

**AGENDA**  
**AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2023**  
**2:00 PM**

CAC-1-Board Chambers, County Administration Center, 810 Court Street, Jackson, California

THE COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTING ITS MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE AND IN-PERSON AT 810 COURT STREET. THE PUBLIC MAY PARTICIPATE REMOTELY BY CALLING IN USING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS: +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**

YOU MAY ALSO VIEW AND PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING USING THIS LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5375128983>

ZOOM SUPPORT: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206175806>

The Chairperson will invite the public to comment in person and via phone/online. Public comment will also be accepted by email at [planning@amadorgov.org](mailto:planning@amadorgov.org) and will be included in the record. Emails received after publication of the agenda will be distributed at the Committee meeting and shall be subject to the same rules as would otherwise govern speaker comments. Meeting materials are available for public review at the Planning Department, 810 Court St., Jackson, CA, 95642 and at [www.amadorgov.org](http://www.amadorgov.org) under the Calendar section.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a person with a disability and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the Planning Department at (209) 223 6380. Requests must be made as early as possible and at least one full business day before the start of the meeting.

- A. Call to Order
- B. Minutes: November 21, 2022
- C. Correspondence
- D. Public matters and persons wishing to address the Committee regarding non-agenda items
- E. AGENDA ITEMS:

ITEM 1: Review and possible approval, pursuant to Amador County Code Section 7.36.180 – Surface Mining, of an administrative minor amendment to Reclamation Plan RP-77-6 to bifurcate 183.86+/- acres acquired by Special Granules Ione (“SGI”) from ARA Edwin Clays, LLC (“Edwin”). The bifurcation will facilitate the transfer of financial responsibility for reclamation of the affected acreage from Edwin to SGI and the issuance of a separate Mine ID Number for the portion acquired by SGI.

Owner and Operator: Special Granules Ione

Supervisorial District: 2

Location: 2701 Michigan Bar Road, Ione, CA (APN: 005-060-014)

**AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 21, 2022**

**Committee Members Present:** Supervisor Forster, Supervisor Oneto

**Staff Present:** Chuck Beatty, Planning Director  
Ruslan Bratan, Planner

**Others Present:**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Forster at 10:30 a.m.

**Agenda:** Approved

**Minutes:** Approved

**Correspondence:** None

**Public Matters Not on the Agenda:** None

**ITEM 1. Review and possible approval, pursuant to Amador County Code Section 7.36.180 – Surface Mining, of an administrative minor amendment to Reclamation Plan RP-77-6 (“Edwin Mine” portion) to facilitate the removal of +/- 7,500 acres from the Reclamation Plan necessitated by the sale of the acreage. Per County Code Section 7.36.180, minor amendments recommended by the Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee are placed on the Board of Supervisors’ consent agenda for approval.**

**Operator:** ARA Edwin Clays, LLC

**Owner:** Dry Creek Lands, LLC

**Supervisorial District:** 2

**Location:** Affecting +/- 7,500 acres between the City of Ione and Sacramento County, south of Highway 104, and north of Cook Road.

Chair Forster introduced the item.

Mr. Beatty shared history and that this is the third reclamation plan amendment for this mine where properties will be removed from the reclamation plan. He added that there is one mine site, the Volcanic Ash Pit, in the area that is owned by Jackson Rancheria and is pre-SMARA disturbance. He stated that the request meets the requirements of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act.

Chair Forster asked if any public comment has been received.

Mr. Beatty responded that none has been received.

Supervisor Oneto commented that the amendment is not changing any of the uses that are happening there or are going to happen.

Mr. Beatty said there are no changes in the end uses.

Chair Forster stated that this is basically a cleanup of the property to reflect the boundary lines and the ownership.

Supervisor Oneto said he has no problem with it and it is pretty minimal.

Chair Forster asked if there is any public comment. There was none.

The Committee approved the staff recommendations and findings and asked that it be moved onto to the Board of Supervisors consent agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

**STAFF REPORT TO:        AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE**  
**FOR MEETING OF:        FEBRUARY 8, 2023**

---

**ITEM:** Review and possible approval, pursuant to Amador County Code Section 7.36.180 – Surface Mining, of an administrative minor amendment to Reclamation Plan RP-77-6 to bifurcate 183.86+/- acres acquired by Special Granules Ione (“SGI”) from ARA Edwin Clays, LLC (“Edwin”). The bifurcation will facilitate the transfer of financial responsibility for reclamation of the affected acreage from Edwin to SGI and the issuance of a separate Mine ID Number for the portion acquired by SGI.

**Owner and Operator:** Special Granules Ione

**Supervisory District:** 2

**Location:** 2701 Michigan Bar Road, Ione, CA (APN: 005-060-014)

**Background:** This item is a request for an administrative action to further bifurcate Reclamation Plan #RP-77-6 to reflect the acquisition of acreage purchased by SGI from Edwin. This action will facilitate the transfer of financial responsibility for reclamation of the Bacon Pit and the East McGuire Pit from Edwin to SGI and the issuance of a separate Mine ID Number for the SGI acreage by the CA Division of Mine Reclamation. This process mirrors similar action taken by the Board of Supervisors in 2014 when the Reclamation Plan was bifurcated to separate acreage purchased by Edwin (Mine ID #91-03-0036) from Howard Properties (Mine ID Number 91-03-0008), and again in 2022 when the Reclamation Plan was further bifurcated to separate acreage purchased by Vulcan Materials from Edwin. This action does not establish or convey any new land use rights or privileges.

