



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING

Promoting the wise use of land – Helping to build great communities

TO: Interested Party

DATE: March 30, 2015

FROM: Airlin M. Singewald, Senior Planner / EIR Manager

VIA: Ellen Carroll, Planning Manager / Environmental Coordinator

SUBJECT: Santa Margarita Quarry Expansion (Hanson Aggregates) Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan Amendment (DRC2011-00098 / DRC2011-00099)

The Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the Santa Margarita Quarry Expansion (Hanson Aggregates) Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan Amendment is complete and available for review. The FEIR consists of two separate volumes. The first volume is the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), which was circulated for public review and comment from November 21, 2015 until January 12, 2015. The second volume (entitled FEIR) contains responses to the comments received on the DEIR and related revisions to the DEIR. All portions of the DEIR that have not been revised for the purposes of the FEIR are incorporated by reference into the FEIR.

The FEIR addresses the environmental impacts associated with the request to expand the existing Santa Margarita Quarry by approximately 33 acres (thereby enlarging the quarry footprint from 160.1 acres to 193.1 acres). The proposed expansion would yield an estimated 21.5 million tons of aggregate reserves. These reserves, in combination with existing entitled reserves, would result in the quarry producing 33.2 million tons of aggregate products over a 59-year period. The site is in the North County Planning Area, Salinas River Sub Area, within the Extractive Resource Area (EX1) combining designation overlay. The proposed project is within the Rural Lands and Agriculture land use categories and is located at 16815 El Camino Real, approximately three miles northeast of the community of Santa Margarita.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS: The EIR focuses on the following issues: Aesthetics and Visual Resources, Agricultural Resources, Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Biological Resources, Cultural and Paleontological Resources, Geology, Soils, and Mineral Resources, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Land Use, Noise and Vibration, Public Services and Utilities, Recreation, Transportation and Circulation, Water Quality and Supply. The EIR also considers three alternatives in addition to the “No Project” alternative.

HOW TO GET MORE INFORMATION: Copies of the FEIR are available at the following locations: Atascadero, Santa Margarita, Cal Poly, and SLO City/County Libraries. Copies are also available on loan and for review at the County Planning Department, located at t976 Osos St., Room 200, San Luis Obispo, 93408. The Final EIR is on the Planning Department’s website at: www.sloplanning.org under “Environmental Impact Reports” under the link Hanson / Santa Margarita Quarry Expansion Project.”

If you need more information about this project, please contact Airlin M. Singewald at (805) 781-5198 (or email: asingewald@co.slo.ca.us)

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing before the San Luis Obispo County Planning Commission has been scheduled for April 30, 2015, in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, County Government Center, San Luis Obispo. If you plan to attend, please check the Planning Department’s website approximately one to two weeks before this date to verify.