

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:

APN:	0558-151-10 (fee land); 0558-151-11 (unpatented land); 0558-151-24 (haul road)
APPLICANT:	Omya, Inc. 9987 Carver Road Suite 300 Cincinnati, Ohio, 45242
COMMUNITY:	Central Mojave, Amboy
LOCATION:	Six miles east of Amboy; one mile north of Highway 66
PROJECT NO:	AP20150104
STAFF:	
REP(S):	
PROPOSAL:	Amend the Plan of Operations & Reclamation Plan to expand the permitted reclamation boundary to include a buffer area around the areas of disturbance associated with mining activities (from 73 acres to 87 acres).

USGS Quad: Amboy 7.5" topographic Quadrangle

T, R, Section: T:6N R:13E Sec:30

Thomas Bros.: 4137 – C5
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Planning Area: Central Mojave Desert

Land Use Zoning: Resource Conservation (RC)

Overlays: Open Space

PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Lead agency: County of San Bernardino
Land Use Services Department - Current Planning
385 North Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0182

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Project Sponsor:

Phone No:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Project is an amendment of the 1996 Amboy Limestone Quarry Reclamation Plan. An Amended Reclamation Plan was submitted to the County of San Bernardino in November 2015 for review and approval as lead agency under the California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA). The background and purpose of the Project are discussed below.

Background

The Amboy Limestone Quarry is an operating quarry located in the central Mojave Desert approximately 6 miles east of Amboy, and one mile north of Highway 66 (see Figure 1). Mining activities were started at the Project site in 1956 and the quarry is currently approved to continue mining until 2050. The land uses in the region have been dominated by the extraction of mineral resources since the 1860s. Extensive geological investigations have proven that the quarry site has a large reserve of exceptionally pure crystalline limestone, suitable for food and pharmaceutical grade products and human consumption. The Amboy Limestone Quarry is among the few available sources of such high purity limestone in the western United States.

The Quarry operates under the approved 1996 Reclamation Plan 96M-06 and the San Bernardino County Mining Conditional Use (CUP) Permit SAMR/95-0066/DN 913-181N. The Amboy mining operations have been previously evaluated under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the federal National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). The County of San Bernardino issued a Negative Declaration on October 25, 1996 and determined that the Amboy mining operations would not have a significant effect upon the environment. The United States Bureau of Land Management (BLM) prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to NEPA and issued a Decision Record with Conditions of Approval for minor changes on federal land on February 5, 2013. In accordance with the California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA), in 1996 the California Department of Conservation (DOC) Office of Mine Reclamation (OMR) and the County of San Bernardino (as lead agency) issued the Mining CUP and approved the Reclamation Plan. A Mitigation Monitoring and Compliance Program was prepared for use in implementing the CUP conditions of approval (COAs). The previously issued state and federal COAs would apply to the Project currently under review in this Initial Study. A copy of the Amended Reclamation Plan which includes copies of these documents is provided with this Initial Study (Attachment 1).

Project Purpose

The purpose of the Project is to amend the 1996 Reclamation Plan to include the following refinements to the mine design:

- Expand the permitted reclamation boundary to include a buffer area around the areas of disturbance.
- Expand the stockpile area.
- Clarify the boundaries and acreage of the areas of disturbance (e.g., include the mine access road within the Reclamation Plan boundaries).
- Extend the life of the mine by 10 years to compensate for the reduced production during Phase 1 as a result of the economic downturn in the early 2000s.
- Address items identified by OMR's March 19, 2015 letter (e.g., update technical reports to confirm compliance with SMARA).

Mining

The Project does not propose any changes to the ongoing mining operations. Mining would continue to be conducted in four phases with annual production estimated to range from 15,000 tons per year (tpy) in the earlier phases, and up to approximately 200,000 tpy in the later phases. The number of acres to be mined would remain at 73 acres with an estimated total production for the life of the mine at 6,375,000 tons. There would be no changes to the existing mining methods, blasting techniques/frequency, or crushing/processing activities.

As part of the SMARA review process for the Amended Reclamation Plan, updated technical studies were prepared to confirm that the mining operations and reclamation activities are and will continue to be in compliance with SMARA requirements. These included the following:

- Hydrology Study and Drainage (September 2015);
- Slope Stability Investigation (January 2015);
- Best Management Practices (BMP) Manual (September 2015);
- Revegetation Plan Update (September 2014);
- General Biological Resources Assessment (June 2014);
- Desert Tortoise Presence/Absence Survey (May 2014); and
- Jurisdictional Delineation Report (July 2014).

Mine Waste

Current mining activities at the Project site produce the following types of mine waste: overburden, waste rock, crusher fines and ore that does not meet product specification.

There are currently two overburden placement sites and one crusher fines stockpile at the Project site. The volume of overburden and waste rock to be moved per year is variable and depends on the development phase and current economics affecting the demand for the product.

The Project would not alter the generation and/or the management of the mining waste other than minor adjustments to the boundaries of the overburden placement sites and stockpiles to allow for flexibility within the proposed buffer area.

Production Water

Fresh water is and would continue to be used at the Project site for dust suppression activities. Water is provided by an offsite contractor and the quantity required would not be changed by the Project.

Erosion and Sedimentation Control

Because the Project does not involve any changes to the existing mining activities, it would not require any modifications to the erosion and sediment control measures/Best Management Practices (BMPs) already established at the site. As part of the Amended Reclamation Plan review process and per SMARA requirements, updated slope stability and erosion control evaluations were conducted. In order to address previous concerns regarding sediment transport and windblown dust, an updated BMP manual was prepared and submitted with the Amended Reclamation Plan. Although the Amboy Limestone Quarry does not, and would not, impact Waters of the United States and is therefore not subject to the Clean Water Act stormwater Industrial General Permit (IGP) requirements, the BMPs are consistent with the IGP BMP requirements. The slope stability and erosion control studies concluded that the ongoing mining operations meet SMARA requirements.

Disturbed Land

The Project would include minor changes to the areas of disturbance within the reclamation boundaries.

The current Amboy Limestone Quarry Reclamation Plan identifies 73 acres of disturbed land associated with the active mining area. The access road to the mine creates an additional 7.8 acres of disturbed land (outside of the active mining area). The total amount of disturbed land including the acreage approved under the Reclamation Plan and the existing access road is 80.8 acres.

The Project would create a buffer area between the active mining operations and the outer edge of the reclamation boundary. This area may or may not actually be disturbed in the future, but by including it in the Reclamation Plan it provides additional flexibility for the mining operations and ensures that all disturbed areas would be appropriately reclaimed in accordance with SMARA. In addition, the Project proposes to bring the existing access road into the reclamation boundary which would also ensure the proper reclamation of this disturbed area. The Project would result in potentially 6.2 newly disturbed acres. The total area of disturbance to be added to the Reclamation Plan, including the existing 7.8 acres created by the access road, is 14 acres.

On February 5, 2013, the BLM issued a Decision Record with Conditions of Approval for Omya to enlarge the area of disturbance located within the BLM land. This expansion resulted in additional disturbances of 10.8 acres on public land. This acreage is included in the total disturbed acreage identified for this Project. Additional federal approval is not required for this expansion on BLM land.

Table 1 provides a summary of the proposed changes in the areas of disturbance and extension of the reclamation boundary. Figure 2 shows the currently approved conditions and the proposed changes to the areas of disturbance and boundary of the reclamation activities.

