

## California Department of Transportation

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT 10 RURAL PLANNING  
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September 9, 2024

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

**AMA-104-PM 2.145 Lone  
Quarry Expansion Project  
Environmental  
Impact Report (EIR)  
SCH 2021090273**

Dear Mr. Beatty:

The Department of Transportation (Caltrans) appreciates the opportunity to review and respond to the Lone Quarry Expansion Project Environmental Impact Report. This project proposes expanding the footprint and depth of 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:

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

The proposed project is located at 1900 State Route (SR) 104, approximately three (3) miles west of the City of Lone, in unincorporated Amador County. The project site is within the Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 005-080-020-000. Access to the site is via a private driveway off SR 104, just south of where Michigan Bar Road meets SR 104.

**Caltrans at this time has the following comments:**

**Environmental**

If there are any physical construction activities that will encroach into State right of way (ROW) as a result of the expansion. The project proponent must apply for an Encroachment Permit with the Caltrans District 10 Encroachment Permit Office. All California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation, with supporting technical studies, must be submitted with the Encroachment Permit Application. These studies will include an analysis of potential impacts to any cultural sites, historic properties, biological resources, hazardous waste locations, scenic highways, and/or other environmental resources within State ROW at the project site(s). Evidence of consultation with local Native American tribes and interested parties will need to be presented within the technical documents for approval of encroachment in the State ROW.

Caltrans considers the nesting season to be February 1 through September 30 of any given year. If work will occur within State ROW, between February 1 and September 30, a pre-construction bird survey must be conducted by a qualified biologist within 14 days prior to the start of any construction related activities. If an active nest is observed, a protective buffer must be established around the nest per California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) guidelines. No work is allowed within the protective buffer limits until the young have fledged and until authorized by the Caltrans District 10 Environmental Office. Results of the pre-construction bird survey(s) must be provided to the Caltrans District 10 Environmental Office prior to the start of construction. If there are impacts to protected water resources within State ROW. Caltrans will need to see the correspondence with the permitting authorities (CDFW, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Water Quality Control Board) and/or be provided copies of any required permits prior to the start of any construction in State ROW.

How will the County ensure that Specialty Granules (Ione) LLC (SGI) continues to comply with local, state, and federal environmental laws throughout the life of the extended conditional use permit (CUP) through 2075? Environmental laws change often, so will the County have the opportunity to re-evaluate the project activities on a regular basis to ensure compliance with current laws is continually maintained?

**Hydrology**

The supporting documents below, *previously requested in our September 28, 2021, letter, have not been received.* The comments below are still applicable. Additional review will be required once the project development plans, including but not limited to, Drainage and Grading Plans and drainage calculations are submitted.

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We request to review the pre- and post-construction runoff calculations; drainage plans to understand the flow patterns. The developer needs to ensure that the existing State drainage facilities will not be significantly impacted by the project. If historical undeveloped topography shows drainage from this site flowed into the State ROW, it may continue to do so with the conditions that peak flows may not be increased from the pre-construction quantity and the site runoff be treated to meet present storm water quality standards. If historical undeveloped topography shows drainage from this site does not flow into the State ROW, then it will not be allowed to flow into the State ROW at this time.

Based on existing topography, a portion of the project site runoff flows towards state ROW. Additional review will be done once drainage plans and calculations are submitted.

Caltrans suggests Amador County Planning Department continue to consult with Caltrans to identify and address potential cumulative transportation impacts that may occur from this project and other developments on or near this location. This will assist Caltrans in ensuring that traffic safety and quality standards are maintained for the traveling public on existing and future state transportation facilities.

### **Encroachment Permits**

If any future project activities encroach into Caltrans ROW, the project proponent must submit an application for an Encroachment Permit to the Caltrans District 10 Encroachment Permit Office. Appropriate environmental studies must be submitted with this application. These studies will include an analysis of potential impacts to any cultural sites, biological resources, hazardous waste locations, and/or other resources within State ROW at the project site(s). For more information, please visit the Caltrans Website at: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>

If you have any question or would like to discuss these comments, please contact Paul Bauldry at (209) 670-9488 (email: paul.bauldry@dot.ca.gov) or me at (209) 483-7234 (email: Gregoria.Ponce@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

*Gregoria Ponce*

Gregoria Ponce'  
Deputy District Director (Acting)  
Planning, Local Assistance and Environmental

cc: State Clearinghouse