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## **DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND INITIAL STUDY**

**PROJECT TITLE: Amendment to Reclamation Plan 96-12/Keeler –MS#300 California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).**

**PROJECT LOCATION:** This aggregate pit is located on BLM land near Owens Lake in Inyo County. The pit is adjacent to and east of Highway 136 at post-mile marker 15.5. The pit is approximately 3.5 miles southeast of the town of Keeler. The project site is located on the Keeler, California USGS 7.5' Topographic Map in Township 17 South, Range 38 East, in the eastern 1/2 of Section 15, MDBM (Figure 2). The Tax Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 031-010-19 (please see attached maps).

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The applicant has applied for an amendment to Reclamation Plan 96-12. The project proposes expanded mining operations at Keeler Pit MS #300 for continued maintenance of dirt shoulders in Inyo County. Approximately 300,000 cubic yards of material will be extracted from the site over a 30 to 50-year span in an 8.1 acre-expansion area. Mining will occur in 4 phases, entailing the creation of a dirt access road and material extraction pit east and southeast of the existing pit. Four to six inches of topsoil will be relocated to soil berms on the north, south and east edges of the pit. The pit will be graded to ensure storm water containment (final slope configuration 3:1 or flatter). All equipment storage and operations will occur within the limits of the existing (lower) pit. A retention basin, to manage and contain all storm water, will be constructed in the lower pit.

### **FINDINGS:**

- A. The proposed project is consistent with goals and objectives of the Inyo County General Plan.

*The proposed project is consistent with the County General Plan designation of 'Open Space and State and Federal Land (SFL) as the SFL designation allows for Mining uses under the approval of Bureau of Land Management accompanied by the reclamation plan(REC) approved by Inyo County under the Memorandum of understanding. The County approved the original (REC 96-12) in July 1997 with mining and excavation restricted to an excavation area of approximately 4.8 acres within an overall 84.18-acre parcel. Section 08.4.4 of the General Plan Goals and Policies states: 'protect the current and future extraction of mineral resources that are important to the County's economy while minimizing impacts on the public and the environment'. Caltrans mining currently plays a role in the County's maintenance of highway roads with local production of shale, sand and gravel crushed and screened to various sizes depending on product demand.*

- B. The proposed project is consistent with the provisions of the Inyo County Zoning Ordinance.

*The proposed project is consistent with the County Zoning Ordinance designation of 'Open Space (OS) as the OS designation allows mining uses, as a conditional use or when managed by Bureau of Land Management an approval of a plan of operation. These include Mining and processing of natural resources, including borrow pits. The proposed amendment consists of expanding the existing pit that is a continued mining use.*

- C. Potential adverse environmental impacts will not exceed thresholds of significance, either individually or cumulatively.

*Based on the proposed amendment to reclamation plan, the project is consistent with the requirements of Chapter 7.70 - Surface Mining and Land Reclamation of the Inyo County Code and will not exceed thresholds of significance individually or cumulatively.*

- D. Based upon the environmental evaluation of the proposed project, the Planning Department finds that the project does not have the potential to create a significant adverse impact on flora or fauna; natural, scenic and historic resources; the local economy; public health, safety, and welfare. This constitutes a Mitigated Negative Finding for the Mandatory Findings required by Section 15065 of the CEQA Guidelines.

*Staff's assessment of the parcel described it as being mostly uniform throughout and comprised of shale, gravel, and sand. The site's vegetation is sparse and no special status species were found during the survey. Most of the site is undisturbed except for the disturbances due to the existing mining operations, which border the southernmost end of the project site and include unpaved roads, and pit.*

The 30-day public & State agency review period for this Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration will expire on October 1, 2020. Inyo County is not required to respond to any comments received after this date.

Additional information is available from the Inyo County Planning Department. Please contact Project Planner if you have any questions regarding this project.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cathreen Richards  
Director, Inyo County Planning Department

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# INYO COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

## CEQA APPENDIX G: INITIAL STUDY & ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

### EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) “Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Than Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, “Earlier Analyses,” may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
  - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
  - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
  - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are “Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated,” describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.

9) The explanation of each issue should identify:

- a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
- b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance issues.



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## **INYO COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

### **APPENDIX G: CEQA INITIAL STUDY & ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM**

1. **Project title:** Amendment to Reclamation Plan 96-12/Keeler –MS#300 California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).
2. **Lead agency name and address:** Inyo County Planning Department, P.O. Box L Independence, Ca 93526
3. **Contact person and phone number:** Ryan Standridge, Associate Planner, (760) 878-0405
4. **Project location:** This aggregate pit is located on BLM land near Owens Lake in Inyo County. The pit is adjacent to and east of Highway 136 at post-mile marker 15.5. The pit is approximately 3.5 miles southeast of the town of Keeler. The project site is located on the Keeler, California USGS 7.5' Topographic Map in Township 17 South, Range 38 East, in the eastern 1/2 of Section 15, MDBM (Figure 2). The Tax Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 031-010-19 (please see attached maps).
5. **Project sponsor's name and address:** California State Department of Transportation -District 9(CALTRANS) 500 S. Main St. Bishop, Ca 93514
6. **General Plan designation:** State and Federal Lands (SFL)
7. **Zoning:** Open Space (OS)
8. **Description of project:** The applicant has applied for an amendment to Reclamation Plan 96-12. The Project proposes expanded mining operations at Keeler Pit MS #300 for continued maintenance of dirt shoulders in Inyo County. Approximately 300,000 cubic yards of material will be extracted from the site over a 30 to 50-year span, in an 8.1 acre-expansion area. Mining will occur in 4 phases, entailing the creation of a dirt access road and material extraction pit east and southeast of the existing pit. Four to six inches of topsoil will be relocated to soil berms on the north, south and east edges of the pit. The pit will be graded to ensure storm water containment (final slope configuration 3:1 or flatter). All equipment storage and operations will occur within the limits of the existing (lower) pit. A retention basin, to manage and contain all storm water, will be constructed in the lower pit.
9. **Surrounding land uses and setting:** The Property is surrounded by Vacant Public lands.

<b>Location:</b>	<b>Use:</b>	<b>Gen. Plan Designation</b>	<b>Zoning</b>
Site	Mine	State And Federal Land (SFL)	Open Space with a 40 Acre minimum (OS-40)



North	Vacant Public Land	State And Federal Land (SFL)	Open Space with a 40 Acre minimum (OS-40)
East	Vacant Public Land	State And Federal Land (SFL)	Open Space with a 40 Acre minimum (OS-40)
South	Vacant Public Land	State And Federal Land (SFL)	Open Space with a 40 Acre minimum (OS-40)
West	Vacant Land	Natural resources (NR)	Open Space with a 40 Acre minimum (OS-40)

**10. Other public agencies whose approval is required:** Department of Conservation, California Department Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management.

**11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, has consultation begun?**

Note: Conducting consultation early in the CEQA process allows tribal governments, lead agencies, and project proponents to discuss the level of environmental review, identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources, and reduce the potential for delay and conflict in the environmental review process. (See Public Resources Code section 21083.3.2.) Information may also be available from the California Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File per Public Resources Code section 5097.96 and the California Historical Resources Information System administered by the California Office of Historic Preservation. Please also note that Public Resources Code section 21082.3(c) contains provisions specific to confidentiality.

Inyo County started the 30-day Consultation according to Public Resource code section 21080.31. by sending out a certified written notice that described the project and location. The tribes notified are as follows: Big Pine Tribe of Owens Valley, Bishop Paiute Tribe, Fort Independence Indian Community of Paiutes, Lone Pine Paiutes-Shoshone Tribe, Timbisha Shoshone tribe, Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, Cabazon Band of Indians. As of August 27, 2020, there has been no request formal request for a consultation submitted to the Planning Director.

**ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:**

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acsthetics Resources        | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture & Forestry   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources        | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources       | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology /Soils              | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality     | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning      | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise            | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing     | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recrcation                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation           | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

**DETERMINATION**

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

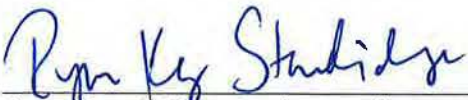
I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the cnvironment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.



Ryan Standridge, Assistant Planner  
Inyo County Planning Department

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

# INYO COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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**I. AESTHETICS** -- Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the mine site is partially visible from very few points along Highway 136. The existing textural contrast of the site is caused by the removal of the course ground-surface layer, and a decrease in the density the vegetation due to vegetation removal. These changes will be moderated by reclamation activities. Revegetation through naturalization and replacement of the course ground-surface faction will integrate the site with the surround area, thereby resulting in a low level of visual change to the characteristic landscape.*

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the proposed expansion will not damage scenic resources; there are no nearby trees rock outcroppings or historic buildings in the general area.*

c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?

	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the mine site will not substantially degrade the visual character as it is partially visible from very few points along Highway 136. The existing textural contrast of the site is caused by removal of the course ground-surface layer, and a decrease in the density of the vegetation due to vegetation removal. Reclamation activities will moderate these changes. Revegetation through naturalization and replacement of the course ground-surface faction will integrate the site with the surrounding area, thereby resulting in a low level of visual change to the characteristic landscape.*

d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the proposed expansion will not create a new source of substantial light or glare as site operations are conducted during daylight.*

**II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES:** In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including The Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and forest carbon measurement methodology Provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and

	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?

*No, the proposed expansion will not be located on farmland.*

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

*No, the proposed expansion will not be located on land zoned for agriculture. There are no Williamson Act contracts in Inyo County.*

c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?

*No, the proposed expansion will not be located on forested land.*

d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

*No, the proposed expansion will not be located on forested land.*

e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?

*No, the proposed location will not cause changes to the surrounding environment that could result in any losses to farmland or agricultural uses.*

**III. AIR QUALITY:** Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

*No, although there are portions of Inyo County within non-attainment areas for Federal and State PM10 (particulate matter 10 microns or less in diameter) ambient air quality standards, the primary source for this pollution is the Owens dry lake, located approximately 4.7-miles from the project site. The proposed project anticipates new disturbance of large particle greater than 10 Microns. The applicant will be subject to Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District regulations regarding dust mitigation during operation and shall be required to obtain all necessary permits from Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District.*

b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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*No, although there are portions of Inyo County within non-attainment areas for Federal and State PM10 (particulate matter 10 microns or less in diameter) ambient air quality standards, the primary source for this pollution is the Owens dry lake, located approximately 4.7-miles from the project site. The proposed project anticipates new disturbance of large particle greater than 10 Microns. The applicant will be subject to Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District regulations regarding dust mitigation during operation and shall be required to obtain all necessary permits from Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District.*

c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?

*No, although there are portions of Inyo County within non-attainment areas for Federal and State PM10 (particulate matter 10 microns or less in diameter) ambient air quality standards, the primary source for this pollution is the Owens dry lake, located approximately 4.7-miles from the project site. The proposed project anticipates new disturbance of large particle greater than 10 Microns. The applicant will be subject to Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District regulations regarding dust mitigation during operation and shall be required to obtain all necessary permits from Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District.*

d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

*The noise emissions will be most heavily concentrated within the processing area of the pit and will be shielded from surrounding receptors by the pit walls and topsoil berms. The physical walls of the pit and the considerable distance to sensitive receptors will reduce the potential noise impact from mining. The nearest community is approximately 3.5 miles away.*

e) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

*No, the proposed expansion does not create odor affecting a substantial number of people. Also, there are no sensitive receptors near the project location. The nearest community is approximately 3.5 miles away.*

**IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES:** Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

*No, based on staff's review of the CNDDDB there are no known candidate, sensitive, or threatened species on the site, and a biological and botanical study was completed on the project area for Cal Trans in 1997. An additional biological survey was also conducted on the project site in May 2019. Although no sensitive species were found during the 1997 or 2019 studies, the applicant proposed conducting focused surveys before disturbance occurs. The proposed mine areas are located at the southern end of Owens River Valley on an upland mesa/bluff, at an elevation range of 1100- 1200 meters (m), with lower elevation desert washes marking the site boundaries to the north and south. A minimum 30-foot offset boundary will be demarcated with metal stakes to buffer the edge of the bluff and provide a visual cue for excavation activities that will protect the area outside of the project boundary.*

b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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*No, the proposed expansion area is not located in a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and does not include any riparian habit. Also, no impacts to riparian habitat will occur due to the proposed activities.*