Table 1: Proposed Changes to Reclamation Plan

Activity	Approved and Existing Total (acres)	Proposed Total (acres)	Increase (acres)	% Change
Disturbed Area	73	87	14	~19%
Additional Existing Disturbed Area (access road)	7.8			
Total Disturbance Including Existing Access Road	80.8	87	6.2	~7.8%
Reclamation Boundary	73	201.8*	128.8	~176%

*Includes disturbed area, existing access road and additional buffer zone

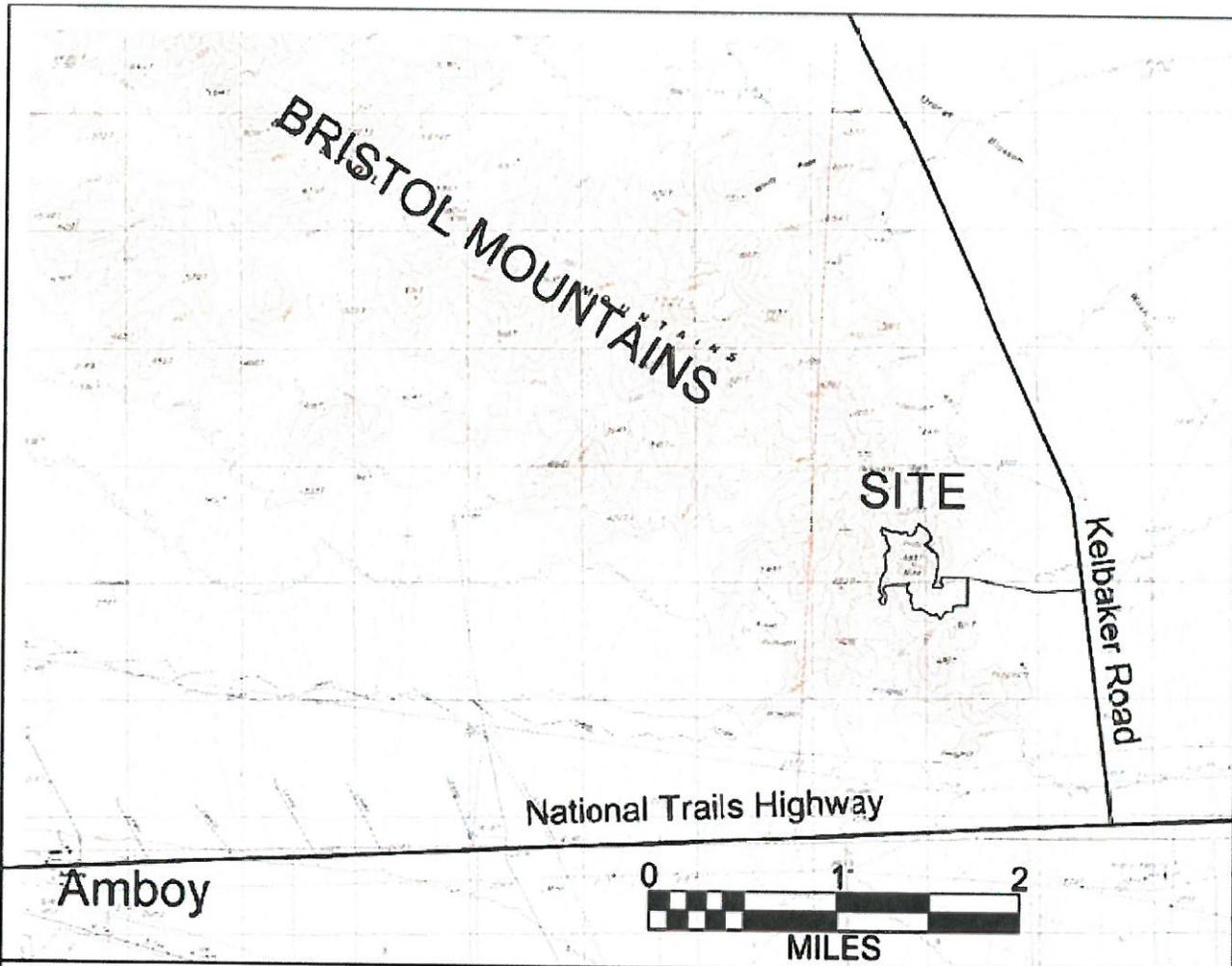
Reclamation and Revegetation

Other than increasing the areas of disturbance and extending the boundary of the Reclamation Plan, the Project would not significantly change the reclamation and revegetation activities. Per OMR's request, an updated Revegetation Plan was submitted with the Amended Reclamation Plan. The updated plan identifies three different seed mixes that were designed specifically for the site and the application rates in lbs/acre.

Post Reclamation

Upon completion of final reclamation activities as described in the Amended Reclamation Plan, the Project site will be returned to open space. The Project would not change any aspects of the post reclamation use of the site.

