - Would the project:</b>				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

- X a) **No Impact.** The project will not physically divide an established community, because the project is a logical and orderly extension of the planned land uses and development established within the surrounding area. It is consistent with the Community Industrial land use zoning district that exists on site and the Regional Industrial land use zoning district that exists adjacent. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- X b) **No Impact.** The project will not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. The project is consistent with applicable land use policies and regulations of the County Code, General Plan, Lucerne Valley Community Plan, and the existing land use district on site. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- X c) **No Impact.** The project would not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan, because there is no habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan within the area surrounding the project site. Habitat conservation lands are not required currently to be purchased as mitigation for the proposed project. The site is within the proposed boundary of the West Mojave Plan, which covers 9.3 million acres in the western portion of the Mojave Desert. This interagency habitat conservation plan remains under review. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XI. MINERAL RESOURCES</b> - Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION** (Check  if project is located within the Mineral Resource Zone Overlay):

- XI a) **No Impact.** The project will not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state. Omya California will continue to extract the mineral resources from nearby mines associated with the project site and process them into calcium carbonate products. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XI b) **No Impact.** The project will not result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. As stated before, extraction of mineral resources associated with the project site will continue. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XII. NOISE - Would the project:</b>				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION** (Check if the project is located in the Noise Hazard Overlay District  or is subject to severe noise levels according to the General Plan Noise Element ):

- XII a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project is the addition of limestone rock storage adjacent to an existing plant site. It will not expose persons to or generate noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies. The project must comply with the noise standards of the County Development Code and no noise exceeding these standards is anticipated to be generated by the proposed uses. The project site is within the AR-4 Overlay (low altitude/high speed corridors designed for military aircraft use) because Edwards Air Force Base and the US Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Training Center in Twentynine Palms are in relatively close proximity, but noise impacts will not be potentially significant. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XII b) **No Impact.** The project would not create exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels, because the project conditions require compliance with the vibration standards of the County Development Code. No vibration exceeding these standards is anticipated to be generated by the proposed uses. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XII c) **No Impact.** The project would not generate a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing or allowed without the project. The project conditions require compliance with the noise standards of the County Development Code. No noise exceeding these standards is anticipated to be generated by the project. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XII d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project may generate temporary or periodic increases in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project. Limestone stockpiling exists; this project is an expansion. The existing plant noise remains unchanged. Construction hours and noise levels will adhere to the standards contained in the County Development Code, so substantial increases are not anticipated. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

- XII e) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project site is within the AR-4 Overlay because Edwards Air Force Base and the US Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Training Center in Twentynine Palms are in relatively close proximity. The nearest public airport, Big Bear City Airport, is approximately 9.4 miles southeast of the project site. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XII f) **No Impact.** The project is not within the vicinity of a private airstrip. The nearest private airstrip, Rabbit Ranch Airport, is approximately 6.9 miles northwest of the site. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING</b> - Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

- XIII a) **No Impact.** The project will not induce substantial population growth in an area either directly or indirectly. The project will not generate new jobs or employment opportunities, only allow greater productivity at the existing plant site. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XIII b) **No Impact.** The proposed use will not displace any housing units, necessitating the construction of replacement housing because the site is vacant. No housing units will be demolished because of this proposal. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XIII c) **No Impact.** The proposed use will not displace any people necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere, because the project would not displace any existing housing or existing residents. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Public Facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

XIV a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed project will not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services, including fire and police protection, schools, parks, or other public facilities. The limestone rock storage is simply redistributing existing storage piles to enable greater productivity. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XV. RECREATION</b>				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

XV a) **No Impact.** This project will not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. The project will not generate any new residential units or new employment opportunities. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

XV b) **No Impact.** This project does not include recreational facilities. It will not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. The type of project proposed will not result in an increased demand for recreational facilities. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC - Would the project:</b>				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways, and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

