

COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY (NOA) AND NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI) TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY / MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines, County Staff prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) that identifies and evaluates the environmental impacts of the below-named project.

Project Title: County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works Essex Overhead Quarry

Project No.: PROJ-2024-00100

Project Location: Thirty-five miles west of Needles, CA. South of I-40 between National Trails Hwy, and the BNSF Railroad at Goffs Road. Essex, CA.

Assessor Parcel Number(s):

Project Description: Essex Overhead Quarry - Conditional Use Permit and Mining Reclamation Plan to construct the San Bernardino County Department of Public Works (DPW) Essex Overhead Pit. The purpose of the mine is to develop and utilize a long-term materials source and storage site to provide construction aggregate materials for repair, maintenance, and fill for the local and regional roads (particularly for route 66), shoulders and wash crossings, to facilitate stockpiling and recycling of removed materials, and to support a soils management area. Two pits will make up approx. 47 acres within approx. 90 acres west of the RR tracks. The remaining property (approximately 197 acres) east of the RR tracks will remain as undisturbed desert lands. The project is located at approximately 240 feet south of National Trail Hwy and approximately 2185 feet east of Goffs Road. On 18.30 acres, in the Open Space (OS) Land Use Category, and Resource Conservation (RC) Zoning District; 3rd supervisorial district; APN: 0655-162-01

Environmental Review and Public Comment:

The document meets the State requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act. Interested parties can view the Initial Study/Environmental Checklist and supporting documentation online at: <u>https://lus.sbcounty.gov/planning-home/environmental/desert-region/</u> and the following offices:

High Desert Government Center Land Use Services – Planning Division 15900 Smoke Tree Street, Suite 131 Hesperia, CA 92345 San Bernardino Government Center Land Use Services – Planning Division 385 N. Arrowhead Avenue, 1st Floor San Bernardino, CA 92415-0187

The comment period on the IS/MND begins on <u>May 13, 2025, and closes on June 11, 2025.</u>

Please submit comments to derek.newland@lus.sbcounty.gov or to:

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