Figure 1
Vicinity Map



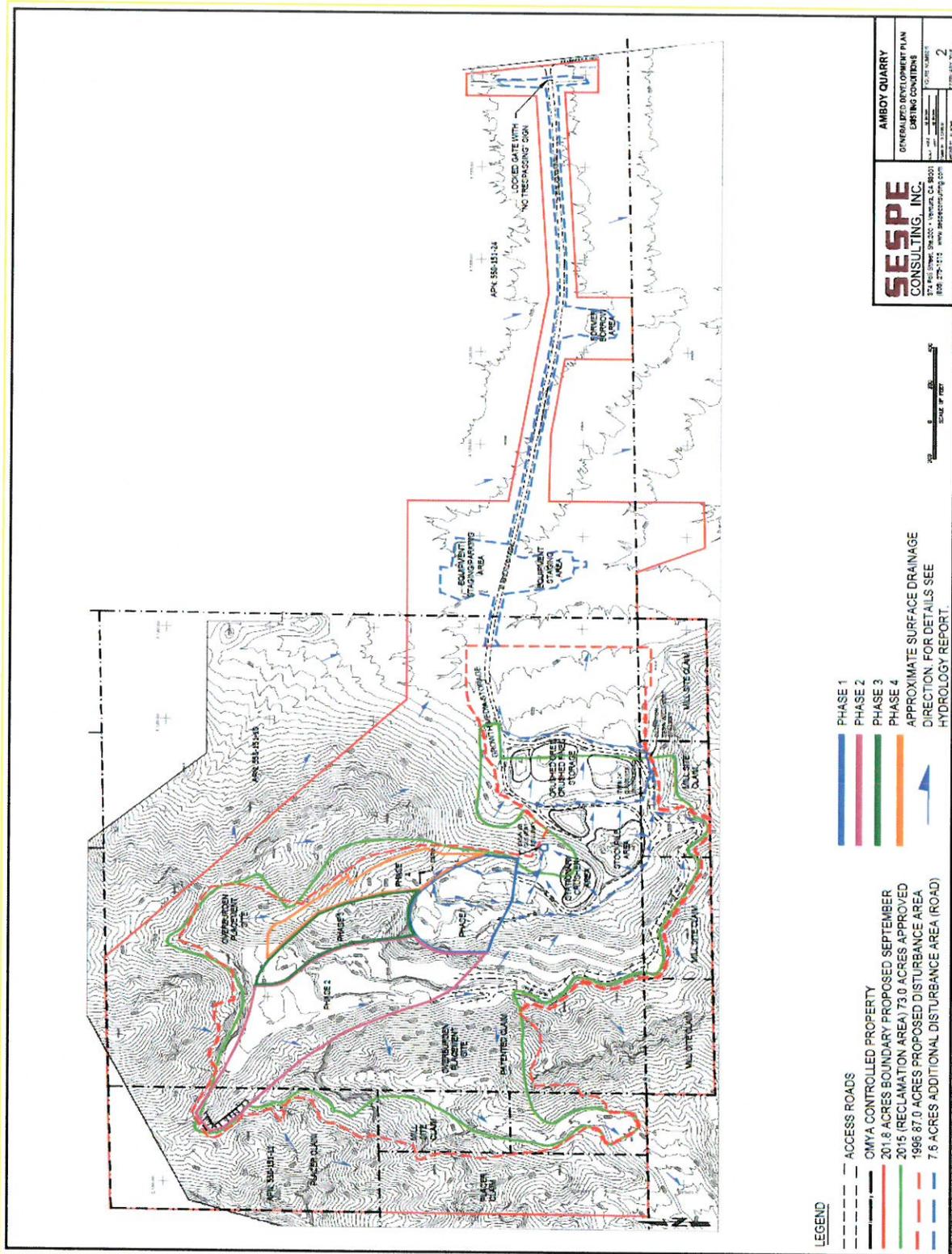
Index Map

Base Map: Amboy Quadrangle, USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Series Topographic Map



SESPE CONSULTING, INC. <small>478 First Street, Ste. 200 • Ventura, CA 93001 (805) 221-1515 • www.sespeconsulting.com</small>	AMBOY QUARRY LOCATION OF THE AMBOY QUARRY	
	SHEET NO. 1	DATE: JAN 2014

Figure 2
Amboy Quarry Site



ENVIRONMENTAL/EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS:

CEQA Guidelines §15125 establishes requirements for defining the environmental setting to which the environmental effects of a proposed project must be compared. The environmental setting is defined as "...the physical environmental conditions in the vicinity of the project, as they exist at the time the Notice of Preparation is published, or if no Notice of Preparation is published, at the time the environmental analysis is commenced..." (CEQA Guidelines §15125[a]).

The Project does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report and a Notice of Preparation is not required. Thus, the environmental setting for the Project is the approximate date that the Project's Initial Study Checklist commenced on March 25, 2016.

The Project site is located within the existing Amboy Limestone Quarry. Mining and reclamation activities have been approved/permitted by federal, state and/or local agencies. Conditions of Approval were identified and a Mitigation Monitoring and Compliance Program is in place for the quarry. These approvals and conditions define the existing baseline conditions and environmental setting.

The Project site is located near the base of the southern Bristol Mountains, one of several generally barren and rocky mountain ranges in the central Mojave Desert region. The surrounding land use is open space/resource conservation (Table 2). The terrain in the area is very stark barren desert comprised of steep and rugged bare rock outcrops often lacking soil or vegetation.

On February 12, 2016, a Presidential Proclamation was signed which established the Mojave Trails National Monument. The Project is not located within the monument.

Table 2: Existing Land Use and Land Use/Overlay Districts

Area	Existing Land Use	Land Use/Overlay District
Site	Quarry	Open Space/Resource Conservation
North	Vacant	Open Space/Resource Conservation
South	Vacant	Open Space/Resource Conservation
East	Vacant	Open Space/Resource Conservation
West	Vacant	Open Space/Resource Conservation

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

Federal:

Bureau of Land Management: The Project has obtained approval under the Decision Record dated February 5, 2012 from BLM for increased disturbance on federal public lands (DOI-BLM-CA-D090-2012-0012-EA). No further approval is required.

State of California:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW): A Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA) may be required. Consultation with CDFW is ongoing.

California Department of Conservation Office of Mine Reclamation: Review of Amended Reclamation Plan.

Regional and County:

Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB): Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) may be required. Consultation with RWQCB is ongoing.

County of San Bernardino Land Use Services Department-Mining: Approval of Amended Reclamation Plan.

Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MVAQMD): None

Local: None

EVALUATION FORMAT

This initial study is prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq. and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations Section 15000, et seq.). Specifically, the preparation of an Initial Study is guided by Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. This format of the study is presented as follows. The project is evaluated based upon its effect on seventeen (17) 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 Incorporated	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. **No Impact:** No impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.
2. **Less than Significant Impact:** No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated: 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 of mitigation measures)

Potentially Significant Impact: Significant adverse impacts have been identified or anticipated. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required to evaluate these impacts, which are (List of 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 |

Because none of the environmental factors above are "checked", the Project does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report.

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION shall be prepared.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there shall 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 shall be prepared.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	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.
<input type="checkbox"/>	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.

Prepared by: Reuben Arceo, Contract Planner

Reuben Arceo, Contract Planner
 Reuben Arceo, Contract Project Manager

3/24/2016
 Date

Dave Prusch, Planning Supervisor
 Dave Prusch, Planning Supervisor

3/18/2016
 Date

<i>ISSUES</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS - Would the project				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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):

I a) **No Impact.** The County General Plan Open Space Element, Policy OS 5.1. states that a feature or vista can be considered scenic if it:

- Provides a vista of undisturbed natural areas;
- Includes a unique or unusual feature that comprises an important or dominant portion of the view shed; or,
- Offers a distant vista that provides relief from less attractive views of nearby features such as views of mountain backdrops from urban areas.

The Project site itself does not meet the criteria for a scenic vista pursuant to County General Plan Open Space Element Policy OS 5.1.

The Project site is located within the Amboy Limestone Quarry. The Quarry area has been highly disturbed by past and ongoing mining activities. The quarry site already has or is approved for 80.8 acres of disturbed land. The Project would only involve a small amount of additional disturbance (6.2 acres). This minimal increase in the amount of disturbed land would not change the existing visual or aesthetic nature of the area. Therefore the Project would have no impact on a scenic vista.

I b) **No Impact.** The Project would not result in the removal of any scenic resources such as trees, rock outcropping or historic buildings within a scenic highway. Therefore the Project would have no impact on these resources.

I c) **No Impact.** The Project is located in a remote area and would only be visible from those driving on Highway 66 or Kelbaker Road. There are no residences, commercial developments or developed recreation areas in the vicinity of the Project. The Project site is located within the Amboy Limestone Quarry. The Quarry area has been highly disturbed by past and ongoing mining activities. The quarry site already has or is approved for 80.8 acres of disturbed land. The Project would only involve a small amount of additional disturbance (6.2 acres). This minimal increase in the amount of disturbed land would not change the existing visual or aesthetic nature of the area.

Based on the above, the Project would have no impact on the existing visual character of the area.

- I d) **No Impact.** No new light sources are proposed. As such, the Project would not create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. No impacts are anticipated.

<i>ISSUES</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
II. AGRICULTURE and FORESTRY 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. Would the project:				
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

- II a) **No Impact.** The Project site does not contain any lands designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance as mapped by the State Department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. As such, the Project has no potential to convert such lands to a non-agricultural use and no impact would occur.
- II b) **No Impact.** Generally, a conflict with existing zoning for agriculture use would occur if a project would intrude into agricultural areas and create conflicts between agriculture uses and non-agriculture uses. The Project site is zoned RC (Resource Conservation). The RC land use zoning district allows mining as a conditional use. There are no agricultural uses on the Project site or in the vicinity of the Project site. No impacts would occur.