The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) allows minor amendments to an approved reclamation plan to be approved as an administrative action, whereas substantial deviations to a reclamation plan would require the appropriate level of CEQA analysis and approval in the same manner as the original plan. SMARA defines a substantial deviation as *“a change or expansion to a surface mining operation that substantially affects the completion of the previously approved reclamation plan, or that changes the end use of the approved plan to the extent that the scope of the reclamation required for the surface mining operation is substantially changed.”*

Pursuant to SMARA, when determining whether an amendment constitutes a substantial deviation, the following facts shall be taken into consideration. Does the proposed amendment involve:

- 1) A substantial increase in the disturbance of the surface area or in the maximum depth of mining;
- 2) A substantial extension of the termination date of mining operation as set out in the approved reclamation plan;
- 3) Changes that would substantially affect the approved end use of the site as established in the reclamation plan;
- 4) Changes to the operation inconsistent with the previously adopted environmental determinations; and/or
- 5) Any other changes that the lead agency deems substantial deviations.

Amador County Code Section 7.36.180, “Amendments to plan,” also provides distinct approval processes for minor amendments versus substantial deviations: *“Amendments to an approved reclamation plan may be submitted detailing proposed changes from the original plan. Substantial deviations from the original plan shall not be undertaken until such amendment has been filed and approved, in the same manner as established herein for an original application; provided, minor*

*amendments may be recommended by the Land Use Director after consultation with the board of supervisors agriculture and natural resources committee. Said committee recommendations shall be placed on the consent agenda for approval by the full board of supervisors."*

**Suggested Committee Action:** Submit a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors that the Committee finds the request to be a minor amendment and not a substantial deviation of the previously approved reclamation plan. Findings to support this recommendation are:

- 1) The proposed amendment will not cause a substantial increase in the disturbance of the surface area or in the maximum depth of mining due to the limited nature of the proposed action;
- 2) The proposed amendment does not request a substantial extension of the termination date of the mining operation set out in the approved reclamation plan;
- 3) The proposed amendment does not cause changes that would substantially affect the approved end use of the site as established in the original reclamation plan;
- 4) The proposed amendment does not conflict with any prior environmental determinations; and
- 5) The proposed amendment does not propose any changes that the County deems a substantial deviation.
- 6) Pursuant to Public Resources Code 21080(b)(1), and California Code of Regulations 15060(c)(1) & (2), 15061(b)(3), & 15268, approval of the minor amendment is an administrative, ministerial action and is exempt from CEQA. A Notice of Exemption will be filed with the County Recorder.

**Attachment:** Proposed Reclamation Plan Minor Amendment application



Christopher Powell  
cpowell@mitchellchadwick.com  
916-462-8807  
916-788-0290 Fax

December 8, 2021

**VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS**

Chuck Beatty, Planning Director  
Amador County Planning Department  
810 Court St.  
Jackson, CA 95642

**Re: Reclamation Plan Minor Amendment for the Bacon and East McGuire Pits**

Dear Mr. Beatty:

Specialty Granules LLC, ("SGI") is pleased to submit the attached application requesting Amador County's approval for an administrative minor amendment to the valid, approved 1977 Amador County Reclamation Plan designated RP; 77-6, and the minor amendment submitted by ARA Edwin Clays, LLC, and approved by the county on March 11, 2014, pursuant to Amador County Code section 7.36.180 and applicable provisions of the State Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (Pub. Resources § 2710 et seq.)

This letter serves as the application form required under Amador County Code section 7.36.150. Enclosed with this letter and application, please find check in the amount \$2,256.00 for the reclamation plan amendment fee.

Best regards,

MITCHELL CHADWICK LLP

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Powell', written over the printed name.

Christopher Powell

Attachment

Cc: Patrick Mitchell

{00060446;1 }

**Reclamation Plan Minor Amendment  
for the  
Bacon Pit and East McGuire Pit  
CA MINE ID # 91-03-\_\_\_\_\_**

Submitted To:



**Department of Planning**  
810 Court Street  
Jackson, CA 95642

Prepared For:



**Specialty Granules LLC**  
13424 Pennsylvania Ave, Suite 303,  
Hagerstown, MD 21742

Prepared By:



**MITCHELL  
CHADWICK**  
3001 Lava Ridge Court, Suite 120  
Roseville, CA 95661

December 7, 2022

**Amended Reclamation Plan  
for the  
Bacon Pit and East McGuire Pit**

**Introduction and Purpose**

This document is submitted on behalf of Specialty Granules LLC (“SGI”) as an administrative minor amendment (hereafter, the "Amended Reclamation Plan") to the valid, approved 1977 Amador County Reclamation Plan designated RP; 77-6 (hereafter, the “1977 Reclamation Plan”) (attached hereto as “**Appendix A-1**”), and the minor amendment submitted by ARA Edwin Clays, LLC (“ARA”), and approved by the County on March 11, 2014 (hereafter the “2014 Reclamation Plan”) (attached hereto as “**Appendix A-2**”), pursuant to Amador County Code section 7.36.180 and applicable provisions of the State Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (Pub. Resources Code§ 2710 et seq. [“SMARA”]).

