



AMADOR COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

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COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER • 810 COURT STREET • JACKSON, CA 95642-2132

**Notice of Preparation and Early Consultation Review  
Notice of Scoping Session**

**TO:** Responsible agencies, trustee agencies, and other interested parties (See Attachment A, Distribution List)  
**FROM:** Amador County Planning Department  
**DATE:** September 14, 2021  
**PROJECT:** Ione Quarry Expansion Project. Use Permit Amendment and Reclamation Plan Amendment for Specialty Granules (Ione), LLC (SGI). This project proposes to expand the existing footprint and depth of Ione Quarry to access additional rock reserves. This expansion requires an amended Conditional Use Permit and an amended Reclamation Plan. The project involves the following major components:

- 1) Extending the Use Permit expiration date from December 31, 2075 to December 31, 2175 at current annual production rates;
- 2) Enlarging the quarry's total surface disturbance from +/-56 acres to +/-136 acres;
- 3) Increasing the quarry's floor depth from +/-325 feet above sea to +/-280 feet below sea level; and
- 4) Expanding overburden storage stockpiles on-site from +/-34 acres to +/-86 acres and increase elevation from +/-350 feet above sea level to +/-560 feet above sea level.

**Applicant:** Specialty Granules (Ione) LLC (SGI); Mine ID 91-03-0011

**Supervisory District:** 2

**Location:** 1900 State Highway 104 Ione, CA 95640, 500 feet east of the intersection with Michigan Bar Road, and approximately two miles west of the City of Ione; APNs 005-080-016-502 and 005-080-020-000.

**General Plan designation:** MRZ (Mineral Resource Zone)

**Zoning district:** R1A (Single-family Residential and Agriculture)

**The project application materials are available for viewing at:**

<https://www.amadorgov.org/departments/planning/current-projects>

**REVIEW:** The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 15082 states that once a decision is made to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), the lead agency (Amador County) must prepare a Notice of Preparation (NOP) that an EIR will be prepared. The purpose of the NOP is to provide sufficient information describing the proposed project and its potential environmental impacts to enable responsible agencies, trustee agencies, and other interested parties to prepare and or present a response regarding the scope and content of the information that should be included in the EIR. Agencies shall focus on the content of the environmental information that is within their particular statutory responsibilities related to the proposed project.

In addition, comments regarding the scope of environmental review are being solicited from the public. Topics examined under CEQA include, but are not limited to the following: Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural

Resources, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards & Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use & Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Population & Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation & Traffic, Utilities & Service Systems, Tribal Cultural Resources, Wildfire Risks, and Mandatory Findings of Significance.

The Public Scoping Session will take place during a Special Meeting of the Amador County Planning Commission on **Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at 7pm** in the Board of Supervisors Chambers at the Amador County Administration Building, 810 Court Street, Jackson, California, as well as via teleconference, accessible through this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5375128983> or by calling one of the numbers below:

**+1 669 900 6833 US**

**+1 346 248 7799 US**

**+1 301 715 8592 US**

**+1 312 626 6799 US**

**+1 929 205 6099 US**

**+1 253 215 8782 US**

**Meeting ID: 537 512 8983**

Following this Scoping Session, a Draft EIR will be prepared to respond to the issues which have been raised by the public and responding agencies. Once the Draft EIR is complete, a public hearing will be held on the adequacy of the document. The certification of an EIR as being adequate is not an indication the County will or will not eventually approve the project; it simply means the environmental impacts have been fully disclosed and adequate mitigation measures have been recommended. If the EIR is certified as adequately addressing environmental concerns, the County can then move forward with a decision to approve or deny the project.

All interested persons are invited to attend this Scoping Session and state their concerns. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you may submit your concerns in writing prior to 5:00 PM on October 5, 2021. *Please keep comments focused on environmental impact issues at this preliminary stage of review rather than arguments for, or against, the project.*

If you have questions or desire more information, please view the application materials at <https://www.amadorgov.org/departments/planning/current-projects> or contact the Amador County Planning Department at (209) 223-6380 or [planning@amadorgov.org](mailto:planning@amadorgov.org).

Attachment A: Distribution List

Amador County Transportation Commission  
Amador Fire Protection District  
Amador Air District  
Amador LAFCO  
Amador Transit  
Amador Water Agency  
Amador County Building Department  
Cal Fire  
Caltrans, District 10  
CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, Region 2  
CA Division of Mine Reclamation  
Amador County Counsel  
Amador County Environmental Health Department  
Amador County Sheriff's Office  
Amador County Surveying Department  
California Highway Patrol, Amador Office  
Amador County Transportation and Public Works Department  
Amador County Waste Management Department  
City of Ione  
Buena Vista Band of Me-Wuk Indians  
Calaveras Band of Mi-Wuk Indians  
Ione Band of Miwok Indians  
Jackson Rancheria Band of Miwuk Indians  
Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians  
United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria  
Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California