Pursuant to the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, a Williamson Act Contract enables private landowners to voluntarily enter into contracts with local governments for the purpose of restricting specific parcels of land to agricultural or related open space use. In return, landowners receive lower property tax assessments based upon farming and open space uses as opposed to full market value. The Project site is not under a Williamson Act Contract. As such, there is no impact with respect to a Williamson Act Contract.

- II c) **No Impact.** The Project site is zoned RC (Resource Conservation). The Project site does not contain any forest lands, timberland, or timberland zoned as Timberland Production, nor are any forest lands or timberlands located on or nearby the Project site. Because no lands on the Project site are zoned for forestland or timberland, the Project has no potential to impact such zoning. No impacts would occur.
- II d) **No Impact.** The Project site and surrounding properties do not contain forest lands, are not zoned for forest lands, nor are they identified as containing forest resources by the General Plan. Because forest land is not present on the Project site or in the immediate vicinity of the Project site, the Project has no potential to result in the loss of forest land or the conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No impacts would occur.
- II e) **No Impact.** The Project site is not being used for agricultural uses and is surrounded on all sides by vacant desert. As such, the Project would not result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use and no impacts would occur.

<i>ISSUES</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
III. AIR QUALITY - 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

III a) **Less than Significant.** The Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (District) is responsible for preparing and updating an Air Quality Management Plan. The primary purpose of an Air Quality Management Plan is for controlling emissions to maintain all federal and state ambient air standards for the District. The District has adopted a variety of attainment plans for a variety of non-attainment pollutants which together comprise the Air Quality Management Plan for the District.

A Project is non-conforming if it conflicts with or delays implementation of any applicable attainment or maintenance plan. A project is conforming if it complies with all applicable District rules and regulations, complies with all proposed control measures that are not yet adopted from the applicable plan(s), and is consistent with the growth forecasts in the applicable plan(s) (or is directly included in the applicable plan). Conformity with growth forecasts can be established by demonstrating that the project is consistent with the land use plan that was used to generate the growth forecast.

The Project is consistent with the zoning and land use classifications that were used to prepare the Attainment Plan (Resource Conservation).

In addition, the Project would not result in significant increases in air emissions. The Project would not cause a change or increase in the amount, type or use of mining equipment and on/offsite vehicles. The Project allows for a small increase (approximately 7.8%) in disturbed area (6.2 acres out of a total disturbance of 80.8 acres) which would act as a buffer zone and not necessarily be disturbed by mining activities. If the land is disturbed in the proposed buffer zone, there could potentially be slight increases in fugitive dust (particulate matter) during wind storms. However, in comparison to the existing disturbed area associated with the approved mining operations and considering the implementation of existing COAs (specifically COA Numbers 14, 16, 19, and 54) required by the CUP, the potential change in emissions would be insignificant. The Project emissions would not result in an exceedance of the thresholds established by the District (see Table 3). The Project would not significantly increase local air emissions and therefore, would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the Attainment Plans. Therefore, a less than significant impact is anticipated.

III b) **Less than Significant.** A Project is considered to have significant impacts if it generates total emissions (direct and indirect) in excess of the thresholds established by the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District.

The Project would not involve a change or an increase in the use of mining equipment or on/offsite vehicles that could result in additional combustion pollutants (ROG, NOx, SOx, CO or Diesel Particulate Matter) emissions. The Project would also not result in an increase of production rates, blasting or changes in the crushing/processing activities. Therefore, the Project would not increase fugitive dust particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) emissions associated with operations and would be consistent with the Project baseline. The Project would result in an additional 6.2 acres of disturbed land which could generate dust during wind storms. However, the CUP COAs (specifically COA numbers 16, 19, and 54) require specific dust control measures such as applying water to working areas on a regular basis and more frequently during windy conditions as well as shutting down operations on days of extreme wind conditions (30 mph or greater). Therefore, the Project would not result in an increase over the baseline emissions and would not generate emissions in excess of the Mojave Desert AQMD thresholds (Table 3). The Project is anticipated to be less than significant.

Table 3. Estimated Air Pollutant Emissions and Significance (Tons/Year)

	ROG	NOx	CO	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}
Emission Totals	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
MDAQMD ECQA Thresholds (Tons/year)	25	25	100	15	15
Exceeds Threshold?	No	No	No	No	No

III c) **Less than Significant.** The Project is located in a region that has been identified as being in Non-Attainment for Ozone and PM₁₀ (State) according to the California Air Resources Board Area Designation Maps. This means that the background concentration of these pollutants have historically been over the Federal and/or State Ambient Air Quality Standards. With respect to air quality, no individual project would by itself result in Non-Attainment of the Federal or State Ambient Air Quality Standards. However, a project's air pollution emissions although individually limited, may be cumulatively considerable when taken in combination with past, present, and future development projects. In order to be considered significant, a project's air pollutant emissions must

exceed the emission thresholds established by the regional Air Quality Management District.

As shown in Table 3, the thresholds for the above referenced criteria pollutants would not be exceeded by the Project. Therefore, impacts from the Project are not cumulatively considerable when included with other past, present, and future probable projects. Consequently impacts are considered to be less than significant.

- III d) **No Impact.** The Project is located in a remote area with no nearby residences, commercial or industrial facilities. There are no sensitive receptors in the immediate vicinity of the Project. No impacts are anticipated.
- III e) **No Impact.** The Project would not result in an increased use of mining equipment. In addition, the generation of objectionable odors is typically not associated with surface mining operations and there are no sensitive receptors within the Project vicinity. No impacts are anticipated.

ISSUES	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - Would the project:				
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 Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

The responses provided below are based on the following reports and documents:

- General Biological Resources Assessment Report, June 2014
- Desert Tortoise Presence/Absence Survey Report, May 2014
- Jurisdictional Delineation Report, July 2014
- Hydrology Study and Drainage, April 2015
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Streambed Alteration Agreement, December 19, 1996

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers letter from December 3, 1996
- Slope Stability Investigation, January 2015
- U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Decision Record, Amboy Limestone Quarry Plan Modification, February 5, 2013

IV a) **Less Than Significant.** A complete Biological Resource Assessment, including a Focused Survey for Desert Tortoise, was completed for the entire Amboy Limestone Quarry and adjacent areas. Following is a summary of the Biological Assessment report findings.

Special Status Species

No special status plant or animal species were observed within the Amboy Limestone Quarry and adjacent areas, including the Project site, during field surveys conducted on April 7-8 and May 26-27, 2014.

Special status species not observed at the Amboy Limestone Quarry, including the Project site, but with the potential to occur based on habitat and range requirements are provided in General Biological Resources Assessment included in Attachment 1. A total of 12 species of plants and 8 species of wildlife occur within the vicinity of the Project site, based on a CNDDDB query of the 9 topographic quadrangles including and adjacent to Amboy, CA. The majority of the special status species have little probability of occurring within the Project site due to existing site conditions, habitat, range requirements and site elevation. Descriptions of these species and the potential to occur are provided in General Biological Resources Assessment. The desert tortoise and Death Valley sage, which may occur in the Project site, are discussed below.

Desert Tortoise

The only listed species that may occur within the survey area is the desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*). The desert tortoise is listed as threatened by the USFWS and the State of California. Habitat for the desert tortoise within the Amboy Limestone Quarry, including the Project limits, appears very poor as the majority of the site contains either steep slopes or desert pavement in the alluvial areas. No live tortoises, tortoise burrows, or tortoise sign were found during the 2014 protocol surveys.