This Amended Reclamation Plan is necessitated by the proposed sale by ARA, of areas other than the Bacon Pit and East McGuire Mine, all of which were originally covered under the 1977 Reclamation Plan, and subsequently bifurcated into a separate reclamation plan in 2014. In November 2011, Specialty Granules LLC (“SGI”), acquired the Bacon Pit and East McGuire Pit from Edwin Lands. Of the eleven mining sites originally covered by the 1977 Reclamation Plan, the following seven mining sites are currently under the ARA 2014 Reclamation Plan, which is presently collectively identified by Mine Identification number 93-03-0036:

1. Able Area Clay Pit;
2. Bacon Pit;
3. Lot 324 Lignite Pit;
4. East McGuire Pit;
5. West McGuire Pit; and
6. Volcanic Ash Pit.

In a prior determination, dated May 22, 2008, and attached hereto as (“**Appendix B**”), the County confirmed that the transfer of ownership of a portion of the mining sites covered under the 1977 Reclamation Plan did not affect the validity of that 1977 Reclamation Plan. The County's determination states, in relevant part, as follows:

*First, under section 7.36.110 of Amador County's surface mining ordinance, reclamation plans "run with the land" and remain effective when land is sold. The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act ("SMARA") contains a similar provision. Public Resources Code section 2779 states that, where a surface mining operation is sold or transferred, "the successor shall be bound by the provisions of the approved reclamation plan and the provisions of this chapter."*

*Second, the partial sale of property covered under a reclamation plan is not a "substantial deviation" from the reclamation plan under SMARA section 2777 or section 7.36.180 of the County Code requiring a formal reclamation plan amendment. Section 3502(d) of SMARA [Regulations, codified under Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations] describes a "substantial deviation" as follows:*



*[A] substantial deviation shall be defined as a change or expansion to a surface mining operation that substantially affects the completion of the previously approved reclamation plan, or that changes the end use of the approved plan to the extent that the scope of the reclamation plan required for the surface mining operation is substantially changed. In determining whether a change or expansion constitutes a substantial deviation, the lead agency shall take into consideration the following factors:*

- (1) A substantial increase in the disturbance of a surface area or in the maximum depth of mining;*
- (2) A substantial extension of the termination date of the mining operation as set out in the approved reclamation plan;*
- (3) Changes that would substantially affect the approved end use of the site as established in the reclamation plan;*
- (4) The consistency of any proposed change to the operation with the previously adopted environmental determinations. These regulations indicate that a substantial deviation is an operational change in a mining operation that affects the timing or scope of reclamation or a change in the end use of mined land. A transfer of ownership does not result in these types of changes. Third, a reclamation plan may properly include multiple mining sites. Both SMARA and the County Code specifically permit the practice. SMARA section 2773 states that "[t]he reclamation plan shall be applicable to a specific piece of property or properties." (Emphasis added.)*

*The County Code also states: "Applicants having a surface mining operation which involves separate, noncontiguous parcels of land may file one use permit and/ or reclamation plan for the entire operation covering each parcel of land." (Amador County Code § 7.36.100 [emphasis added].)*

As the Bacon Pit and East McGuire Pit are under separate ownership from the other mine properties under the 2014 Reclamation Plan and are on separate parcels, SGI submits this Reclamation Plan Minor Amendment to separate the Bacon Pit and East McGuire Pit into a separate reclamation plan from the 2014 Reclamation Plan.

### **Contents and Organization**

This Amended Reclamation Plan restates all provisions of the 1977 Reclamation Plan applicable to the Bacon Pit and East McGuire Pit. This Amended Reclamation Plan omits all provisions of the 1977 Reclamation Plan applicable to those mining sites other than the Bacon Pit and the East McGuire Pit. This Amended Reclamation Plan updates certain provisions of the 1977 Reclamation Plan, as amended by the 2014 Reclamation Plan to reflect current site conditions. Finally, this Amended Reclamation Plan includes a set of current maps depicting each of the two mining sites.

## AMADOR COUNTY RECLAMATION PLAN FORM

### General Data

#### 1. Name of Mineral Property

Bacon Pit and East McGuire Pit

#### 2. Property Owners or Owners of Surface Rights

Specialty Granules (Ione) LLC  
13424 Pennsylvania Ave., Suite 303  
Hagerstown, MD 21742  
Phone: (301) 733-4000

#### 3. Mining Claimant, or Owner(s) of Mineral Rights

Same as Item #2

#### 4. Lessee

None.

#### 5. Operator

Same as Item #2

#### 6. Agent

Matthew S. McClure  
Vice President Roofing Operations  
Specialty Granules LLC  
13424 Pennsylvania Ave, Suite 303  
Hagerstown, MD 21742  
Office: 301.393.8825  
Email: [matthew.mcclure@specialtygranules.com](mailto:matthew.mcclure@specialtygranules.com)

### Proposed Operation

#### Item 7:

Total post-SMARA area to be affected by this Operation

Bacon Pit: 120 Acres

East McGuire Pit: 23 Acres

**Item 8:** The Legal descriptions of the lands to be affected by the following pits are as follows:

The 1977 Reclamation Plan boundaries were coterminous with the Arroyo Seco Ranch boundaries at the time, and Figures 1 and 2 of the 2014 Reclamation Plan identified the boundaries of that 2014 plan, as bifurcated from the 1977 Reclamation Plan. **Figure 1** to this Amended Reclamation Plan shows the updated geographic boundaries of the 2014 Reclamation Plan as amended hereby. The 1977 Reclamation Plan, provided a more specific location of each site within the overall reclamation plan boundaries by reference to Boyd Lots, as shown on the subdivision of Rancho Arroyo Seco as surveyed by J.B. Robinson in 1893 and resurveyed by J.C. Boyd for the Ione Coal and Iron Company in July of 1917, filed in Book 2 of Maps and Plats, at page 1, Amador County Records. The boundary lines of many of these Lots have been adjusted over time, and some inconsistencies between the actual extent of surface mining operations and impacted Lots existed in the 1977 Reclamation Plan. Therefore, the updated, current Boyd Lot location of the mining site included in this Reclamation Plan Minor Amendment, and the areas therein disturbed prior to approval of the 1977 Reclamation Plan and disturbed following approval of the 1977 Reclamation Plan, are shown in **Figure 2** attached hereto. For purposes of locating each of the two mining sites within the boundaries of the Reclamation Plan Minor Amendment, said areas are legally described as follows:

