



**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY (NOA) / NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI)
TO ADOPT A JOINT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) /
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)
CASTLE MOUNTAIN MINE PHASE II EXPANSION PROJECT**

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CEQA Guidelines, and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the County as the Local Lead Agency, in coordination with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Federal Lead Agency, has prepared a Draft Joint Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) / Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Castle Mountain Mine Phase II Expansion project.

Project Title: Castle Mountain Mine Phase II Expansion Project

Project No.: MRAA-2022-00002

Project Applicant: Castle Mountain Venture (CMV)

Project Location: The Project is located in the Mojave Desert in the historic Hart Mining District of San Bernardino County, California, approximately 100 miles east of the city of Barstow, California; 60 miles south of the city of Las Vegas, Nevada; and 40 miles northwest of the BLM Needles Field Office. The Project Area, which includes the Mine Area, the mine access road, the proposed underground water pipeline, and overhead electrical powerline, and a 50-foot buffer surrounding the water pipeline and powerline, encompasses approximately 4,285 acres and extends across portions of San Bernardino County, California, and Clark County, Nevada. The Project will disturb approximately 3,288 acres within the Project Area. The Project Area occupies private land owned by CMV and unpatented mining claims on BLM-administered land.

Assessor Parcel Number(s): The Project Site includes a total of 38 Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs), including 0569-291-21. The Project Site is listed on the State Water Resources Control Board GeoTracker database pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

Project Description: The Project Applicant has filed applications for the following discretionary actions, which are under consideration by the County:

A **Mining Revision to Approved Action (MRAA)** to approve a minor modification or revision to the conditions of approval for the conditionally approved Castle Mountain Mine Conditional Use Permit, Mine Plan, and Reclamation Plan (2020).

An **Excavation Permit** authorizes the construction of the underground Ivanpah water pipeline for the Project, which would result in ground disturbance to the County Road right-of-way.

Environmental Review and Public Comment: The Draft Joint EIS/EIR evaluates the Project's potential individual- and cumulative-level environmental impacts and meets the State

requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Draft Joint EIS/EIR identifies significant and unavoidable environmental impacts under the Air Quality resource area and potentially significant environmental impacts under the Biological Resources, Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and Public Services, Utilities, and Service Systems resource areas. The Draft Joint EIS/EIR indicates that all Project-related environmental impacts would be reduced to less than significant after implementation of the mitigation measures, except for Air Quality, which would remain significant and unavoidable despite implementation of mitigation measures.

The circulation of the Draft Joint EIS/EIR is to encourage written public comments. Interested persons can review the Draft Joint EIS/EIR and Technical Studies at the following physical locations:

San Bernardino Government Center
Land Use Services – Planning Division
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, 1st Floor
San Bernardino, California 92415-0187

High Desert Government Center
Land Use Services – Planning Division
15900 Smoke Tree Street, Suite 131
Hesperia, California 92345

You may obtain the document and its supporting technical studies in electronic format at <https://lus.sbcounty.gov/planning-home/environmental/desert-region> or by emailing the Planner at Derek.Newland@lus.sbcounty.gov.

To request a PDF version of the document from the Land Use Services Department database, please reference the project number above.

The comment period on the Draft Joint EIS/EIR begins on April 17, 2026, and closes on June 1, 2026, at 4:30 PM.

Please submit comments to Derek.Newland@lus.sbcounty.gov or to:

Derek Newland, Planner II
County of San Bernardino
Land Use Services Department,
Planning Division
385 N. Arrowhead Ave, 1st Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0187