Death Valley Sage

Death Valley sage (*Salvia funerea*) is known to occur in dry washes and limestone canyon walls (Hickman 1993). Death Valley sage has been reported from the Project vicinity (CalFlora 2014) and was reported from the Amboy Limestone Quarry site in 1995 (Tierra Madre Consultants 1995). Previously known onsite locations were searched on May 26, 2014 with no plants found in those areas. However, there are multiple reports of the species from nearby the Project area, so the species has a moderate potential to occur within the Amboy Limestone Quarry boundary, including the Project site.

Conclusions

The biological studies that were conducted addressed the entire Amboy Limestone Quarry site. The Project site is a small portion of the quarry (approximately 7.8%). The probability of desert tortoise or Death Valley Sage occurring on the Project site is therefore significantly less than the quarry as a whole. However, the potential of occurrence does exist. Impacts to these special status species are considered less than significant because of the minimal area being impacted by the Project combined with the existing COAs identified in the CUP (specifically COAs Numbers 19, 35, 43, 45, 46, 52, and 53) for the entire quarry site. A copy of the CUP with the required COAs is provided in Attachment 1.

IV b,c) **Less Than Significant.** A jurisdictional Delineation (JD) was prepared for the Amboy Limestone Quarry site (Attachment 1). The following provides a summary of the JD.

The Project site is located within the Southern Mojave watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code 18100100). Surface water from the site flows downstream towards Bristol Lake, a dry lakebed south of the Project site. As these waters collect and evaporate at Bristol Lake, they are considered isolated and do not connect to downstream navigable waters. Therefore these washes are not subject to federal jurisdiction under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. However they are subject to state jurisdiction and are regulated by the CDFW under Section 1600-1616 of the California Fish and Game Code (1602 Permit) and the Colorado River Basin RWQCB (water quality certification and waste discharge).

Jurisdictional waters are shown in Figure 4 of the JD (located in Attachment 1). A total of approximately 1.76 acres of waters of the State under the jurisdiction of the CDFW and Colorado River Basin RWQCB are estimated to occur within the Amboy Limestone Quarry site, including along the existing access road. All of these are ephemeral washes which flow only in direct response to storm events. Of this total, approximately 0.2 acres have already been disturbed under Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 5-443-96.

Because the Project site would extend the boundaries of the Reclamation Plan further into these ephemeral washes, there would be a potential for an impact. However, as required by the existing COAs, Omya shall consult with all federal, state, local regulatory requirements, including the CDFW and USFWS (COA 19, 52 and 53) and shall obtain any necessary permits/approvals, such as a Streambed Alteration Agreement and/or WDRs. In addition, COA 26 requires that adequate provisions be made to intercept and conduct offsite drainage flow in a manner which will not adversely affect adjacent or downstream properties (which would include sensitive habitats and ephemeral washes).

Therefore, based on the existing COAs, the Project is considered to have a less than significant impact on sensitive natural communities identified by the CDFW, USFWS or other local or regional plans/regulations.

IV d) **Less Than Significant.** The following provides a summary of the General Biological Resources Assessment evaluation of potential impacts to wildlife movement associated with the Amboy Limestone Quarry, of which the Project is only a small portion.

The movement of big horn sheep in the Project vicinity has been previously evaluated (Epps et.al 2013) and found that big horn sheep generally occupy numerous small mountain ranges separated by flat desert, with infrequent but continual crossing of those flats to other mountainous areas. Wildlife corridors occur between mountain ranges (Epps et. al 2013). No large-scale wildlife movement corridors occur within or adjacent to the Project site. The Amboy Limestone Quarry boundary, as well as the Project site boundaries, consists of unfenced natural desert, which allows the movement and dispersal of wildlife locally and between surrounding mountain ranges.

Wildlife move within and around the Project site as part of their short-range movements. Nelson's bighorn sheep have been observed to use all available habitats, as evidenced by their scat found in all areas within the quarry area, including mountainous areas, slopes, disturbed areas, and drainages, with the exception of the flats closest to Kelbaker Road. The steep canyon on the west side of the quarry appears to be crossed as frequently as adjacent mountain slopes areas within the quarry area.

Routine, daily or seasonal movements of small to medium-sized animals are generally localized in nature. A more than 20 ft drop-off located in the center of the canyon on the western side of the quarry, as well as the presence of large boulders, limits use by of this canyon by small to medium-sized animals.

Interstate 40, approximately 8 miles north of the Project site, and Route 66, approximately 1 mile south of the Project site, limit regional wildlife movement.

Based on the General Biological Resources Assessment and the fact that the Project is only a small portion of the Amboy Limestone Quarry, the Project would not substantially interfere with the movement of any native resident or migratory wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors. The Project would also not impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites as none exist on or near the Project site. Therefore it is anticipated that the Project would have a less than significant impact on wildlife movement.

- IV e) **No Impact.** There are no local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy that would apply to the Project. Therefore the Project would have no impact.
- IV f) **No Impact.** The General Biological Resource Assessment identified the following conservation plans that have been implemented within the region of the Project site:

- USFWS Desert Tortoise Recovery Plan
- Desert Bird Conservation Plan
- BLM West Mojave Plan
- California Desert Conservation Area Plan

The Project would not conflict with any of these plans; therefore, there would be no impact.

ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant	No Impact
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES - 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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.** Historic resources generally consist of buildings, structures, improvements, and remnants associated with a significant historic event or person(s) and/or have a historically significant style, design, or achievement. Damaging or demolition of historic resources is typically considered to be a significant impact. Impacts to historic resources can occur through direct impacts, such as destruction or removal, and indirect impacts, such as a change in the setting of a historic resource.

CEQA Guidelines §15064.5(a) clarifies that historical resources include the following:

1. A resource listed in, or determined to be eligible by the State Historical Resources Commission, for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources.
2. A resource included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code or identified as significant in an historical resource survey meeting the requirements [of] section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code.
3. Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California.

Cultural and archeological investigations at the Amboy Limestone Quarry and surrounding area were performed by CRM TECH in 1995. Because of the harsh climate, the barren desert site, lack of water and naturally occurring food sources, the quarry site has never been an area of permanent human habitation. Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office was completed on July 1, 1997 and resulted in approval of all phases of mining operations at the Amboy Limestone Quarry.

There are no historical resources located in the Project site; therefore, there would be no impact to historical resources.

- V b) **Less Than Significant Impact:** Archaeological sites are locations that contain resources associated with former human activities, and may contain such resources as human skeletal remains, waste from tool manufacture, tool concentrations, and/or discoloration or accumulation of soil or food remains.

Cultural and archeological investigations at the Amboy Limestone Quarry and surrounding area were performed by CRM TECH in 1995. Because of the harsh climate, the barren desert site, lack of water and naturally occurring food sources, the site has never been an area of permanent human habitation. Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office was completed on July 1, 1997 and resulted in approval of all phases of mining operations.

The Project would not change the current mining methods but it would result in a minor increase of disturbed land. However, it is not anticipated that this disturbance would be subsurface.

In September 2014 Assembly Bill (AB) 52 was signed by the Governor. The law went into effect on July 1, 2015. CEQA Guidelines Checklist Appendix G is required to be updated accordingly by July 1, 2016.