1. Bacon Pit: Portions of Lot 222 and 236.
2. East McGuire Pit: Portions of Lots 54, 222, 223 and 236.

**Item 9:** Describe the access route to the operation site.

1. Bacon Pit: Access is via a private road heading north from SR 104, beginning 0.1 mile east of the Highway 104/Michigan Bar Road intersection.
2. East McGuire Pit: Access is via a private road heading north from SR 104, beginning 0.1 mile east of the Highway 104/Michigan Bar Road intersection.

**Item 10:** Proposed starting date, or date mining began.

Mining has been conducted on the property since the 1860s. Placer gold and rock for railroad ballast were originally mined in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Thereafter, high quality fire clay and lignite coal were also mined using underground methods and in small borrow pits until the advent of modern mining machinery and practices in the mid to late 1940s. The history of each pit covered by this plan is detailed below:

1. Bacon Pit: Mining began in the Bacon Pit in approximately 1930.
2. East McGuire Pit: Mining began in late 1972.

**Item 11:** Proposed Termination Date:

Both Pits:

Public Resources Code section 2772(c)(3) requires a reclamation plan to specify a "proposed date[]" for the ... termination of surface mining operations." As originally approved in 1977, this Reclamation Plan did not specify a proposed termination date, but instead stated that "No plans exist to terminate operations at any pits covered by this reclamation plan."

The proposed date for the termination of surface mining operations described in this Reclamation Plan, for purposes of complying with Public Resources Code section 2772(c)(3), is December 31, 2075. It is expressly acknowledged, however, that the underlying vested mining right does not expire, and that changes in mine economics, market demand, reserve estimation and recovery technology, mining rate, and mode of operations, among other factors, are expected to have a continued impact on reclamation timing. Extensions of the proposed date provided herein are therefore possible.

**Item 12: Nature of Operations.**

Both Pits:

All mining sites covered under this Amended Reclamation Plan are typically operated on an intermittent, demand-only basis. They are also seasonal. Mining is performed during the dry season, which typically runs from May through October.

**Item 13: Describe the geology of the area briefly.**

All pits covered by this Amended Reclamation Plan are located within the Ione Basin and within the Ione Formation. The Ione Basin is a northeast to southwest trending structural valley, bounded by the Sierra foothills on the East, and a prominent andesite (greenstone) ridge on the west. Although no structural closure exists at the northern or southern extremes, the dimensions of the valley are approximately seven miles by three miles. The sediments filling the basin are a series of marine and lacustrine (water deposited) sands and clays, overlain in places by volcanic ash, and other extrusive debris. Thin lenses of a soft woody coal known as lignite are locally inter-bedded with the sands and clays. Two distinct geological formations are recognized within the valley fill. The upper section of volcanic origin is the Valley Springs formation, the lower sands and clays are known as the Ione Formation. Both are believed to be Eocene in age, or between 50 and 60 million years old. The sediments vary in thickness from a few feet to an estimated 300 to 400 feet. The basement rocks are Jurassic in age, and are greenstone or black altered slate.

**Item 14: Describe in detail the geology of the site of this mining operation.**

1. Bacon Pit: The Bacon Pit deposit is composed of layered kaolinitic fireclays, a member of the Ione Formation. Those clay layers have a gentle apparent dip to the Southwest, and are covered by overburden materials varying from 15 to approximately 50 feet thick. The overburden is composed of waste clays, volcanic debris and a thin gravel layer. The deepest usable clay bed is approximately 120 feet below surface level.
2. East McGuire Pit: The geology for the East McGuire Pit contains lignite, a soft, woody, low-grade coal. The lignite is bedded within a sequence of gravels, sands, and clays and

is believed to represent deposition of plant remains along a paleoshoreline. These plant remains were subsequently buried by other sediments, and through natural processes, carbonized into the lignite seen today. Some of the gravels, sands, and clays overlying or between the lignite are valuable, and are stockpiled for processing. They are primarily kaolinitic fireclays with varying sand contents. The lignite generally has a sinuous occurrence in plan-view, the deposit is generally 200 or 300 feet wide and several times that long. It is underlain by a coarse, sandy blue clay, a lower member of the Ione Formation. The blue under-clay lies unconformably on the greenstone or shale basement rocks.

**Item 15:** Mineral Commodity to be mined.

1. Bacon Pit: Clay, Sand and Lignite
2. East McGuire Pit: Clay, Sand and Lignite

**Item 16:** Describe the composition of the mineral materials to be mined (ore and gangue).

1. Bacon Pit: The clays are all kaolinitic fireclays with varying ceramic qualities. Their chemical composition is approximately as follows: SiO<sub>2</sub> 55%, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 32%, TiO<sub>2</sub> 1.8%, Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 1.8%, misc. oxides 9.4%. All waste or gangue materials are high iron, impure, or sandy varieties of the clays themselves.
2. East McGuire Pit: The East McGuire Pit is primarily mined for two materials, lignite, and kaolinitic fireclay. Lignite is a soft, woody coal formed by the carbonization of plant remains, which were deposited in a paleo swamp and buried by other sediments. The overburden or gangue materials from the lignite mine are sands and clays, similar to that elsewhere on the surface in the Ione Area. The clays occur adjacent to the lignite beds and have the general composition as follows: SiO<sub>2</sub> 55%, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 32%, TiO<sub>2</sub> 1.8%, Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 1.8%, misc. oxides 9.4%. All overburden or gangue materials are higher iron or impure varieties of the fireclay.