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the proposed expansion area is not located in a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and does not include any riparian habit. Also, no impacts to riparian habitat will occur due to the proposed activities*

d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, a biological study was completed in the project area. It determined that the level of disturbance from the existing mining operations and the general lack of suitable habitat within the immediate project vicinity, results in no interference with any native resident, migratory fish, or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.*

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project site will not affect trees or other biological resources. Also, Inyo County does not have a tree preservation policy or ordinance.*

f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project site is not located on or near a conservation area and will not affect an adopted habitat conservation plan, Natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.*

**V. CULTURAL RESOURCES:** Would the project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the original Plan (RP 96-12) was approved by the County in July 1997. An archaeological investigation was conducted in 1992 for approximately 100 Acres of land surrounding the site and again May of 2019 and both reports determined that there are no resources that would be defined per 15064.5. In the unlikely event a historical resource is found during mining activities, a condition is included that work will stop until the resource can be evaluated.*

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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*No, an archaeological investigation was conducted in 1992 for approximately 100 Acres of land surrounding the site and again May of 2019 and both reports determined that there are no significant resources that would be defined per 15064.5. In the unlikely event a historical resource is found during mining activities, a condition is included that work will be stopped until the resource can be evaluated.*

c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?

*No, an archaeological investigation was conducted in 1992 for approximately 100 acres of land surrounding the site and again in May 2019 and both reports determined that there are no resources that would be defined per 15064.5. In the unlikely event a historical resource is found during mining activities, a condition is included that work will stop until the resource can be evaluated. In the event that human remains or related cultural materials are encountered, Section 15064.5(e) of CEQA requires work to be stopped, and the County Coroner notified in accordance with California Health and Safety Code 7050.5. In the unlikely event human remains are found during mining activities, work will be stopped until the resource can be evaluated and appropriately handled per Chapter 9.52 of the Inyo County Code - Disturbance of Archaeological, Paleontological and Historical Features.*

**VI. ENERGY:** Would the project:

a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?

*No, the site does not have buildings or power poles that require consumption of electricity therefore the proposed expansion area does not impact the consumption of energy resources during operations.*

b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency

*No, the expansion does not obstruct state or local renewable energy plans but the project site is located in a local renewable energy overlay. The proposed expansion only utilizes approximately twenty five percent of the parcel leaving the remaining seventy five percent on the west side available. However, the parcel is regulated by BLM.*

**VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS:** Would the project:

a) Directly or indirectly cause substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss injury, or death involving:

i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

*No, the project area is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone.*

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

*Ground shaking may occur anywhere in the region, due to numerous earthquake faults, regardless of whether the project site is within an identified Alquist-Priolo zone or not. However, the Uniform Building Code ensures that future structures shall be constructed to required seismic standards (Level IV) to withstand such shaking, so this potential impact is considered less than significant.*

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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*No, the project area is not within an area of soils known to be subject to liquefaction.*

iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project area is not subject to landslides.*

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the approved RP96-12 project site is required to conform to all drainage, grading, and "Best Management Practice (BMP)" requirements as set forth by the Inyo County Public Works Department, Inyo County of Inyo Environmental Health Services Department, and other associated regulatory agencies will be written into the Conditions of Approval for the Reclamation Plan Amendment. As a result of this regulation, potential impacts are considered less than significant.*

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project is not located on a geologic unit or soil that is considered unstable.*

d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project is not located on a geologic unit or soil that is considered expansive.*

e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the site does not have water or septic on site. The project will also will not create additional waste.*

f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the proposed expansion of mining activities will not be located on or near any unique paleontological resources.*

**VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS:** Would the project:

a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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*No, all equipment used at mining site meet California's CO2 emission requirements. No portable generators are used on-site.*

b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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*No, all equipment used at mining site meet California's CO2 emission requirements. No portable generators are used on-site.*

**IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:** Would the project:

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

*No, Chemicals are not used on-site; no chemical processing occurs on-site only crushing and screening. There will be no chemical waste or pollution from the mining operation.*

b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

*No, Equipment and vehicle maintenance is conducted in a separate location in a shop building on concrete floors. Maintenance and refueling comply with all rules and regulations implementing proper fueling procedures, fuel, and waste oil storage, and spill control measures and employee training per Cal Trans Emergency Response Plans and Procedures on file with the Inyo County Environmental Health Services (EHS). EHS is the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) that oversees hazardous materials storage, use, generation, and disposal. EHS will continue to permit the project.*

c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

*No, the project site is not within 1/4-mile of a school.*

d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

*No, the project is not located on a site included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.*

