

STAFF REPORT TO: AMADOR COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
FOR MEETING OF: SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

**ITEM NO. 2 - Public review and comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) prepared for the lone Quarry (SGI) expansion project. After the expansion, the quarry's total approved surface disturbance would increase from approximately 56 acres to approximately 136 acres, and the maximum approved depth would increase from approximately 325 feet above mean sea level (msl) to approximately 280 feet below msl. The stockpile area's total surface disturbance would be approximately 86 acres and have a maximum elevation of 560 feet msl. The project would also extend the Use Permit expiration date from December 31, 2075 to December 31, 2175. The project does not propose an increase in the current rates of production at the quarry or changes to other operations (APNs 005-080-020).**

**Applicant:** Specialty Granules Lone, LLC

**Supervisorial District:** 2

**Location:** 1900 Highway 104, Lone, CA, 500 feet east of the intersection with Michigan Bar Road.

**Background:** In 1989, Amador County permitted the lone Quarry and operations including crushing and offsite shipment facilities under Use Permit UP-89; 3-4, with a permit termination date of December 31, 2038. In 2012, the County extended the Use Permit expiration date to December 31, 2075. The addition of an on-site asphalt batch plant was approved under Use Permit UP-91;3-1. In 1998, the County permitted a plant for producing granules (used in the off-site manufacture of roofing materials) under separate Use Permit #UP-98;2-6.

In October 2021, the County held a public scoping session to solicit input on the potential environmental effects that need to be analyzed under CEQA. The Draft EIR was released for public review and comment on July 31, 2024.

The project proposes to expand the existing footprint and depth of the lone 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;
- 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.

Four project alternatives were evaluated by the DEIR, including:

- 1) No project;
- 2) Reduced depth of mining;
- 3) Reduced mining footprint; and
- 4) Reduced stockpile footprint with increased off-site aggregate sales.

Detailed descriptions of the proposed project and alternatives are included in the project description and Draft Environmental Impact Report.

**Planning Commission Action:** This Planning Commission meeting has been scheduled to provide an opportunity for the project to be presented to the public and the Commissioners, answer any questions about the project, and to take any comments the public may have at this time on the DEIR. No action will be taken by the Commission. A future public hearing will be held on certification of the Final EIR and a decision on the project as a whole . Responses to comments received on the DEIR will be prepared by the EIR consultant as part of the Final EIR. All written comments must be received by 5:00 PM on Monday, October 7, 2024.

NOTE: The DEIR is available for viewing in the County Planning Department, local library branches, and online at <https://www.amadorgov.org/departments/planning/current-projects>.