



Publication Date: Friday, June 5th, 2026

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

THE STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

Will Conduct a Regular Business Meeting on:

Thursday, June 18th, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

**California Natural Resources Headquarters
715 P Street, First Floor Auditorium RM 1-302
Sacramento, California 95814**

**This meeting will be held in-person and
via video conference and will be recorded.**

To avoid any background noises while the meeting is in session, we ask that you mute your device. To join the meeting, please download the latest version of MS Teams by visiting their website at <https://aka.ms/getteams> or install the MS Teams app on your phone. After installing MS Teams on your device click on the [Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) link to join the meeting **Meeting ID: 286 021 035 046 350** and **Passcode: nC6M777V**. You may also join us by phone by dialing (916) 318-8892 and entering the **Phone Conference ID: 347 568 881#**

For questions or comments regarding this Agenda, please contact the Board by email at smgb@conservation.ca.gov. This Notice, the agenda, and all associated staff reports can be accessed at the SMGB's website at: <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/smgb>.



PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

1. **Call to Order (Sheingold)**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call and Declaration of a Quorum**
4. **Review of the Agenda (Sheingold)**
5. **Department Reports**
 - A. Department of Conservation Report (Tiffany)
 - B. Division of Mine Reclamation Report (Whalin)
 - C. California Geological Survey Report (Lancaster)
6. **Chair Report (Sheingold)**
7. **Executive Officer Report (Schmidt)**
8. **Geologist Report (Fry, Jones)**
9. **Ex-Parte Communication Disclosure**

Board Members will identify any discussions they may have had requiring disclosure pursuant to Public Resources Code Sections 663.1 and 663.2.
10. **Public Comment Period**

This time is scheduled to provide the public with an opportunity to address non-agenda items. Those wishing to speak should do so at this time. Speaker testimony is limited to three minutes except by special consent of the Chair.
11. **Consent Items**

All the items appearing under this section will be acted upon by the Board by one motion and without discussion; however, any Board member wishing to discuss any item may request the Chair to remove the item from the consent calendar and consider it separately.

 - A. Consideration and approval of minutes for the Regular Business Meeting held on:
March 19th, 2026
12. **Regular Business Items**
 - A. Consideration of preliminary regulatory language and approval to start pre-rulemaking activities for the Board's designation of mineral lands in Merced County
 - B. Consideration of preliminary regulatory language and approval to start pre-rulemaking activities for the Board's termination of some previously designated mineral lands in the Saugus-Newhall and San Fernando Valley Production Consumption Regions
13. **Presentations, Reports, and Informational Items**
 - A. *V-Eagle Critical Materials Project* (Richard Dunham, President & Co-Founder, VTRU Corporation)
 - B. *Mining Ordinance Update Project, Progress Update* (SMGB Staff)
14. **Executive Session (Closed to the Public)**

The Board will discuss information from its legal counsel on potential litigation and may take appropriate actions based on this information. This session is being held under Government Code, Section 11126.

15. Announcements and Future Meetings

16. Adjournment

THE STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

THE BOARD

The State Mining and Geology Board (Board) serves as a regulatory, policy, and appeals body representing the State's interests in the reclamation of mined lands, geology, geologic and seismologic hazards, and the conservation of mineral resources.

The Board was established in 1885 as the Board of Trustees to oversee the activities of the State Mineralogist and the California Division of Mines and Geology (now the California Geological Survey). It is second oldest Board in California. Today's Board has nine members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate, for four-year terms. By statute, Board members must have specific professional backgrounds in geology, mining engineering, environmental protection, groundwater hydrology and rock chemistry, urban planning, landscape architecture, mineral resource conservation, and seismology, with one member representing the general public.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Board is to provide professional expertise and guidance, and to represent the State's interest in the development, utilization, and conservation of mineral resources, the reclamation of mined lands and the development and dissemination of geologic and seismic hazard information to protect the health and welfare of the people of California.

STATUTORY AND REGULATORY AUTHORITY

The Board is an independent entity within the Department of Conservation under the Natural Resources Agency and is granted responsibilities and obligations under the following acts:

Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975

Under this Act, Public Resources Code Sections 2710 et seq. and its regulations at 14 California Code of Regulations Section 3500 et seq., the Board provides a comprehensive surface mining and reclamation policy to assure that adverse environmental impacts are minimized, and mined lands are reclaimed. SMARA also encourages the production, conservation, and protection of the State's mineral resources.

Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act

Under this Act, Public Resources Code Section 2621 through Section 2630, and its regulations at 14 California Code Regulations Section 3600 et seq., the Board is authorized to represent the State's interests in establishing guidelines and standards for geological and geophysical investigations and reports produced by the California Geological Survey, public sector agencies, and private practitioners. The Board is also authorized to develop specific criteria through regulations to be used by Lead Agencies in complying with the provisions of the Act to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Seismic Hazards Mapping Act

Under this Act, Public Resources Code Section 2690 through Section 2699.6 and its regulations at 14 California Code of Regulations Section 3720 et seq. the Board is authorized to provide policy and guidance through regulations for a statewide seismic hazard mapping and technical advisory program to assist cities, counties, and State agencies in fulfilling their responsibilities for protecting the public health and safety from the effects of strong ground shaking, liquefaction or other ground failure, landslides and other seismic hazards caused by earthquakes, including tsunami and seiche threats.

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- 4) Call a closed session by the Chair to discuss litigation and other matters
- 5) Make all testimony, files, and documents part of the administrative record

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State Mining and Geology Board
715 P Street, MS 1909
Sacramento, CA 95814

Following the Board meetings, links to presentations and meeting recordings will be available upon request: smgb@conservation.ca.gov



Agenda Item No. 11A

June 18th, 2026

Consideration and Approval of Minutes for the March 12, 2026, Regular Business Meeting

INTRODUCTION:

Approve the Conformed Minutes for the State Mining and Geology Board's March 12, 2026, Regular Business Meeting.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Board Chair and Members, in light of the information before the State Mining and Geology Board today, I move that the Board approve the Conformed Minutes for the March 12th, Regular Business Meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Jeffrey Schmidt,
Executive Officer



****DRAFT****

CONFORMED MINUTES

THE STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

Will Conduct a Regular Business Meeting on:

Thursday, March 12th, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

**California Natural Resources Headquarters
715 P Street, Second Floor RM 2-201
Sacramento, California 95814**

**This meeting will be held in-person and
via video conference and will be recorded.**

To avoid any background noises while the meeting is in session, we ask that you mute your device. To join the meeting, please download the latest version of MS Teams by visiting their website at <https://aka.ms/getteams> or install the MS Teams app on your phone. After installing MS Teams on your device click on the [Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) link to join the meeting **Meeting ID: 261 012 028 391 51** and **Passcode: kD3LK9Vw**. You may also join us by phone by dialing (916) 318-8892 and entering the **Phone Conference ID: 182 157 442#**

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PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

1. **Call to Order (Sheingold)**
The meeting was called to order by Chair Sheingold at 10:00 A.M.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
Executive Officer Jeffrey Schmidt led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call and Declaration of a Quorum**
Regulatory Analyst Natalie Decio called roll with Members Driscoll, Holst, Jung, Whyte, Zafir, Vice Chair Kenline, and Chair Sheingold present, and a Quorum was declared. Members Landregan and Los Huertos were not in attendance.
4. **Review of the Agenda (Sheingold)**
Chair Sheingold reviewed the agenda and shared his regular announcements.
5. **Department Reports**
 - A. Department of Conservation Report (TBD)
Filling in for the Director, Assistant Director of Administration Clayton Haas reported that the department submitted one Budget Change Proposal (BCP) for the California Geological Survey's (CGS) Strong Motion Program, which received a "vote-only" hearing—an encouraging sign for approval as it moves forward. Additionally, Haas noted that spring finance letters are in progress, with details pending the May Budget Revise set to be released tentatively on May 10.
 - B. Division of Mine Reclamation Report (Balestreri)
Filling in for DMR Supervisor Lindsay Whalin, Reporting Unit Manager April Balestreri provided an overview of recent DMR and Abandoned Mine Lands unit (AML) activities. The AML unit executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with State Parks on January 30 to formalize collaboration on abandoned mine safety and remediation. DMR staff participated in multiple February meetings related to the EPA Good Samaritan Program and national AML coordination efforts, including presentations on GIS tools and wildlife-friendly closure practices. Staff also attended the National Association of Abandoned Mine Lands winter business meeting and supported a national AML inventory workshop.

Upcoming activities include a site visit to the Mountain Pass Mine on April 2 and a Coordinated Outreach to Lead Agencies (COLA) meeting with Tulare County on April 6 to discuss SMARA roles and challenges. Additionally, DMR will host an inspection training workshop on May 13, with registration now open.
 - C. California Geological Survey Report (TBD)
Nothing to report.
6. **Chair Report (Sheingold)**
The Chair reported ongoing coordination with DOC and DMR staff and participation in three working groups developing potential future initiatives. He also joined board staff on a site visit to the Lapis Sand Mine in Marina to review reclamation efforts at the closed facility.
7. **Executive Officer Report (Schmidt)**
Executive Officer Jeffrey Schmidt reported continued progress on the Mining Ordinance Update project, with several counties nearing completion of their updated ordinances for potential Board comments at the next meeting. Rulemaking efforts are ongoing, including updates

related to SMARA Exemption 2714(f), seven mineral designation rulemaking packages, PRC 2207 annual reporting fees for lithium brine operations, and revisions to the Board's mineral classification and designation guidelines, which will incorporate a definition of critical minerals.

Additionally, staff recently presented to department leadership on the Board's history and current projects. Schmidt also announced the retirement of Clayton Haas, congratulated staff member Natalie Decio on her promotion to Analyst II, and recognized Chair Sheingold and Member Landregan for their reappointments to the Board.

During questions, Schmidt confirmed there is currently no known lithium production from geothermal brine operations at the Salton Sea and no timeline indicators for when production may begin. He also clarified that the updated definition of critical minerals will be included in the revised guidelines.

8. Geologist Report (Fry, Jones)

Geologist Mallory Jones reported that staff completed annual inspections for the 2025 cycle and are reviewing incoming financial assurance cost estimates (FACES). She noted ongoing work on the Spring Valley Reclamation Plan amendment and described a December 19 inspection at the Cemex Lapis Mine with DOC leadership and the Chair, where staff gave an overview of the history of the site and explained the inspection process.

Senior Geologist Paul Fry provided an update on the Pyrite Quarry stipulated order to comply. All benchmarks in the order have been met to date, and the operator submitted the required interim FACE on March 10. Fry explained that the team definitively identified the areas that were outside of the boundary during the January 30 inspection with a licensed surveyor. He also noted that issues related to imported fill and the site's pond remain under negotiation or pending operator decisions.

Regulatory Analyst Natalie Decio reported continued advancement of the Mining Ordinance Update Project. Shasta and Mendocino counties are finalizing draft ordinances for Board review, while San Bernardino County is preparing for its local adoption hearing. Decio highlighted the effectiveness of biweekly working meetings with Humboldt and San Diego counties, which have helped identify missing sections, resolve inconsistencies, and streamline the update process—an improvement over earlier, slower update cycles. Concluding the report, Decio summarized recent outreach and coordination efforts, including participation in COLA meetings, DOC orientations, working groups, and the DOC Discoveries Expo.

Following the report, there were several follow up questions and discussions. Board members briefly brought up outstanding issues at the Pyrite Quarry, the permitting framework for Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) sand-mining operations, the timeline for upcoming ordinance-update cohorts, and whether any lead agencies may require additional encouragement to stay on track. Staff clarified that water-quality matters at the Pyrite Quarry have been referred to the Water Board, and the Board's role in the BCDC dredge mining is essentially limited to financial assurance review. Additionally, future lead agency groups for ordinance updates are already identified, with outdated ordinances often signaling where additional support may be needed.

9. Ex-Parte Communication Disclosure

Board Members will identify any discussions they may have had requiring disclosure pursuant to Public Resources Code Sections 663.1 and 663.2.

No ex-parte communications disclosed.

10. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

11. Consent Items

All the items appearing under this section will be acted upon by the Board by one motion and without discussion; however, any Board member wishing to discuss any item may request the Chair to remove the item from the consent calendar and consider it separately.

- A. Consideration and approval of minutes for the Regular Business Meeting held on:
November 20, 2025

The Board considered approval of the November 2025 meeting minutes. Member Jung moved to adopt the minutes, and Vice Chair Kenline seconded the motion. Members Driscoll, Holst, Jung, Zafir, Vice Chair Kenline, and Chair Sheingold voted in favor; Member Whyte abstained; Members Landregan and Los Huertos were absent. The motion passed with six votes in favor and one abstention.

Following the vote Member Driscoll requested that draft minutes be provided sooner after each meeting to allow for more timely review. Staff confirmed they can accommodate this change moving forward.

12. Regular Business Items

- A. Consideration and adoption of the 2025 Annual Mine Fee Schedule pursuant to Public Resources Code section 2207.

Senior Geologist Paul Fry and Assistant Director of Administration Clayton Haas presented the proposed 2025 annual mine fee schedule, explaining statutory requirements under PRC 2207, cost-of-living adjustments, and the need to maintain adequate funding for SMARA programs. It was noted that the overall revenue need increased by approximately \$380,000 due to higher DMR expenditures, a significant rise in statewide pro rata charges, and the need to replenish the prudent reserve. Graphs illustrating operator distribution across fee categories and year-to-year fee changes were reviewed. Staff recommended adoption of the updated fee schedule.

Following the presentation, Member Jung moved to adopt the 2025 fee schedule, and Member Holst seconded the motion. Members Driscoll, Holst, Jung, Whyte, Zafir, Vice Chair Kenline, and Chair Sheingold voted in favor. Members Landregan and Los Huertos were absent. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Presentations, Reports, and Informational Items

- A. *SMARA@50: Documenting Fifty Years of California Reclamation*
(Adam Harper, California Construction and Industrial Materials Association (CalCIMA))

CalCIMA representative Adam Harper presented an overview of the statewide "SMARA 50" initiative, which aims to document and highlight 50 years of reclamation outcomes under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act. He described the effort as a historical and public-information project intended to capture how reclamation has functioned in practice, preserve institutional memory, and showcase successful post-mining land uses across California. The initiative will include outreach to lead agencies, operators, and stakeholders; development of an archival record using modern tools such as Google Earth; and a reclamation recognition program to highlight exemplary projects.

Harper emphasized the Board's central role in SMARA's development and implementation and invited Board participation in sharing historical context, materials, and perspectives. He noted that award submissions are expected by June 1, with recognition planned at CalCIMA's 2026 annual conference.

Board members engaged in discussion about the initiative's goals, examples of reclaimed sites, agricultural reclamation practices, and the challenges of reconstructing historical records. Questions also touched on comparisons with other states, the importance of documenting end uses, and the value of agency involvement in preserving long-term institutional knowledge. Harper indicated that CalCIMA intends to gather broad input before offering recommendations on future improvements to SMARA implementation.

B. SMARA in Action: Effective Mine Reclamation Under SMGB Authority
(SMGB Staff)

Senior Geologist Paul Fry presented two examples of reclamation projects under the Board's lead-agency authority, highlighting how SMARA requirements translate into on-the-ground restoration outcomes. He began by outlining the Board's responsibilities as a SMARA lead agency, noting that the Board oversees 49 mining operations across several jurisdictions.

Fry first discussed the Cemex Lapis Plant in Marina, a former coastal sand mine with operations dating back to 1906. He described the site's phased reclamation following a settlement agreement requiring cessation of mining, habitat restoration, and eventual land use for conservation purposes. Portions of the mine have already met reclamation performance standards, with financial assurances released for reclaimed areas. He showed examples of restored habitat, removal of mining infrastructure, and natural recovery of the former dredge pond. Fry noted that decisions about public access and preservation of historic structures are still under negotiation between the operator and conservation groups.

Fry then presented the Wheatland Clay Pit in Yuba County, where mining occurred on prime agricultural land. After removal of a shallow clay layer, the operator replaced topsoil and replanted orchards as required by the reclamation plan. The site has been fully restored to agricultural use, with inspections confirming successful reclamation in 2021.

Following the presentation, Board members discussed the value of public access to reclaimed sites, opportunities for interpretive signage, and the importance of showcasing successful reclamation to the public. Members also reflected on the broader history of mining in California, and the scale of major restoration projects such as the Hallwood floodplain restoration. Additional questions addressed future land uses, the prevalence and applications of clay mining, and comparisons to reclamation practices in other states.

14. Executive Session (Closed to the Public)

No executive session was held.

15. Announcements and Future Meetings

Deputy Attorney General Nicole Rinke announced that a public comment letter related to Item 12A (the annual mine fee schedule) was received the day before the meeting. The letter was distributed to Board members, made available in hard copy at the meeting, and will be posted online following the meeting. Additionally, Executive Officer Schmidt announced that the next Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 16.

16. Adjournment

Member Jung moved to adjourn, seconded by Member Whyte. Chair Sheingold declared the motion unanimously approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 A.M.

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Seismic Hazards Mapping Act

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Agenda Item No. 12A

June 18, 2026

Consideration of preliminary regulatory language and approval to start pre-rulemaking activities for the Board's designation of mineral lands in Merced County.

BACKGROUND:

Special Report 252 (SR 252) – “Update of the Mineral Land Classification for Concrete Aggregate Resources of Merced County, California” was released by the California Geological Survey (CGS) in 2021 and accepted by the State Mining and Geology Board (Board) May 20, 2021. SR 252 is an update to a mineral land classification (MLC) study of concrete aggregate resources in the Merced County Region. SR 252 identified 10 areas (herein referred to as “Sectors”) that the Board elected to designate as areas of regional significance based on the recommendations of the CGS.

STATUTORY AND REGULATORY AUTHORITY:

Public Resources Code (PRC) Sections 2755 and 2790 authorize the Board to adopt regulations. Specifically, PRC Section 2790 authorizes the Board to designate areas of regional significance in its regulations upon the receipt of mineral information from the State Geologist.

“Area of regional significance” means an area designated by the Board pursuant to PRC Section 2790 which is known to contain a deposit of minerals, the extraction of which is judged to be of prime importance in meeting future needs for minerals in a particular region of the state within which the minerals are located and which, if prematurely developed for alternate incompatible land uses, could result in the permanent loss of minerals that are of more than local significance (PRC Section 2726).

DISCUSSION:

Board staff consulted with the Department of Conservation to prepare the preliminary regulatory language for the purposes of pre-rulemaking outreach activities. If incorporated into the California Code of Regulations (CCR) as Section 3550.19, the proposed designation could result in the conservation of approximately 1.19 billion tons of concrete aggregate resources in Merced County.

Board staff requests consideration of preliminary regulatory language and approval to proceed with pre-rulemaking activities. Pre-rulemaking activities will include outreach workshops with affected lead agencies and the public to discuss the preliminary regulatory language and potential impacts of the designation of regionally significant mineral lands in Merced County. The information gathered during pre-rulemaking outreach will guide Board staff in preparing documents required for rulemaking under the Administrative Procedures Act.

ATTACHMENTS AND LINKS:

Please see the attached documents and links for your review:

1. Proposed preliminary regulatory language for new CCR Section 3550.19
2. [Designation Map Plate 1](#)
3. [Designation Memo](#)
4. [Special Report 252](#)

EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the preliminary regulatory language and direct Board staff to proceed with pre-rulemaking activities.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Board Chair and Members, in light of the information before the Board today, I move that the Board approve the preliminary regulatory language for the Board's designation of mineral lands in Merced County, and direct Board staff to proceed with the pre-rulemaking activities.

Respectfully submitted:



Jeffrey Schmidt

Executive Officer

MERCED COUNTY MINERAL DESIGNATION REGULATIONS

TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS

Added text is shown in underline.

Deleted text is shown in ~~strikethrough~~.

**CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 14
Division 2. Department of Conservation
Chapter 8. Mining and Geology
Subchapter 1. State Mining and Geology Board
Article 2. Areas Designated to be of Regional Significance**

**§ 3550.19. Concrete Aggregate Resources of Merced County Production
Consumption Region**

The State Geologist classified concrete aggregate resources for the Update of the Mineral Land Classification for Concrete Aggregate Resources of Merced County, California in Special Report 252 (2021). The areas designated are shown on Plate 1 – Designation Map for Concrete Aggregate in Merced County (2026). Plate 1 is incorporated by reference into this regulation. This map is available from the State Mining and Geology Board's office in Sacramento.

Urban expansion continues in the region, threatening to preclude mineral resource extraction. Consequently, it is important that land-use decisions be made recognizing the presence and importance of local aggregate resources. The purpose of the designation is to provide local governments with the information needed to identify and protect areas of construction aggregate from development incompatible with mining. This information is particularly important because the populated communities in Merced County are geographically dispersed and depend on a local aggregate supply. Protection of these resources will allow aggregate to be transported to this region via the shortest distance possible for use. This will reduce transportation impacts including greenhouse gas emissions, air pollution, traffic congestion, and road wear and tear. Without this designation, areas with minerals and areas surrounding minerals may be developed in ways

that are incompatible with mining. As a result, concrete aggregate would have to be transported over longer distances, increasing cost and adverse environmental impacts.

Sector A: Garzas Creek, Quaternary Patterson alluvium deposits of Garzas Creek bound by the Stanislaus-Merced County line to the west and continues downstream about 1.5 miles to the east.

Sector B: Los Banos Valley, