

Published February 4, 2005

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AND PUBLIC HEARING ON THE  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DIAMOND  
ROCK SAND AND GRAVEL MINE AND PROCESSING FACILITY**

Case # 03CUP-00000-00037 & 03RPP-00000-00002

05-EIR-00000-00001

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Troesh Ready-Mix, Inc. proposes a new sand and gravel mine and processing facility on a 133-acre site located in the Cuyama River channel and on the adjoining river terrace, respectively. The applicant seeks Conditional Use Permit and Reclamation Plan approval to allow the use to occur in an agricultural district. The proposed Reclamation Plan would ensure that the site is restored to agricultural use upon completion of mining activities. The project would extract sand and gravel aggregate from the Cuyama River over a 30-year period, and process the material on the adjoining river terrace. The mine would produce a grand total of approximately 13, 820,000 tons of material (+/- 9,210,000 yards) at an average annual production rate of 500,000 tons per year and a peak production rate of 750,000 tons per year. The material would be trucked to job sites based on demand. The project would also be a receiver site for recyclable concrete.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The site is located on the west side of State Highway 33, 5.9 miles south of its junction with State Highway 166 (APN 149-220-002, 011 & 065, in the Ventucopa area, 5th Supervisorial District).

**PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT:** The Santa Barbara County Planning & Development Department (P&D) is soliciting comments on the adequacy and completeness of the analysis and proposed mitigation measures described in the subject Environmental Impact Report (EIR). You may comment by providing testimony at the public hearing on **Thursday, March 3, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cuyama Recreation District Offices** located at **4885 Primero Street, Cuyama, California** and/or submitting written or oral comments to the project planner identified below prior to the close of public comment on **March 21, 2005 at 5:00 p.m.**

**PROJECT DETAILS:** The proposed mine would extract sand and gravel aggregate from the Cuyama River Channel over a 30-year period and process the material on the adjoining river terrace. The mine would produce a grand total of approximately 13, 820,000 tons of material (+/- 9,210,000 yards) at an average annual production rate of 500,000 tons per year and a peak production rate of 750,000 tons per year. The material would be trucked to job sites based on demand and the mine would be a received site for recyclable concrete. After mining, the natural riverbed would be restored and the terrace would be returned to agricultural use.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FINDINGS:** P&D has prepared a Draft EIR pursuant to requirements of the State Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the County of Santa Barbara Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA. P&D began preparation of an EIR for the proposed project because of its complexity (i.e., impacts individually limited but cumulatively considerable) and potential to have significant adverse effects on the environment. The EIR prepared for the project identifies and discusses potential impacts, mitigation measures, residual impacts and monitoring requirements for identified subject areas.

The EIR identifies no significant and unavoidable (Class 1) impacts but does identify several potentially significant but mitigable (Class 2) impacts, in the following areas:

**Aesthetics/Visual Resources, Agricultural Resources, Biological Resources, Air Quality, Drainage, Erosion and Water Quality.** If the project description changes, P&D will require a reevaluation to consider the changes. This reevaluation will be subject to all regular fees and conditions. If you challenge this environmental document in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues raised by you or others in written correspondence or in hearings on the proposed project.

**DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY:** If a copy of the Draft EIR is not attached hereto it may be obtained and all documents referenced in the EIR may be reviewed at the Planning & Development offices located at 624 Foster Road, Suite C, Santa Maria, and at 123 E. Anapamu Street in Santa Barbara. Draft documents are also available for review at the Santa Maria and Santa Barbara Public Libraries. The administrative draft of the environmental impact report and P&D's formal comments to the preparer are also available for review at our offices.

**HOW TO COMMENT:** Please provide comments to the project planner, **Gary Kaiser** at 624 W. Foster Road, Santa Maria, CA 93455, (805) 934-6261, Fax (805) 934-6258 or by e-mail to the Supervising Planner, Larry Appel, at [larry@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:larry@co.santa-barbara.ca.us) prior to the close of public comment on **March 21, 2005 at 5:00 p.m.** or provide testimony at the public hearing on the date and time specified above. Please limit comments to environmental issues such as traffic, aesthetics, noise, etc. You will receive notice of the dates of future public hearings to consider project approval or denial.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this hearing, please contact Hearing Support Staff (805) 568-2000. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the hearing will enable Hearing Support Staff to make reasonable arrangements.