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

*No, the project location is neither within an airport land use plan nor within 2-miles of a public/public-use airport. The nearest town is 3.5 miles away and will not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in Keeler.*

f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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*No, the project will not interfere with the implementation of an adopted emergency plan.*

g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires,?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the proposed project location is not adjacent to any urbanized area and the surrounding area is BLM and DWP managed vacant land composed of shale, gravels, and sands.*

**X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY:** Would the project:

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, water is supplied from the Cal Trans Independence Maintenance shop. Non-potable water is pumped into a water truck that is used for wetting down material and roads during mining activities. It is not anticipated that there will be any excess water from the wetting-down procedure as the sprayed water is absorbed by loose materials, or by the porous surface, or evaporates; therefore, no recycling is required or planned. Bottled water is provided for employees.*

b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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*No, water is supplied from the Independence Maintenance shop.*

c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:

i) result in a substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project site is composed of shale, gravels and sands. This material is very porous and there are no drainages or impervious surfaces on-site. Erosion is not a concern on-site. The mining site is required to conform to all drainage, grading, and "Best Management Practice" (BMP) requirements as set forth by the Inyo County Public Works Department, Inyo County of Inyo Environmental Health Services Department, and other associated regulatory agencies. As a result of this regulation, potential impacts are considered less than significant*

ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project site is composed of shale, gravels and sands. This material is very porous and there are no drainages or impervious surfaces on-site. Erosion is not a concern on-site. The mining site is required to conform to all drainage, grading, and "Best Management Practice" (BMP) requirements as set forth by the Inyo County Public Works Department, Inyo County of Inyo Environmental Health Services Department, and other associated regulatory agencies. As a result of this regulation, potential impacts are considered less than significant*

iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project site is composed of shale, gravels and sands. This material is very porous and there are no drainages or impervious surfaces on-site. Erosion is not an issue on-site.*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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iv) impede or redirect flood flows?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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*No, no drainages or other water features were identified within the project site that would meet the definition of waters of the U.S. per the Clean Water Act. The project site is near an alluvial drainage to the North and Southside of the project area. The parallel unnamed alluvial drainage, are entirely outside (to the North and South) of the proposed project site.*

d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project is in a minimal flood hazard area not known to be prone to seiche, tsunami or mudflows.*

e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project site is composed of shale, gravels and sands. This material is very porous and there are no drainages or impervious surfaces on-site that cause the degrading of water quality.*

**XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING:** Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project borders vacant land owned by BLM, and DWP; therefore, will not divide a community.*

b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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*The proposed project is consistent with the County Zoning Ordinance designation of 'Open Space (OS). The OS designation allows mining use approved by the Bureau of Land Management accompanied by the reclamation plan approved by Inyo County under the Memorandum of understanding. Mining uses (Inyo County Code, Title 18, Section 18.12.040 I). These include mining and processing of natural resources, including borrow pits. The proposed amendment consists of expanding the existing Keeler pit that is a continued mining use. The General Plan includes a policy that protects the current and future extraction of mineral resources that are important to the County's economy while minimizing impacts of this use on the public and the environment.*

**XII. MINERAL RESOURCES:** Would the project:

a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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*No, this project is the mining of a mineral; however, this mineral is in abundance in the area and mining this small deposit will not deplete the mineral resource. The Inyo County General Plan encourages such mining. The impact to this resource is minimal considering the significant quantities of it available within Inyo County.*

b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project will have no impact on the resource.*

**XIII. NOISE:** Would the project result in the:

a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance,

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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or applicable standards of other agencies?

*No, although there may be some noise during operation, it will not increase the level of ambient noise in the project area above its current level, as it will continue to use the pit walls and berm to keep noise from carrying.*

b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

*No, although the mining operation requires the use of heavy construction equipment the nearest town is approximately 3.5 miles away.*

c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or, an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

*No, the project is not located within an airport land use plan and is not within 2-miles of a public or public use airport.*

**XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING:** Would the project:

a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

*No, the project is to expand mining. It does not include housing and is not an infrastructure improvement that would cause a population increase.*

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

*No, the project is expansion of mining that will not result in a loss of housing units or result in the displacement of people.*

**XV. PUBLIC SERVICES:** Would the project:

a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:  
Fire protection?

*No, the project is an expansion of mining of shale, sands and gravel. It will not cause a high demand for additional services that could result in an overall loss in service provision.*

Police protection?

*No, the project is expansion of mining and is located within the jurisdiction of the Inyo County Sheriff. It will not cause high demand for additional services that could result in an overall loss in service provision.*

Schools?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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*No, the project is an expansion of mining and is located within the Lone Pine Unified School District. It will not cause a high demand for additional services that could result in an overall loss in service provision.*

Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project is an expansion of mining. It will not cause a need for new or improved park facilities.*

Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project is an expansion of mining. It will not cause a need for new or improved public facilities.*

**XVI. RECREATION:** Would the project:

a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project is an expansion of mining. It will not cause an increase of use to park and recreation facilities.*

b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project is an expansion of mining. It does not include plans for new or an expansion of recreational facilities.*

**XVII. TRANSPORTATION:**

a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project is an expansion of a mining site. It will have no impact on adopted transportation plans, policies or programs.*

b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project is consistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15064.3, subdivision (b). Caltrans's proposed expansion reduces the vehicle miles traveled by utilizing local resources with an average of 30 miles traveled versus a commercial material site with an average of 80 miles.*

c) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project is an expansion of mining activities with a site enclosed by a berm with a gate. It will not cause a need for any changes to the roads in the area.*

d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project is an expansion of a mining site. It will not create losses of emergency access.*

**XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES:** Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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a) cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code § 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the project site is not on Tribal lands and the project, an expansion of mining activities, consists of cinder sand and the site is completely devoid of vegetation. There are no known historical resources as defined in Section 15064.5 on the site.*

ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code § 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code § 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the proposed expansion of mining activities will not be located on Tribal land nor are there any known historical or cultural resources as defined in Section 15064.5 on the site. If cultural resources are discovered in the project area, work will be stopped and a local Tribal representative will be consulted with to determine the significance of the finding and the proper handling of the resource will be written into the Conditions of Approval for the permit.*

**XIX UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS:** Would the project:

a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, all storm water received at this site will be contained on site or diverted into existing drainage channels and will not require new or an expansion of existing storm water drainage facilities.*

b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*Yes, the project is an expansion of mining site water use on-site is utilized to minimize dust generation. Water is supplied from the Independence Maintenance shop as needed and kept in a water truck on site.*

c) Result in a determination by the waste water treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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*No, the proposed project will not be serviced by a wastewater treatment facility.*

d) Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?

*No, the project is served by a county landfill that has the capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs. All refuse is disposed of according to State and County regulation.*

e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

*Yes, the applicant will be required to comply with federal, state and local statues and regulations related to solid waste.*

**XX. WILDFIRE:**

a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

*No, the project will not interfere with the implementation of an adopted emergency plan.*

b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?

*No, the project site is comprised of shale, gravel, sand and the site's vegetation is sparse reduces the risk of wildfire.*

c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?

*No, the project site is comprised of shale, gravel, sand and the site's vegetation is sparse with no structures that exacerbate fire risk.*

d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

*No, the project site is approximately 3.5 miles from Keeler and does not expose people or structures to significant risks.*

**XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

*Based on the information submitted by the applicant, the project does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The applicant had biological, and cultural studies prepared that found no significant impacts. Upon completion of mining activities, the site will be open space/habitat and will be resurfaced to blend in with the surrounding areas except the lower portion of the pit. It will remain available for stockpiling of natural materials, and be utilized as a staging area.*

b) Does the project have impacts that are individually



Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

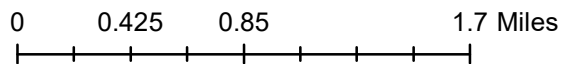
*The proposed expansion is located in a remote location and none of the impacts of this project will be cumulatively considerable.*

c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

*No, public access to the site will be restricted by a locked access gates to the mine site. The reclaimed 3H:1V slopes will be of sufficient low gradient as not to cause a hazard to public safety if the public illegally trespasses onto the site past the gate and signs*



# AMENDMENT REC 96-12 CALTRANS KEELER





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