**Item 17:** Anticipated quantity of mineral materials to be mined.

See Item 19.

**Item 18:** Anticipated total quantity of overburden to be mined.

See Item 19.

**Item 19:** Anticipated total quantity of all earth materials to be mined or moved.

Bacon Pit and East McGuire Pit

It is impossible to anticipate the total quantity of material to be mined or stripped because of several factors:

1. Although it is generally known where the reserves lie for these pits, their quality has not been verified in all places.
2. Changes in market specification or processing techniques and costs can have drastic effects on the total material mined. For example, a rise in price would cause deeper, more expensive material to be included as mineable reserves. A drop in price would cause the opposite, or even cause mining of a given area to be suspended. In summary total quantity to be mined is dependent on too many variables to accurately predict.

**Item 20:** Anticipated maximum depth of surface mining operation. Depths provided below are estimated total depths below original surface elevations.

1. Bacon Pit: 150 feet
2. East McGuire Pit: 90 feet

**Item 21:** Describe mining method to be used.

Both Pits:

All pits are mined with dozers and rubber-tired scrapers. Occasionally draglines are utilized to handle wet material not easily transported by rubber-tired equipment. Exceptionally hard material has to be blasted and crushed.

**Item 22:** Describe the mining plan briefly.

Both Pits:

The area to be mined is defined utilizing sample data from exploratory drill holes. When the tonnage necessary is known, the overburden materials are removed and generally used to backfill previous excavations. The material is then mined and stockpiled in or near the mine area, for later shipment to processing plants or consumers.

**Item 23:** Describe all on site processing, milling, beneficiation and smelting activities, including the composition and disposal methods of all waste and tailings materials.

Both Pits:

Presently, no fixed processing plants exist on the various sites. Materials are mined as described and may be classified or crushed with portable equipment as necessary prior to stockpiling or shipment. As such, presently no processing-related waste or tailings are produced. The operator will comply with Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act waste discharge requirements to the extent applicable.

**Item 24:** Describe and diagram, if necessary, the steps or phases of the mining operations that allow concurrent reclamation activities and reclamation at the earliest possible time. Include a time schedule.

Both Pits:

Basic reclamation, i.e. terracing, sloping and backfilling are performed at or directly after the time of overburden removal. Overburden removed from the current mining area is cycled back into the previous mining area. This provides a reclamation cycle on an identical time period with mining activity. Restoration of overburden soils and plant life is performed when a given area has no further mining use, and when adjacent mining activity will not hinder growth of grass. Since it is impossible to predict more than a year ahead on mining tonnages needed, a definite time schedule for final seeding is equally difficult to predict.

**Item 25:** Describe the proposed use or potential uses of the mined land after reclamation.

Both Pits:

The proposed end use for all mine areas is pasture for cattle grazing, with any depressions to be utilized for water storage. This is compatible with the uses of the surrounding lands, which are also used for grazing.

**Item 26:** Is this use in conformance with County zoning regulations?

Both Pits:

The proposed grazing and water storage end uses for all mine areas conform to current zoning regulations.

**Item 27:** Provide evidence that all owners of a possessory interest have been notified of the proposed uses.

The applicant, SGI, owns the fee interest in the subject properties.

**Item 28:** Describe the pre-mining land use of the site and the land use in the surrounding region.

Both Pits:

All pits are within the limits of the former Rancho Arroyo Seco, which for decades has been an active cattle ranch. Other private lands in the vicinity include extensive mining and mine-related manufacturing along with significant agricultural in uses with the exception of the area within the City of Ione.

**Item 29:** Describe the vegetation existing on the site prior to mining activities and the native vegetation in the general area. State all rare, endangered, threatened or unique species present on or near the site.

Both Pits: General Area Vegetation

Prior to mining, and presently, typical vegetation in the Ione Area is fair to poor stands of annual grasses and forbs, thickets of live and blue oak trees, grey pines and dense stands of brush. (Ref: Soil Survey of Amador Co., Calif. - published U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, issued September 1965).

**Item 30:** Describe the reclamation steps to be used (in sequence) to prepare the land for the post reclamation uses, including anticipated dates of completion of each step.

Both Pits: Reclamation Steps

Phase I: Prior to stripping or mining, overburden soil is removed from the area and stockpiled for future reclamation of the surface.

Phase II: Mined out areas are backfilled during stripping, with overburden removed from the current mining panel. All slopes are maintained at a 1.5:1 maximum horizontal to vertical ratio to aid in control of erosion and slumping. Where mine areas are adjacent to public rights of way, berms and/or fences are maintained to limit both visual and physical access to the mine areas.

Phase III: During mining and as long as disturbed earth exists, trenching and grading are used to maintain pit area drainage into the mined-out area. This provides water for cattle, for use in dust control during mining, and prevents any degradation of stream quality. Wherever possible, natural drainage will be preserved or restored by contouring or trenching after mining is completed.