AB 52 establishes a consultation process with all California Native American Tribes on the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) list (Federal and Non Federal recognized tribes). A new class of cultural resources was established, Tribal Cultural Resources, which takes into consideration Tribal cultural values in determination of project impacts and mitigations. It also requires meaningful Tribal consultation. A Tribal cultural resource includes:

- A site feature, place, cultural landscape, sacred place or object which is of cultural value to a Tribe; and
- Eligible for the California Historic Register or a local historic register or the lead agency, at its discretion, chooses to treat the resource as a Tribal cultural resource.

Within 14 days of a decision to undertake a project or determination that a project application is complete, the lead agency must provide written notification to the Tribes that requested placement on the Agency's Notice List. The Tribes have 30 days to request consultation.

In accordance with AB 52, the County provided written notification to the following tribes for consultation on the project.

- Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians
- Morongo Band of Mission Indians
- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
- Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians
- Colorado River Indian Tribes
- Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

The purpose of tribal consultation under AB52 are to determine, as part of the CEQA review process, whether or not Tribal Cultural Resources are present within the project area, and if so, whether or not those resources will be significantly impacted by the project. The tribes were notified on January 25, 2016, to respond within thirty (30) days from the receipt of the letter to request consultation for the project. The 30 day response period concluded on February 25, 2016. The County Land Use Services Department received a letter from the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians waiving consultation on February 24, 2016. No other responses from the tribes who received notification were obtained.

Based on the above, the Project would have a less than significant impact on archaeological resources.

- V c) **Less Than Significant Impact:** Paleontological resources are the preserved fossilized remains of plants and animals. Fossils and traces of fossils are preserved in sedimentary rock units, particularly fine- to medium grained marine, lake, and stream deposits, such as limestone, siltstone, sandstone, or shale, and in ancient soils. They are also found in coarse-grained sediments, such as conglomerates or coarse alluvium sediments. Fossils are rarely preserved in igneous or metamorphic rock units. Fossils may occur throughout a sedimentary unit and, in fact, are more likely to be preserved subsurface, where they have not been damaged or destroyed by previous ground disturbance, amateur collecting, or natural causes such as erosion.

The primary purpose of the Project is to provide a buffer zone outside of the active mining operation to address the potential expansion of overburden, waste rock and/or fines/sediment. The Project would not change the current mining methods but it would result in a minor increase of disturbed land. However, it is not anticipated that this disturbance would be subsurface. Therefore, it is not anticipated that the Project would involve any activities that would significantly disturb the subsurface where undiscovered paleontological resources may exist. The Project would have a less than significant impact on paleontological resources.

- V d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The Project site does not contain a cemetery and no known formal cemeteries are located within the immediate site vicinity.

The primary purpose of the Project is to provide a buffer zone outside of the active mining operation to address the potential expansion of overburden, waste rock and/or fines/sediment. It is not anticipated that the Project would involve any earth moving activities that would significantly disturb the subsurface where undiscovered human remains may be located.

In the unlikely event that human remains are discovered, in accordance with the CUP COA 19, Omya would be required to comply with the applicable provisions of California Health and Safety Code §7050.5 as well as Public Resources Code §5097 et. seq. California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin. Pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98(b), remains shall be left in place and free from disturbance until a final decision as to the treatment and disposition has been made by the Coroner.

If the Coroner determines the remains to be Native American, the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) must be contacted and the NAHC must then immediately notify the "most likely descendant(s)" of receiving notification of the discovery. The most likely descendant(s) shall then make recommendations within 48 hours, and engage in consultations concerning the treatment of the remains as provided in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98.

As cited in V b), In accordance with AB 52, the County provided written notification to the following tribes for consultation on the project.

- Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians
- Morongo Band of Mission Indians
- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
- Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians
- Colorado River Indian Tribes
- Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

The purpose of tribal consultation under AB52 are to determine, as part of the CEQA review process, whether or not Tribal Cultural Resources are present within the project area, and if so, whether or not those resources will be significantly impacted by the project. The tribes were notified on January 25, 2016, to respond within thirty (30) days from the receipt of the letter to request consultation for the project. The 30 day response period concluded on February 25, 2016. The County Land Use Services Department received a letter from the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians waiving consultation on February 24, 2016 waiving further consultation. No other responses from the tribes who received notification were obtained.

Based on the above, the Project is anticipated to have a less than significant impact.

<i>ISSUES</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS - Would the project:				
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 181-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):

The responses provided below are based on the Slope Stability Investigation (CHJ, January 27, 2015).

VI a) **ai) No Impact.** The Amboy Limestone Quarry generally lies east of the more seismically active portion of the Mojave Desert that includes the Eastern California Shear Zone (ECSZ). The ECSZ is a regional area of distributed dextral shear that forms a system of predominantly northwest-trending, strike-slip faults traversing the Mojave Desert. The closest fault of the ECSZ is the Pisgah-Bullion fault located about 31 miles southwest of the Project site. The Hector Mine earthquake of 1999 occurred along the Lavic Lake fault located approximately 34 miles west of the Project site and

included rupture along the central portion of the Bullion fault. Other regional seismic sources include the North Frontal fault zone located along the northern flank of the San Bernardino Mountains approximately 70 miles to the west and the San Andreas fault zone located approximately 60 miles to the southwest.

Evidence of active faulting traversing the Amboy Limestone Quarry area was not indicated in published and unpublished literature and maps or during the field mapping. Ground ruptured primary fault slip in the quarry area is not anticipated.

The Project does not involve active mining. There would be no mine slopes/benches or structures within the Project site nor are structures located within the Project site. No impacts are anticipated.

aii) No Impact. As described in the Slope Stability Report for the Amboy Limestone Quarry, several inactive faults traverse the quarry area but no evidence of active faulting was observed during the site field investigations. Therefore, strong seismic ground shaking is not considered a significant factor at the Project site. In addition, the Project does not involve active mining, there would be no mine slopes/benches or structures within the Project site nor are structures located within the Project site. No impacts are anticipated.

aiii) No Impact. As described in the Slope Stability Report for the Amboy Limestone Quarry, the potential for liquefaction and other seismic-related ground failure is considered remote.

The Project does not involve active mining, there would be no mine slopes/benches or structures within the Project site nor are structures located within the Project site that could fail as a result of liquefaction during an earthquake. No impacts are anticipated.

aiv) No Impact. There is an ancient landslide present to the northwest of the quarry area across the west drainage. This landslide mass will be partially covered by the western overburden placement site. The Project would allow for an extension of the boundary of this overburden site. However, based on the age, geometry and location of the slide, placement of overburden against the slide will not destabilize or otherwise cause an unstable condition in the native or overburden placement. No impacts are anticipated.

As the Project does not involve active mining, there would be no mine slopes/benches or structures within the Project site nor are structures located within the Project site. No impacts are anticipated.

VI b) **Less Than Significant Impact:** The Project does not involve active mining; hence, there would be no mine slopes/benches within the Project site. However, the Project is still subject to the SMARA requirements to control soil erosion and the loss of topsoil. In addition, there are established BMPs as identified in the Amboy Limestone Quarry BMP manual (submitted as part of the Amboy Limestone Quarry Reclamation Plan), that require the control of surface drainage, erosion, and sedimentation. These include but are not limited to activities such as:

- Limiting surface disturbance to the minimum area.
- Diverting run-off from undisturbed areas as feasible.
- Using berms, ditches, sediment basins, and localized control and maintenance measures to intercept and control disturbed area drainage as necessary.
- Stabilizing disturbed areas through grading or revegetation.