- XVI a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The County Traffic Division found that there would be no adverse impacts on traffic because of the proposed project. The project will generate no additional trips. As mentioned in the GHG Section of this Initial Study, the additional stockpile space will not change the number of truck trips or increase employees. It is simply to allow for additional operating space and increase efficiency in the management of the material. Table 2-5 in the Circulation and Infrastructure Background Report associated with the County General Plan indicates that the level of service (LOS) on the two state highways serving Lucerne Valley meets the County standard. The LOS on State Route 18 between State Route 38 East and the Bear Valley Cutoff ranges between C and E. The LOS on State Route 247 between the Barstow City Limits and Camp Rock Road is LOS B. The County standard is LOS C. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XVI b) **No Impact.** The project would not exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a LOS standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways. The County Public Works – Traffic Division reviewed the traffic generation of the proposed project and anticipates that traffic service would remain at an LOS of “C” or better, as required by the County General Plan. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XVI c) **No Impact.** The project would not result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks. There are no airports in the vicinity of the project. As discussed in the Noise section of this document, the Big Bear City Airport is approximately 9.4 miles southeast of the project site and the Rabbit Ranch Airport is approximately 6.9 miles northwest of the site. There is no anticipated notable impact on air traffic volumes by passengers or freight generated by the proposed use. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

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- XVI d) **No Impact.** The project would not substantially increase hazards due to a design feature or incompatible uses. The project site is adjacent to an established road that is accessed at points with good site distance and properly controlled intersections. There are no incompatible uses proposed by the project that would impact surrounding land uses. The Omya California – Lucerne Valley plant exists on property adjacent to the stockpiles. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XVI e) **No Impact.** The project would not result in inadequate emergency access because there are a minimum of two access points. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XVI f) **No Impact.** The project would not conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks). The Victor Valley Transit Authority (VVTa) currently has Route 23 that serves the Lucerne Valley area. This project for limestone storage expansion would not adversely affect this existing service. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS - Would the project:</b>				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill(s) with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

- XVII a) **No Impact.** The proposed project does not exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board, *Colorado River Basin* Region, as determined by County Public Health – Environmental Health Services. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XVII b) **No Impact.** The water and wastewater systems operated by Omya California, Inc. have existing capacity to serve the proposed project. There will be no significant environmental impacts or impacts to the regional system. As stated previously, the stockpile project will not create additional jobs or add employees. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XVII c) **No Impact.** The proposed project would not require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities that would cause significant environmental effects. County Public Works has determined that there is sufficient capacity in the existing storm water system to absorb any additional stormwater drainage caused by the project. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XVII d) **No Impact.** The proposed project will not impact water supplies. Existing entitlements and resources will be unchanged because of this project. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XVII e) **No Impact.** The proposed project will not impact wastewater capacity. Existing wastewater systems will remain unchanged because of this project. As stated previously, the stockpile project will not create additional jobs or add employees. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.
- XVII f) **No Impact.** The Lucerne Valley (Camp Rock) Transfer Station and the Barstow Sanitary Landfill serve Lucerne Valley's solid waste needs. Both facilities have sufficient permitted capacity. The proposed stockpile project will not generate solid waste. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

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XVII g) **No Impact.** The proposed project is required to comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. As mentioned above, the proposed stockpile project will not generate solid waste. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
<b>XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE:</b>				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUBSTANTIATION**

XVIII a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Although the site is located within a designated Desert Tortoise habitat area (Category 3), it has operated as a calcium carbonate plant for decades. In September 2012, Lilburn Corporation prepared a *Desert Tortoise Presence/Absence Survey for the Omya Lucerne Valley Plant Expansion*. Lilburn Corporation observed no desert tortoise or tortoise sign in the project area or in the influence area up to 600 meters from the perimeter. Although a low probability exists for the presence of desert tortoise, the conditions of approval will include requirements for avoidance and minimization.

Future land disturbance must adhere with the standard condition that all grading and/or building permits require a pre-construction inspection to verify the location of Joshua trees. Any removal must comply with the County's ordinance regarding tree protection.

There are no identified historic or prehistoric resources identified on this site. There are no archaeological or paleontological resources identified in the project area.

There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

XVIII b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project does not have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable. Existing uses in the area have infrastructure that is sufficient to mitigate their baseline use impacts to below a level of significance. Previous evaluation of potential environmental impacts for those existing uses occurred. This Initial Study analyzed and quantified the potential impacts from the proposed use in conjunction with the existing baseline conditions. The determination is that the potential cumulative impacts fall well below a level of significance. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

XVIII c) **No Impact.** The project would not have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. There are no such impacts identified by review of other sources or by other agencies.

At a minimum, the project must meet the conditions of approval prior to implementation. The anticipation is that all such conditions of approval will insure that no potential for adverse impacts will be introduced by grading activities, construction activities, or land uses authorized by the project approval. There has been no change in circumstance since the 2007 Initial Study.

**Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.**

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