



**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)  
OMYA CALIFORNIA'S BUTTERFIELD SENTINEL QUARRY EXPANSION PROJECT  
(SCH #2013021057)**

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service (Forest Service), together with the County of San Bernardino (County), California, have prepared a Joint Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for Omya California's (Omya) proposed Butterfield Sentinel Quarry Expansion Project (Project). The Project is the expansion of Omya's Butterfield and Sentinel Limestone Quarries. The quarries are located approximately 7.5 miles south of the community of Lucerne Valley and 5.0 miles north of Big Bear Lake within the San Bernardino National Forest (SBNF) in San Bernardino County, California. The existing Butterfield-Sentinel quarries as well as the Project expansions are and would continue to be entirely within portions of approximately 954-acres of unpatented placer claims controlled by Omya but located on public land administered by the Forest Service. The Forest Service and the County have prepared the Draft EIR/EIS to evaluate potential impacts associated with the Project and Project Alternatives. Omya is proposing to develop known limestone ore resources which would add an additional 40-years life to the Butterfield quarry and an additional 20-years life to the Sentinel quarry. The Project includes expansion of existing Butterfield and Sentinel quarries, expansion of associated overburden placement sites, additional internal access roads and ancillary facility areas. The Project does not include any new quarries, new haul roads or new overburden sites. The proposed expansion would include 30.6-acres of new disturbance at the Butterfield Quarry, and 64.3-acres of new disturbance at the Sentinel Quarry area. The total area of disturbance associated with the Project would be 94.9-acres. Quarry development and expansion would be phased and reclamation would occur concurrently. The Draft EIR/EIS for the Butterfield Sentinel Quarry Expansion Project is available for public review and comment.

The Forest Service, as the lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the County of San Bernardino, as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), jointly prepared the Draft EIR/EIS to analyze the site-specific impacts of the Project on aesthetics; air quality; agriculture and forestry; biological resources; cultural resources; geology and soils; greenhouse gases and climate change; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; noise; recreation; and cumulative impacts.

This document has been prepared to meet the state requirements of CEQA and the federal requirements of NEPA. The Draft EIR/EIS is being circulated to the public, and to interested agencies in accordance with CEQA and NEPA, to provide a meaningful opportunity for the public and affected agencies to review and comment on the document. As identified therein, key potentially significant impacts from the proposed action would include: 1) Aesthetics; 2) Air Quality; 3) Biological Resources; 4) Geology and Soils; 5) Greenhouse Gases; 6) Hydrology and Water Quality; and 7) Cumulative Impacts.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Draft EIR/EIS in the Federal Register on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018. **The public comment period will end after 45-days from the posting date of this public notice in the Federal Register.** Comments can be sent by mail to Maya Rohr at Sespe Consulting, Inc. at 1565 Hotel Circle South, Suite 370, San Diego, CA 92108, or by email to

[mrohr@sespeconsulting.com](mailto:mrohr@sespeconsulting.com). Please include “Butterfield Sentinel Quarry Expansion Project” in the subject line. Written comments submitted electronically are strongly encouraged. Paper copies and compact discs of the Draft EIR/EIS are available upon request, and can be reviewed at the locations listed below. All written public comments received during the comment period will be used to prepare the final environmental documents. Further details on the proposed Butterfield Sentinel Quarry Expansion Project, including the full Draft EIR/EIS and the supporting appendices, can be found at:

- <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=32613>, or
- <http://cms.sbcounty.gov/lus/Planning/Environmental/Desert.aspx>.

**Forest Service Contact:** Tasha Hernandez, SBNF Environmental Coordinator, (909) 382-2905, e-mail: [thernandez@fs.fed.us](mailto:thernandez@fs.fed.us).

**County Contact:** Reuben Arceo, Contract Planner, San Bernardino County Land Use Services Division, (909) 387-4387, email: [reuben.arceo@lus.sbcounty.gov](mailto:reuben.arceo@lus.sbcounty.gov).

The Draft EIR/EIS is available for review at the following locations:

**San Bernardino National Forest**

Forest Headquarters  
602 S. Tippecanoe Avenue  
San Bernardino, CA 92408

**San Bernardino National Forest**

Big Bear Discovery Center  
40971 North Shore Drive, Highway 38  
Fawnskin, CA 92333

**San Bernardino County  
Land Use Services Department**

Planning Division  
385 North Arrowhead Avenue  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0182

**San Bernardino County  
Land Use Services Department**

Planning Division  
15900 Smoke Tree Street  
Hesperia, CA 92345

**Hazardous Waste Sites:** Pursuant Section 15087(c)(6) of the Guidelines for California Environmental Quality Act, the Forest Service and County acknowledges the non-existence of hazardous waste sites within the Project area reviewed by this EIR/EIS.

This Project is subject to comment and predecisional administrative review pursuant to Forest Service Regulations at 36 CFR 218. Only those who submit timely Project-specific written comments during a public comment period are eligible to file an objection during the objection filing period. Individuals or representatives of an entity submitting comments must sign the comments or verify identity upon request. Comments on this proposal will be accepted for 45 days following publication of this Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register, which is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period. This also coincides with the posting of the NOA in the San Bernardino County Sun. It is the commenter’s responsibility to ensure timely receipt of comments.

The proposed action also includes a Project-specific Forest Plan amendment to reduce the Scenic Integrity Objectives in the Project area. The review process under 36 CFR 218, not the review process for Forest Plans (36 CFR 219), applies to this amendment.