

Bonnie Williams
10260 Digger Pine Road
Santa Margarita, CA 93401

Jeff Oliveira, Environmental Resource Specialist
SLO County Planning and Building Department
976 Osos Street, Room 300
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Mr. Oliveira,

It has recently come to my attention that a quarry (DCR2009-00025) is being proposed on Hwy 58 between the Salinas River and Parkhill Rd. As a resident of this area, I have many concerns about how this project will affect the quality of life for all of us. I write to you with the hope that my concerns will be included and considered in the scoping of the Environmental Impact Report for this project.

The traffic situation concerns me. Hwy 58 is extremely dangerous already. Adding several hundred trucks with double trailers full of gravel will greatly increase the probability of serious vehicle collisions, some resulting in fatalities. The school crossing and the intersection of Hwy 58 and Estrada are cause for concern as the trucks come into the town of Santa Margarita. A major oversight would seem to be that no study at El Camino and Hwy 101 was conducted. I was told by neighbors that this interchange was identified as a Class 1 impact in the EIR that was prepared for the Santa Margarita Ranch EIR. I would like to see this identified and properly addressed.

This project will use large amounts of water which will deplete an already scarce resource throughout this area. I am deeply concerned about what the future reliability of water will be for my family and other residents when this project begins using such disproportionate amounts.

The noise this project will create will impact all of us in the surrounding area. Trucks coming and going within a very confined area, and the operation of heavy equipment will drastically change the tranquility we currently enjoy. The blasting operations being proposed are extremely destructive. The safety and comfort of surrounding residents needs to be considered.

Dust and fugitive dust caused by the blasting need serious consideration. The blasting can also result in damage to nearby wells and dwellings due to the vibration. There are enough concerns without introducing man-made earthquakes into our daily lives. The map that I viewed at the Scoping Meeting on July 8th excluded the entire Parkhill area. It made it seem like there were not any residents near the project site. This is misleading. There are many residents out here who have worked hard to make their properties enjoyable places to live. I would like to see the neighborhood studied and the results of what putting industrial operations among them will do to our quality of life and our property values.

I am aware of at least two other quarries that exist within our area. All of us who live out here are aware of Hanson's quarry. Every morning when I leave to go to work, I look directly at the existing quarry and am perplexed as to why we need to destroy more of the land out here. I worry that when this new quarry moves those hills around, the impacts will be compounded. Is there a way to model this kind of thing to figure out what future life out here might look like? At the scoping meeting, the representative from this project said that it would create 5 new jobs. It does not appear that we need another quarry in our area. I don't believe that is enough benefit to our community to make all the destructive actions something the rest of the community should have to endure.

I appreciate the opportunity to voice my concerns regarding this proposed project. I sincerely hope that those of you in County Government will use wisdom and discretion in weighing the concerns of the residents of the Santa Margarita area.

Thank you,

Bonnie Williams