Phase IV: When a backfilled area has been contoured to a final state, all slopes 1.5:1 or less, the stockpiled overburden soils will be spread to approximately its natural thickness and grasses suitable for grazing will be planted. Where no overburden soil is available, a soil profile will be established artificially utilizing soil builders and fertilizers. Contour plowing or disking will be used in reclaimed areas and on any waste piles to aid in erosion control and retention of seed on sloped areas.

Where appropriate and cost-effective, crusher fines from the SGI roofing granules processing plant located at 1900, Highway 104, Ione, CA may optionally be utilized. These crusher fines have been successfully used as a soil amendment in on-site test plots and have proven to be successful in amending the soil on a landscape-scale. A report showing the chemical composition of the material is attached as **Appendix C**. Photographs showing reclamation success using crusher fine-based soil amendments are attached hereto as **Appendix D**.

Optional Reclamation Procedures:

The County has previously determined that importation of rock fine materials from the SGI roofing granules plant and quarry may be used to backfill and reclaim certain mine sites governed by this Amended Reclamation Plan, as specified. (See letter from S. Grijalva to T. Swett, October 26, 2011 attached as **Appendix B**.) A description of the processes along with typical cross-sections are included in the aforementioned letter. The described reclamation procedure may be implemented as an optional alternative reclamation methodology so long as



the required materials remain available and cost-effective. If implemented, this reclamation methodology would not interfere with accomplishment of the 1977 Reclamation Plan objectives, and would help create a more natural landform in preparation for the specified end uses of water storage and cattle grazing.

**Item 31:** Describe how reclamation of this site in this manner will affect future mining in this area.

Both Pits:

Implementation of this Amended Reclamation Plan will not preclude future extraction activities at any site addressed herein, or within the surrounding areas.

**Item 32:** Attach a map of the lands to be affected showing:

1. Boundaries and topographic details of the site;
2. Location of all streams, roads, railroads, and utility facilities within or adjacent to the site;
3. Location of all proposed access roads to be constructed in conducting the surface mining operation(s);
4. Indicate the source (USGS, etc.), series (7.5 quadrangle, etc.), orientation (north arrow), and scale (1: 24000, etc.) of the map.

Both Pits:

See original map portfolio.


**Item 33:** Attach detailed diagrams, maps, and cross-sections showing the nature and extent of the proposed surface mining site including the geology and contours of the land (a) before mining and (b) after reclamation.

Both Pits:

See original map portfolio.

**Item 34:** Statement of responsibility:

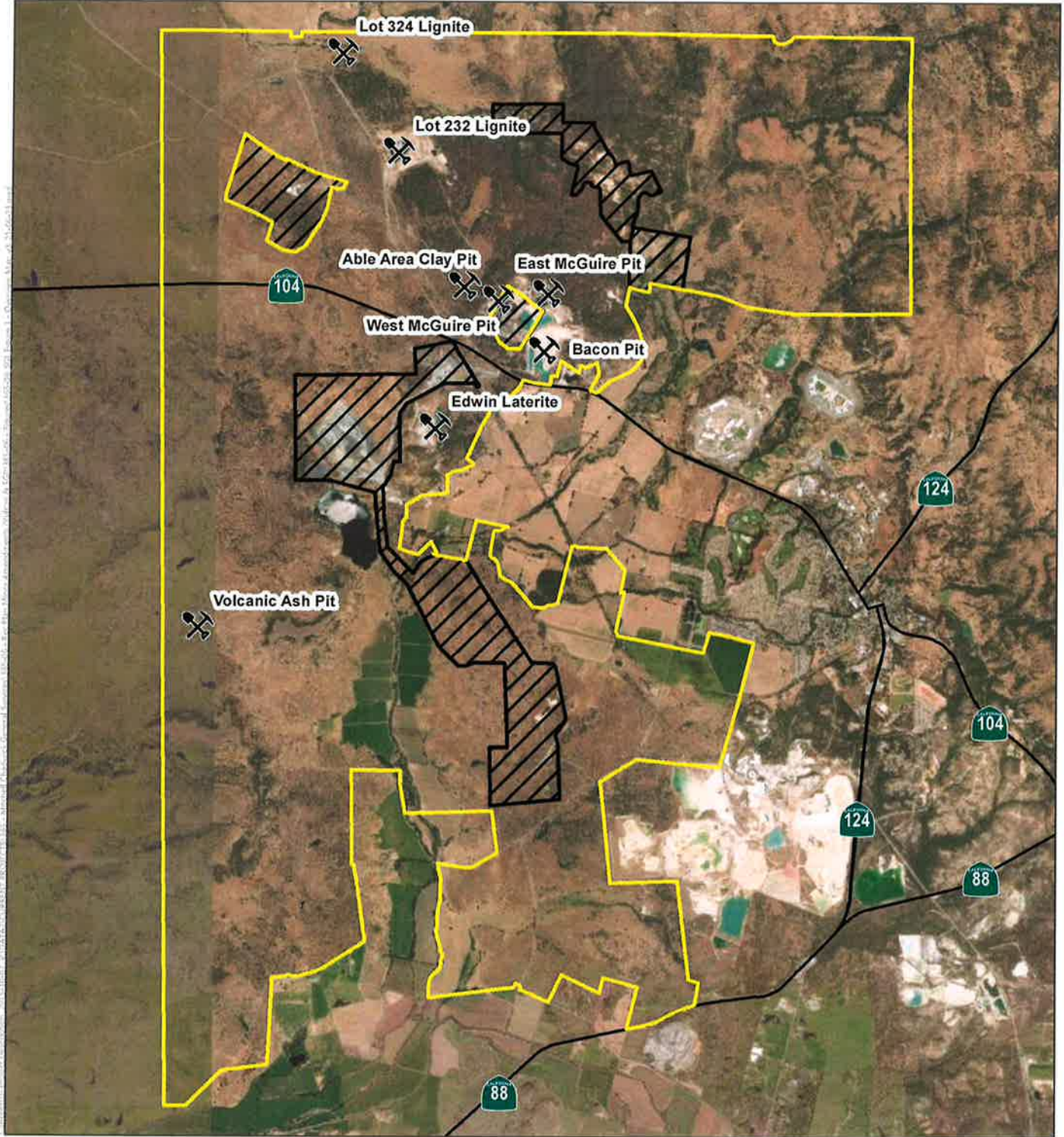
Specialty Granules Inc. certifies that information contained in this Amended Reclamation Plan is correct to the best of my knowledge. Specialty Granules Inc. accepts responsibility for reclamation of the Bacon Pit and East McGuire Pit as set forth in this Reclamation Plan.