The revegetation program identified in the Reclamation Plan is designed to reestablish a self-sustaining native plant community upon the conclusion of mining.

Based on the above, impacts are anticipated to be less than significant

- VI c) **No Impact.** As discussed above, the Project site is not located on a geological unit or soil that would become unstable as a result of the Project. The Project does not involve active mining, there would be no mine slopes/benches within the Project site nor are structures located within the Project site. The Project would result in on or offsite landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse. No impacts are anticipated.
- VI d) **No Impact.** The Project site is not located on expansive soil and there are permanent structures located within the Project site. The Project would not create substantial risks to life or property due to expansive soil. No impacts are anticipated.
- VI e) **No Impact.** Septic tanks and/or alternative water supply systems are not proposed as part of the Project. No impacts are anticipated.

<i>ISSUES</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
VII GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS - Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION

VII a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The Project involves extending the reclamation boundary to provide for a buffer zone around the mining activities. The Project would not increase or change the type of mining equipment or vehicles used on or offsite of the quarry, nor would it change the annual or total production rate of the quarry.

Due to the previous economic downturn in the early 2000s, the production rate at the quarry was significantly reduced from what was anticipated and approved. Therefore, the Project would extend the life of the mine from 55 years to 65 years to compensate for the less productive years. The increase to the mine life would not change the approved total production, it would simply allow sufficient time to extract the approved quantity of ore resource as originally planned. Because it would not increase the production or result in the use of more or different GHG generating equipment/vehicles, it would not result in an increase of GHG emissions from the Amboy Limestone Quarry. The Project is anticipated to have a less than significant impact on GHG emissions.

VII b) **No Impact.** Because the Project would not result in a significant increase in GHG emissions, it would not be in conflict with any applicable plans, policies or regulations for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. No impacts are anticipated.

<i>ISSUES</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION

VII **No Impact.** The Project does not involve the use, transport or disposal of hazardous materials. No a,b) impacts are anticipated.

- VIII c) **No Impact.** The Project does not involve the use, transport or disposal of hazardous materials. The Project is not located within one-quarter mile of a school. No impacts are anticipated.
- VIII d) **No Impact.** The Project is not located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites. No impacts are anticipated.
- VIII e,f) **No Impact.** The project is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of an airport. The closest private airstrip is the Cadiz Airstrip which is over 10 miles away. No impacts are anticipated.
- VIII g) **No Impact.** The Project site is remotely located and relatively inaccessible to the public. Activities associated with the Project would not impede existing emergency response plans for the Project Site and/or other land uses in the Project vicinity.
- VIII h) **No Impact.** As shown on San Bernardino County General Plan, Hazards Overlay Map, the Project site is not located within Fire Safety Overlay District. It is located in a remote desert area with no nearby residences or urbanized areas.

<i>ISSUES</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY - Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 that 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 that 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) **Less Than Significant Impact.**

Groundwater Quality: Based on the results of the CHJ 2015 Slope Stability Report (which addressed groundwater conditions at the site), groundwater has not been encountered at the Amboy Limestone Quarry either during exploratory borings (approximately 200 feet below ground surface) or in the bottom of the pit. The depth to groundwater at the closest well located 2 miles away is 565 to 577 feet amsl. The Project would not create any subsurface disturbance that could reach groundwater levels.

There are no groundwater wells at the site. All water is provided by offsite contractors.

Surface Water Quality: The Project could include surface disturbance in or near drainage areas and ephemeral washes around the boundary of the site. Therefore, consultation with CDFW and the Colorado River Basin RWQCB regarding the need for a SAA and/or WDRs would be conducted. Preliminary discussions have already been initiated with these agencies. Previous activities at the Amboy Limestone Quarry required the issuance of Streambed Alteration Agreement No 5-443-96 for 0.2 acres of disturbed Waters of the State.

As required by SMARA and the SAA, BMPs for the control of storm water and runoff from the Amboy Limestone Quarry has been established and are provided in the BMP Manual (Attachment 1). In addition, the MDAQMD requires controls/BMPs for windblown dust to minimize offsite transport into the drainages and ephemeral washes. Hazardous materials would not be stored within the Project site. The operation of mining equipment would be conducted in accordance with Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) hazardous materials management regulations to prevent or minimize the potential for a spill and if necessary provide for the appropriate spill response and clean up. The Project would be required to comply with these BMPs and regulations.

Based on the above, it is anticipated that the Project would have a less than significant impact on water quality.

- IX b) **No Impact.** There are no groundwater wells at the Project site. All water is provided by offsite contractors. The Project would not involve activities that could deplete groundwater supplies or recharge in the area and would therefore have no impact on this resource.
- IX c-f) **Less Than Significant Impact.** As discussed in IX a) above, BMPs and control measures as required by SMARA, CDFW, MDRWQCB, MDAQMD and Title 22 CCR regulations would be implemented at the Project site. Based on this it is anticipated that the Project would have a less than significant impact on the existing drainage pattern, storm water drainage systems, polluted runoff or otherwise degrade water quality.
- IX g,h) **No Impact.** The Project does not occur within a 100-year flood plain, nor does it include the construction of housing or would place housing within a flood plain. No impacts are anticipated.
- IX i) **No Impact.** The Project site and surrounding area is located outside of any designated dam inundation area. 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, as no levee or dam is proposed as part of the this Project. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.
- IX j) **No Impact.** A seiche is an oscillating surface wave in a restricted or enclosed body of water generated by ground motion, usually during an earthquake. Inundation from a seiche can occur if the wave overflows a containment wall or the banks of a water body. As the Project site is not

located adjacent to any body of water that has the potential of seiche or tsunami, no impacts are anticipated.

<i>ISSUES</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
X. LAND USE AND PLANNING - Would the project:				
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 site is located in a remote area surrounded by vacant desert land with no nearby residences or urban developments. The Project is consistent with the County General Plan and would not physically divide an established community. No impacts are anticipated.
- X b) **No Impact.** The Project is located within the Amboy Limestone Quarry. The quarry operates under an existing CUP issued by the County of San Bernardino and in accordance with the approved Reclamation Plan required by SMARA. The Project would not involve any activities that would conflict with applicable land use plan, policy or regulations or an agency with jurisdiction over the Project. No impacts are anticipated.
- X c) **No Impact.** The General Biological Resource Assessment identified the following conservation plans that have been implemented within the region of the Project site:
- USFWS Desert Tortoise Recovery Plan
 - Desert Bird Conservation Plan
 - BLM West Mojave Plan
 - California Desert Conservation Area Plan

A presidential proclamation was issued on February 12, 2016 which established the 1.6 million acre Mojave Trails National Monument. The Bureau of Land Management maps identifying the boundaries of the monument have been reviewed and the Project is not located within the monument.

The Project would not conflict with any of applicable conservation plans; therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant	No Impact
XI. MINERAL RESOURCES - 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,b) **No Impact.** The Project would not result in the loss of availability of a mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the State because the Project is providing mineral resources for the benefit of the region. No impacts are anticipated.

<i>ISSUES</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
XII. NOISE - Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne 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 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 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"/>
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,c,d) **No Impact.** The Project is located on an existing operating quarry site in a remote area of the Mojave Desert. There are no residences, urban, industrial or commercial developments or sensitive receptors in the area. The Project would not result in a change to the existing noise level associated with the current mining activities. No impacts are anticipated.

