

June 5, 2013

Murry Wilson
Environmental Resource Specialist
Department of Planning and Building
San Luis Obispo County
976 Osos Street, Room 300
San Luis Obispo, California 93408-2040

Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Las Pilitas Quarry Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan, Community of Santa Margarita, San Luis Obispo County, Near Coastal Aqueduct Milepost 61.92, San Joaquin Field Division, SCH201071013

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Las Pilitas Quarry Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan (Project) in the county of San Luis Obispo. The DEIR describes the proposal to construct and operate a quarry and related improvements within a 234-acre parcel located on the north side of Highway 58 and east of the Salinas River. A section of the Coastal Aqueduct of the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA) is located within the Project's 234-acre parcel.

DWR has concerns about the Project. The following items shall be addressed in the next environmental document:

1. The geotechnical report in page 15, Appendix B references that an expert in blasting technology will review and comment on the potential effects of blasting operations with respect to the Calf Canyon Tunnel and the SWP pipeline. An expert will need to review the peak particle velocity (ppv) and the effects that the blasting operations will have on the Calf Canyon Tunnel, SWP pipeline, the mortar lining and grouted joints within the SWP pipeline. The materials submitted to date have not had an expert review the blasting plan and geotechnical report together.
 - a. Expert to recommend what ppv to use for the mortar lined, grouted joints of the SWP pipeline and to determine the maximum explosive loads to be used for daily operations. As well as setbacks needed to ensure the safety of the State's facilities.

CCWA recommends having a separate firm of DWR/CCWA recommends having a separate firm of s choosing perform a peer review of the "experts" findings once the task has been accomplished.

- b. H factor needs to be clarified and determined for the site specific soil matrix as referenced in the blast plan in Section 9.2.1 in Appendix B
2. Due to the technical nature of potential impacts to SWP facilities from blasting operations, a separate report identifying acceptable blast limits shall be provided to DWR for review and approval. Upon approval of a blast report, a DWR inspector shall be present during the first and possibly subsequent blasts to ensure established criteria are met during blasting operations. All cost associated with these review and inspections shall be the responsibility of the Las Pilitas Resources LLC.
3. The detailed, future blasting plan to be submitted as described in section 4.2 of the current blasting plan in Appendix B shall also be submitted to DWR for its review, to make sure that the Coastal Aqueduct and Calf Canyon Tunnel are specifically named and included as nearby structures for predicted ground vibrations.
4. In section 4.10 of the blasting plan, DWR should be named for notification of all blasts.
5. In sections 6.4 and 6.5 of the blasting plan, there is no mention as to **when** (how soon after each blast) the blasting records and as-built blasting reports should be completed and transmitted. A reasonable time frame should be set for these items and included in the document. Also, DWR should be added as a recipient of all blasting records and as-built blasting reports.
6. DWR should be included in section 8.1 to be notified before initiation of blasting.
7. Depressed curbs or driveways shall be provided for DWR vehicular access across all roadways crossing the pipeline right-of-way. These crossings shall be fenced.
8. The risk to the Coastal Aqueduct pipeline due to additional truck traffic would need to be addressed, and mitigation proposed if needed. Type and weight of construction and operation equipment shall be submitted for review.

In addition to the proposed construction of entrance road that will cross the Coastal Aqueduct, a section of new water line near Well A will be installed parallel to the

Mr. Murry Wilson

Page 3

Aqueduct. Any utility crossings over California Aqueduct and its facilities or construction work within DWR right of way will require an encroachment permit issued by DWR.

Information regarding guidelines and forms for submitting an application for an encroachment permit to DWR can be found at:

http://www.water.ca.gov/engineering/Services/Real_Estate/Encroach_Rel/

Please provide DWR with a copy of any subsequent environmental documentation when it becomes available for public review. Any future correspondence relating to the above-mentioned concerns of DWR should be sent to:

California Department of Water Resources
Division of Operations and Maintenance
State Water Project Encroachments Section
Attn: Leroy Ellinghouse, Jr.
1416 Ninth Street, Room 641-1
Sacramento, California 95814

If you have any questions, please contact Leroy Ellinghouse, Jr., Chief, State Water Project Encroachments Section, at (916) 653-7168 or Jonathan Canuela at (916) 653-5095.

Sincerely,

David M. Samson, Chief
State Water Project Operations Support Office
Division of Operations and Maintenance

cc: Office of Planning and Research
California State Clearinghouse
1400 10th Street
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Andrew Dudley
Central Coast Water Authority
255 Industrial Way

Mr. Murry Wilson

Page 4

Buellton, CA 93427-9565

Draft