Specialty Granules LLC Agent:   
DocuSigned by:  
 F150AAE1C38348C...





Date: 12/7/2022

Print Name/Title: Matthew McClure Vice President - Roofing

**Item 35:** This Reclamation Plan was originally filed with the County on June 1, 1977 and approved by the Amador County Planning Commission on June 21, 1977 following a public hearing on the same day. The 2014 Amendment was filed with the County in 2013 and was approved by the Amador County Board of Supervisors according to the procedures specified in Amador County Code section 7.36.180 on March 11, 2014. This Amended Reclamation Plan was approved by the Amador County Board of Supervisors according to the procedures specified in Amador County Code section 7.36.180 on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

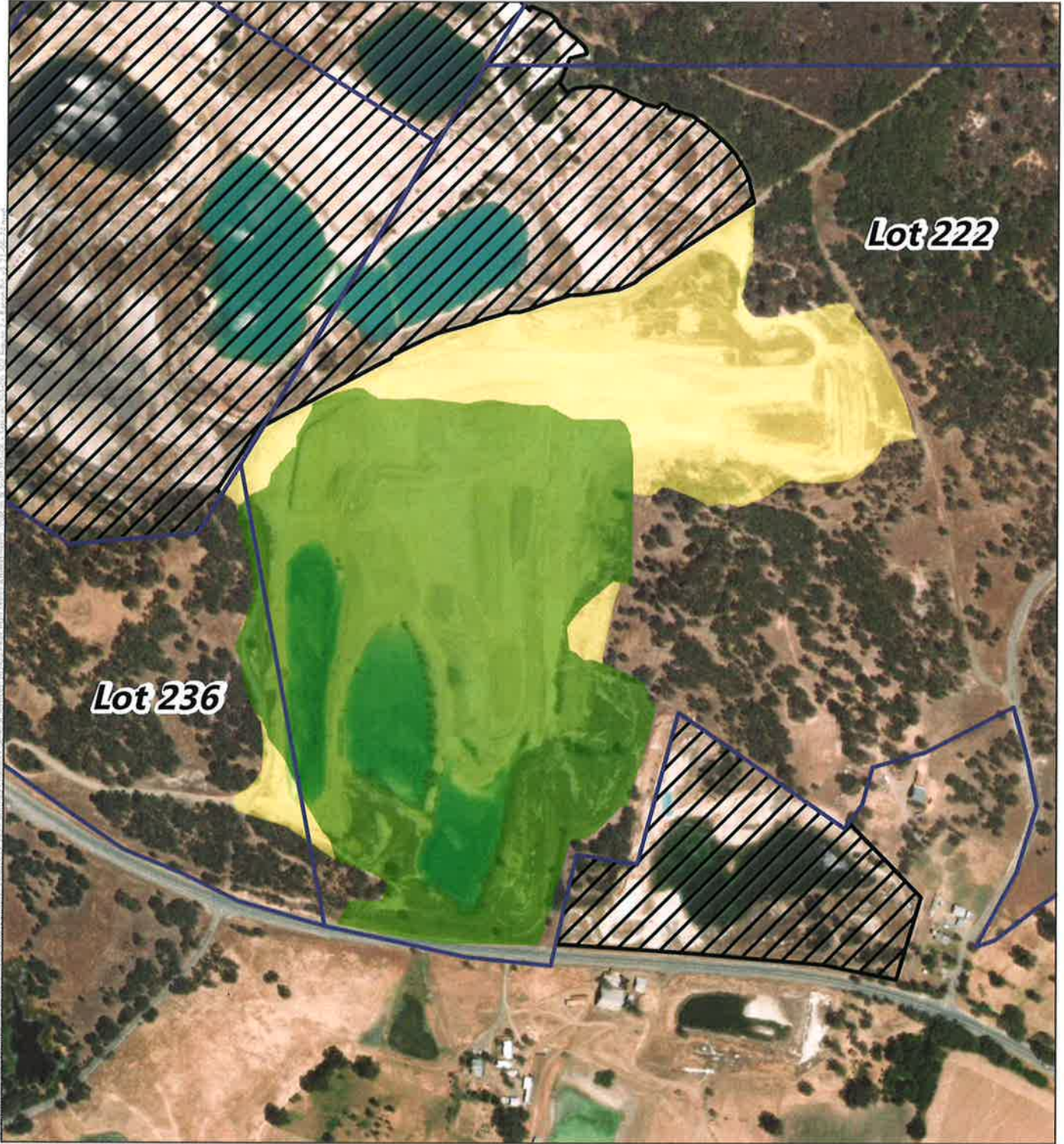


SOURCES: Aerial-MAXAR (flown 6-20-2020), ESRI World Topographic Map accessed June 2021; ESRI World Streetmap, 2009