XII b) **No Impact.** The Project is located on an existing operating quarry site in a remote area of the Mojave Desert. There are no residences, urban, industrial or commercial developments or sensitive receptors in the area. The Project would not result in a change to the existing level of groundbourne vibrations associated with the current mining activities. No impacts are anticipated.

XI e,f) **No Impact.** The Project site is not located within two miles of an airport. The closest private airstrip is the Cadiz Airstrip located over 10 miles away from the Project site. The Project would not result in a change to the existing noise level associated with the current mining activities. No impacts are anticipated.

ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant	No Impact
XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING - 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 is located on an existing operating quarry site in a remote area of the Mojave Desert. There are no residences, urban, industrial or commercial developments or sensitive receptors in the area. The Project would not induce substantial population growth in the area either directly or indirectly because the Project would not require additional employees to be hire at the Amboy Limestone Quarry. No impacts are anticipated.

XIII b,c) **No Impact.** The Project is located on an existing operating quarry site in a remote area of the Mojave Desert. There are no residences, urban, industrial or commercial developments in the area. There are no housing units at or near the site. The Project would not require additional employees; therefore, the Project would not require the construction of housing. The employees currently working at the Amboy Limestone Quarry do not live at the site and typically only work during several months of the year (during the cooler weather). No impacts are anticipated.

<i>ISSUES</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other Public Facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION

XIV a) **No Impact.** The Project is located on an existing operating quarry site in a remote area of the Mojave Desert. The Project would not change the existing mining operation other than provide for a buffer around the mining activities and extend the life of the mine from 55 to 65 years. There are no residences, urban, industrial or commercial developments or sensitive receptors in the area.

The Project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or hinder 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 because the Project would not change the existing mining operation or the manner in which the land is reclaimed after mining operations cease. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant	No Impact
XV. RECREATION				
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	<i>Lynx Cat Mining & Reclamation Plan, (Appendix A),</i>			

XV a,b) **No Impact.** The Project is located on an existing operating quarry site in a remote area of the Mojave Desert. The Mojave National Preserve is located more than 30 miles north of the Project site. There are no residences, urban, industrial or commercial developments or neighborhood parks in the area. No impacts are anticipated.

<i>ISSUES</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC - Would the project:				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard 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"/>
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION

XVI a,b) **No Impact:** The Project involves the extension of the reclamation boundary to provide a buffer around the active mining activities and to extend the life of the mine from 55 to 65 years. The Project would not change the production rate or create any additional offsite truck trips. The Project would not result in the need for additional employees driving to the site. The Project site is in a remote location where there are no bicycle/pedestrian paths or major mass transit facilities available. No impacts are anticipated to the circulation system or congestion on the highways and freeways in the area.

XVI c) **No Impact.** The closest airstrip is a small privately owned airstrip over ten miles away from the Project site. The Project does not involve any land uses that would affect air traffic patterns. No impacts are anticipated.

XVI d) **No Impact.** The Project is located in a remote area with minimal traffic. Access to the site from Kelbaker Road which is not a major or well travel road. The Project would not involve any changes to the existing roads adjacent to or near the site. Therefore, the Project does not involve any road improvements or design features that could substantially increase hazards on public roads. No impacts are anticipated.

- XVI e) **No Impact.** Activities associated with the Project would not impede existing emergency response plans for the Project site and/or other land uses in the Project vicinity. The Project would not involve any increase in offsite traffic or the number of employees driving to the site that could create additional traffic and interfere with emergency response plans. No impacts are anticipated.
- XVI f) **No Impact.** The Project is located in a remote area without any nearby residences, commercial or industrial activities nearby. The Project would not involve any increase in offsite traffic or the number of employees driving to the site. The Project would not create additional traffic in the area. Due to the lack of activities in the area there is minimal traffics and no need for alternative transportation. No impacts are anticipated.

<i>ISSUES</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.</i>	<i>Less than Significant</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS - Would the project:				
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 Project would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the RWQCB. No impacts are anticipated.
- XVII b) **No Impact.** The Project would not require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or the expansion of facilities. No impacts are anticipated.
- XVII c) **No Impact.** The Project would not require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities. No impacts are anticipated.
- XVII d) **No Impact.** The Project would does not require new or expanded entitlements to obtain water. No impacts are anticipated.

- XVII f) **No Impact.** The Project would be served by an offsite landfill with sufficient capacity. No impacts are anticipated.
- XVII g) **No Impact.** The Project would comply with federal, state and local statutes and regulations regarding solid waste. No impacts are anticipated.

ISSUES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorp.	Less than Significant	No Impact
XVIII MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE				
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUBSTANTIATION

a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Based on the analysis contained in this Initial Study, impacts to Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hydrology and Water Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Transportation and Traffic, Utilities and Service Systems are considered as having a less than significant or no impact on the environment.

Therefore the Project will not degrade the quality of the environment and no habitat, wildlife populations, or plant and animal communities would be impacted.

b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Based on the analysis contained in this Initial Study, impacts to Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hydrology and Water Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Transportation and Traffic, Utilities and Service Systems are considered as having a less than significant or no impact on the environment. The project will not have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable

c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Based on the analysis contained in this Initial Study, impacts to Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hydrology and Water Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Transportation

and Traffic, Utilities and Service Systems are considered as having a less than significant or no impact on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

XVIII MITIGATION MEASURES. Include mitigation measures here.

(Any mitigation measures which are not 'self-monitoring' shall have a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program prepared and adopted at the time of project approval)

None required.

GENERAL REFERENCES

CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G.

County of San Bernardino General Plan, 2007

County of San Bernardino Development Code, 2007

County of San Bernardino Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan, September 2011

Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Federal Conformity Guidelines, August 2011.

PROJECT SPECIFIC REFERENCES

CHJ Consulting, Slope Stability Investigation, January 2015

Himes Consulting, Inc. General Biological Resources Assessment Report, June 2014

Himes Consulting, Inc. Desert Tortoise Presence/Absence Survey Report, May 2014

Himes Consulting, Inc. Jurisdictional Delineation Report, July 2014

Joseph E. Bonadiman & Associates, Inc. Hydrology Study and Drainage, April 2015

Sespe Consulting, Inc. Amended Reclamation Plan Amboy Limestone Quarry, 2015

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Streambed Alteration Agreement, December 19, 1996

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers letter from December 3, 1996

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Decision Record, Amboy Limestone Quarry Plan Modification, February 5, 2013

BNS Route Report**D0732 - Julian Delreal****For Service Date: 3/18/2016****Julian Delreal**

Route #	Permit #	Street #	Street Name	City/Area	Inspection Type	Service Code	Start Time	End Time	Start Odometer	End Odometer	Results
1	B201601583	13635	BUENA VISTA DR	Hesperia	Final	Permit Inspection					
2	B201600079	13635	BUENA VISTA DR	Hesperia	Final	Permit Inspection					
3	B201601740	10972	HIGH RD	Apple Valley	Septic Tank and Pit or Line	Permit Inspection					
4	B201600315	13145	CANDLEBERRY LN	Victorville	Lath or drywall nailing	Permit Inspection					
5	B201508164	12955	SPRING VALLEY PKWY	Victorville	Lath or drywall nailing	Permit Inspection					

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