

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH # 2019049052**Project Title:** Deer Creek Mine Expansion (PMR 19-001)Lead Agency: County of Tulare Resource Management AgencyContact: Hector Guerra, Chief Environmental PlannerMailing Address: 5961 S. Mooney Blvd.Phone: 559-624-7121City: Visalia Zip: 93277-9394County: Tulare County**Project Location:** County: TulareCity/Nearest Community: PortervilleCross Streets: Avenue 120 and Road 272Zip Code: 93257Latitude/Longitude: 36° 00' 19" N / 118° 57' 12" WTotal Acres: +/-20.0Assessor's Parcel No: 305-190-022 & 305-190-021Section: 21 Township: 22 S Range: 28E Base: MDBMWithin 2 Miles: State Hwy: _____ Waterways: Deer Creek

Airports: _____ Railways: _____ Schools: _____

Document Type:

CEQA: ☐ NOP ☐ Draft EIR
☐ Early Cons ☒ Supplement/Subsequent EIR
☐ Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) 2014081023
☐ Mit Neg Dec ☐ Other: _____

NEPA: ☐ NOI ☐ Joint Document
☐ EA ☐ Final Document
☐ Draft EIS ☐ Other: _____
☐ FONSI

Local Action Type:

☐ General Plan Update ☐ Specific Plan
☐ General Plan Amendment ☐ Master Plan
☐ General Plan Element ☐ Planned Unit Dev.
☐ Community Plan ☐ Site Plan

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

NOV 20 2019

☐ Rezone ☐ Annexation
☐ Pre-zone ☐ Redevelopment
☐ Use Permit ☐ Coastal Permit
☐ Land Division (Sub.) ☒ Other: Mining Permit

Development Type:

☐ Residential: Units _____ Acres _____
☐ Office: Sq. ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
☐ Commercial: Sq. ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
☐ Industrial: Sq. ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
☐ Educational: _____
☐ Recreational: _____
☐ Water Facilities: Type _____ MGD _____

☐ Transportation: Type _____
☒ Mining: Mineral Sand/Aggregate
☐ Power: Type _____ MW _____
☐ Waste Treatment: Type _____ MGD _____
☐ Hazardous Waste: Type _____
☒ Other: Mining Permit Amendment

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetic/Visual	<input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation/Parks	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetation
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Land	<input type="checkbox"/> Flood Plain/Flooding	<input type="checkbox"/> Schools/Universities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest Land/Fire Hazard	<input type="checkbox"/> Septic Systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Supply/Groundwater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Archaeological/Historical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geologic/Seismic	<input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Capacity	<input type="checkbox"/> Wetland/Riparian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minerals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Growth Inducing
<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Zone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise	<input type="checkbox"/> Solid/Waste	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drainage/Absorption	<input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing Balance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toxic/Hazardous	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cumulative Effects
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic/Jobs	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Services/Facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Circulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tribal Cultural Res.</u>

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

The surrounding land uses are predominantly foothill grazing (to the north, south and east) and orchards (to the west). / AE-40 (Extensive Agriculture – 40 Acre Minimum) / Agriculture.

Project Description:

See attached page.

Project Description

The Project consists of a ± 20 -acre expansion to the footprint and operations of the existing and currently operational Deer Creek Mine facility. The Applicant, Deer Creek Rock Co., Inc., currently operates a rock and gravel surface mining operation on 110 acres, as permitted by PMR 01-001, PMR 09-002, and PSP 01-055 (ZA), and PMR 14-002. The permit amendments requested by PMR 19-001 will:

- Allow consistency between PMR 01-001, PMR 09-002, PSP 01-055(ZA), and PMR 14-002;
- Result in an approximately 20-acre expansion through the use of a lot line adjustment toward the east and southeast on land currently used for grazing;
- Increase annual production by 500,000 tons per year (from a maximum of 1,000,000 tons per year to a maximum of 1,500,000 tons per year);
- Increase truck hauling by 224 round-trips per day (from a maximum of 376 round-trips per day to a maximum of 600 round-trips per day), with a maximum of 60,000 truck trips per year;
- Result in an increase in the maximum depth of the mine to 300 feet Mean Sea Level (MSL);
- Result in a change to the estimated total rock production of 40,000,000 tons of rock to 75,000,000 tons of rock material during the estimated 50 years of operation; and
- Result in no change to the approved reclamation plan other than to include the expanded area.

As noted earlier, the current operation is transporting between 600,000 to 900,000 tons of aggregate annually, and the Applicant is requesting to increase its transporting limitation to 1,500,000 tons of aggregate annually. The proposed Project would result in an increase from 42,300 trips per year to a maximum of 60,000 trips per year (i.e., an increase of 17,700 trips per year). This will require approximately three (3) additional employees, resulting in a workforce of approximately 30 employees (20 in first shift and 10 in second shift). The customer base from the proposed Project is anticipated to remain mostly from within Tulare County.

The Applicant is proposing to increase production of the existing mining permit and will include both lateral and depth expansion. All proposed mining activities will take place within the proposed excavation area. Proposed operations will continue blasting to break up larger rocks that cannot be moved or broken up by mechanical equipment. All blasting will be conducted by a licensed blaster.

As a condition of the permit, and since the proposed Project is in the AE-40 and AE-10 zone, reclamation of the site will result in the property being reclaimed to grazing/open space standards for eventual agricultural re-use. A current, approved Reclamation Plan is on file with Tulare County.

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X." If the document has already been sent to the agency, denote that with an "s."

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Office of Emergency Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation
<input type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol	<input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District # 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of
<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics	<input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of
<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Health, Department of
<input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB # 5F (attn: Doug Patteson)
<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources Agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board	<input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Commission
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers and Mtns Conservancy
<input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy
<input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
<input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Wildlife Region # 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality
<input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry & Fire Protection, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of
<input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Services, Department of	<input type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of
<input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Recycling and Recovery (Cal Recycle)</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Waste Management Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County HHSA – Environmental Health</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Office of Emergency Services</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Naval Facilities Engineering Command</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Resources Conservation District</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>U.S. Department of Agriculture - NRCS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Sheriff's Office</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County U.C. Cooperative Extension</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County RMA Flood</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Association of Governments</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County RMA Public Works</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Farm Bureau</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County RMA Fire</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tulare County Fire Warden</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date: November 20, 2019

Ending Date: January 3, 2020

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Contact: _____
Phone: _____

Applicant: Deer Creek Rock Co., Inc.
Address: P.O. Box 994248
City/State/Zip: Redding, CA 96099-4248
Phone: (530) 241-2112

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: _____

Hector Guerra, Chief Environmental Planner

Date: 11/19/19

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: _____

Reed Schenke, Director/Environmental Assessment Officer

Date: 11/19/19