-  Mine Sites
-  Not A Part (NAP)
-  Edwin Mine Reclamation Plan Boundary
-  Highway



**Overview Map**  
SGI Reclamation Plan Minor Amendment  
**Figure 1**



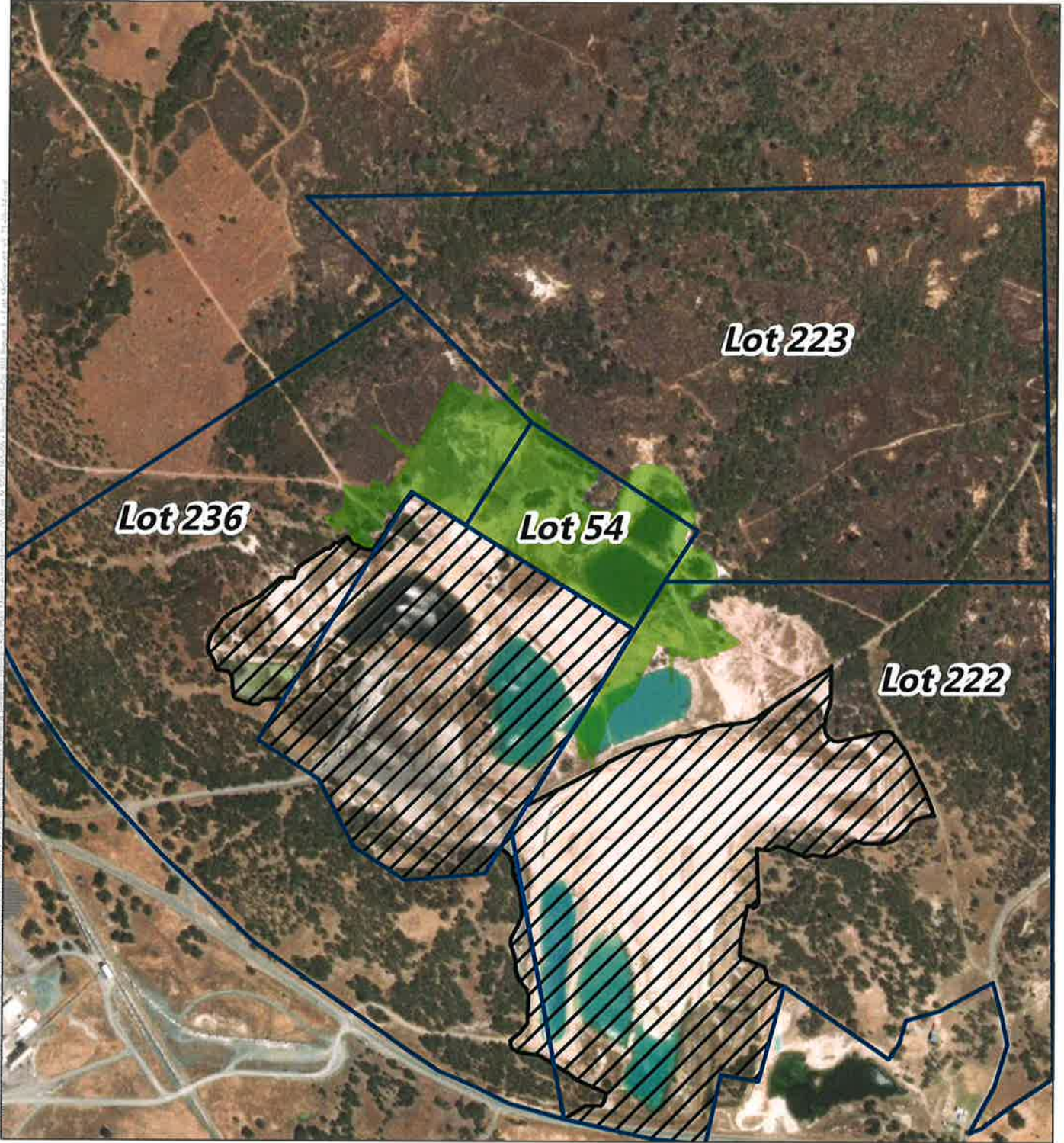
SOURCES: Aerial-MAXAR (flown 6-20-2020)

Current Pit Location & Size	75.6 Acres
Pre-1997 Rec Plan Disturbance	50.7 Acres
Post-1977 Rec. Plan Disturbance	24.9 Acres

- Bacon Pit Pre-1977 RP Disturbance
- Bacon Pit Post-1977 RP Disturbance
- Boyd Lot Lines
- Not A Part (NAP)



**Bacon Pit**  
SGI Reclamation Plan Minor Amendment  
**Figure 2**



SOURCES: Aerial-MAXAR (flown 6-20-2020)

Current Pit Location & Size	52.7 Acres
Pre-1997 Rec Plan Disturbance	36.8 Acres
Post-1977 Rec. Plan Disturbance	15.9 Acres

- East McGuire Pre-1977 RP Disturbance
- Boyd Lot Lines
- Not A Part (NAP)



**East McGuire Pit**  
SGI Reclamation Plan Minor Amendment  
**Figure 3**