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**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

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DUNN ASPHALT/CONCRETE BATCH PLANT  
 DEIR & (PSP 18049) SCH # 2019011039

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

Mr. Hector Guerra  
 Chief Environmental Planner  
 Tulare County Resource Management Agency  
 5961 S Mooney Blvd.  
 Visalia, CA 93277

Dear Mr. Guerra:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) to allow a proposed Asphalt & Concrete Batch Plant (Project). The Project consists of a concrete batch plant, concrete and asphalt recycling, and a hot-mix asphalt (HMA) batch operation. Aggregate, cement, and fly ash will be delivered to the site to produce ready-mix concrete. The 20-acre project site is located at 7763 Avenue 280, on the southeast corner of the Caldwell Avenue (Avenue 280) and Road 76 intersection; approximately ½ mile west of the State Route (SR) 99/Caldwell Avenue interchange. The concrete batch plant is expected to produce the following:

1. 100,000 cubic yards of concrete per year;
2. HMA batch plant that would produce 150,000 tons of HMA per year; and
3. Recycling of 30,000 cubic yards per year of concrete and asphalt to be crushed into recycled base.

Caltrans provides the *following comments* consistent with the State's smart mobility goals that support a vibrant economy and sustainable communities:

1. Please note that Caltrans previously reviewed and commented on a draft Traffic Impact Study (TIS) prepared by a consultant (4Creeks) for the proposed Project, dated November 2, 2018 which are still valid and provided below:
  - a. Site access will be provided via one main driveway connecting to Avenue 280 approximately 1,000 feet east of Road 76.

- b. The TIS, as shown on page 429 of the appendices, estimates the project would generate approximately 280 passenger car equivalent (PCE) trips during the morning peak travel periods, and 116 PCE trips during the evening peak travel periods.
- c. The traffic study anticipates that approximately 70% of the trips generated by the Project would directly impact SR 99 and an additional 10% would further impact the two bridge structures crossing over SR 99.
- d. As a point of information, Caltrans is working with the County of Tulare and Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) on the SR 99/Caldwell Avenue interchange improvement project which is planned to be completed by 2024. Caltrans has performed the Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) analysis for the interchange improvement project and has established that roundabouts are the preferred intersection control types at the ramp intersections.
- e. The TIS indicates that the SR 99/Caldwell Avenue interchange intersection at the southbound ramps currently operate satisfactorily during the morning and evening peak travel periods (LOS C).
- f. However, the TIS indicates that with the addition of Project trips, the southbound ramp intersection would begin to operate unsatisfactorily during the morning peak travel period (LOS E). However, it is assumed with completion the SR 99/Caldwell Avenue interchange improvement project, that the resulting southbound ramps intersection would operate satisfactorily in the future conditions.
- g. Given the timing of the interchange improvement project, it does not seem practical to explore interim improvements to the southbound ramp intersection. However, if the timing of the interchange improvement project dramatically changes, then interim improvements should be re-evaluated.
- h. The TIS indicates that the SR 99/Caldwell Avenue interchange northbound ramps intersections currently operate satisfactorily during the morning and evening peak travel periods (LOS B) and would continue to operate satisfactorily with the addition of the project traffic.

If you have any other questions, please call Edgar Hernandez at (559) 488-4168.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL NAVARRO, Chief  
Transportation Planning - North