



March 11, 2020

Dionne Harris
 Project Planner
 Riverside County Planning Department
 4080 Lemon St., 12th Floor
 Riverside, CA 92501

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Copy sent via email: dharris@rivco.org

SUBJECT: Gilman Springs Mine Notice of Completion (NOC) for Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR); State Clearinghouse (SCH) No. 2018051029

Dear Ms. Harris:

Thank you for including the Department of Conservation's Division of Mine Reclamation (Division) in the environmental review process for the Gilman Springs Mine NOC for the Draft EIR. The project as described in the Draft EIR includes the following elements:

- Surface Mining Permit No. 159, Revision No. 2
- Reclamation Plan Amendment (Project) to allow for the following:
 1. Expand mining areas by adding 54.5 acres to the currently approved 150.4 acres, resulting in a total of 204.9 acres
 2. Allow for the operation of an Inert Debris Engineered Fill Operation (IDEFO) to assist in final reclamation activities upon completion of mining
 3. Extend the Project 50 years, in three phases (45 years for mining activities, five for reclamation); project completion 2070

Estimated SMP159R2 Phasing Schedule

Phase	Estimated Duration (years)	Phase Description	Cumulative Total (tons)
1	10	Overburden Removal / Initial Mining Activities	8,500,000
2a	**	Main Excavations, Mining and Processing	22,100,000
2b	***	Concurrent Mining and Reclamation	7,650,000
3	5	Final Reclamation and Monitoring	850,000
All	50		39,100,000

For ** and ***, duration will be dependent on market conditions and demand.

The Division has review responsibilities associated with lead agency implementation of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA). SMARA provides a comprehensive surface mining and reclamation policy to assure that adverse environmental impacts are minimized, and mined lands are reclaimed. The Division's primary focus is on existing surface mining operations and the return of those mined lands to a usable and safe condition while giving consideration to environmental and recreational values; however, the Division also addresses issues related to abandoned (pre-1976) legacy mines.

The Division has reviewed the Gilman Springs Project Draft EIR pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and State CEQA Guidelines and offers no comments at this time. The Division expects to review and provide comments (if warranted) on the reclamation plan amendment.

Please include the Division on the distribution list for this Project and send the Division any subsequent project documents (e.g., hearing notices or supplemental environmental documents), as well as a copy of the Final EIR to the address below.

If you have any questions, please contact either of us at (916) 323-9198.

Sincerely,



Carol E. Atkins, Manager
Environmental Services Unit



Ian Stevenson, Manager
Engineering and Geology Unit

cc (copy sent by email):

State Clearinghouse (state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov)

Department of Conservation, Office of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs
(OLRA@conservation.ca.gov)