



To: Marti Fisher/Planning/COSLO@Wings,
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fw: Oster Quarry comments
From: Jeffrey Oliveira/Planning/COSLO - Monday 08/09/2010 08:23 AM

From: tamig030@aol.com
To: joliveira@co.slo.ca.us
Cc: jpatterson@co.slo.ca.us, jnall@co.slo.ca.us, elcarroll@co.slo.ca.us
Date: 08/08/2010 04:25 PM
Subject: Oster Quarry comments

August 9, 2010

Tami Gunther
Community Member
P O Box 812
Santa Margarita, 93453

Tamig030@aol.com

Comments re: Oster (Las Pilitas Quarry) CUP/ Reclamation Plan (DRC2009-00025)

I am most concerned about the following negative impacts on our community if this project were to be approved:

- 1- Traffic and traffic related safety issues
- 2- Water usage
- 3- Noise
- 4- Valley Fever potential

1 Traffic: There are many areas which need to be addressed related to traffic . If I understand correctly, there would be 200 trips per day made by trucks from the quarry . This would add up to one pass leaving the quarry and another to get back... so 400 total truck passes through town per day.

A current favorite place for trucks to park is in front of the gas station in Margarita . This severely limits visibility of traffic turning from Encina onto El Camino . This problem could only get worse, and is a real danger already.

Of major concern is the portion of Hwy 58 between El Camino and J Street in Margarita . Visibility is inhibited by a rise in the road less than one quarry truck's length from the crosswalk between the Elementary School and the Park . This issue was mentioned in the Santa Margarita Ranch EIR, so it's certain the issue will be compounded by the addition of 400 truck passes per day.

An alternative entrance to the proposed quarry site should be considered to avoid using Hwy 58 between Santa Margarita Park and Parkhill Road completely. Hanson Quarry site is a "stones throw" from the proposed Oster project, and Hanson's road is already in place and avoids town completely.

2 Water: Residents in the Parkhill area face a constant issue with water shortage. This project proposes using 20,000 gallons of water per day for dust control. In contrast my sister's family of 4 uses less water in 6 months than this project proposes to use in one day! Knowing that there is a shortage, they are extremely careful with their water usage. It is unbelievable that this excessive use of water by the proposed quarry could even be considered. During the summer many homes in the area must buy water. If this project is approved, the quarry should be required to bring water in from elsewhere so that they do not deplete the already tenuous water supply in the area.

3 Noise: It was said by Mr. Johnston at the community forum that the mountains in the area would block the noise from the quarry. This is not true, as anyone who lives in the area knows. Sound does not travel in straight lines, it bounces. It bounces off of the mountains and funnels down canyons, invading spaces well beyond line of sight. This should not be allowed. Sound is just as much a pollutant as is smoke, or garbage, or visual "blight".

4 Valley Fever: This disease is brutal and it **does infect humans**. It is hard to diagnose, hard to treat (nearly impossible to treat in those of us with allergies to penicillin) and is life threatening. Get rid of this possibility or get rid of this project.

Thank you for addressing the concerns of our community.

Sincerely,

Tami Gunther



Oster Quarry comments 8.9.2010.doc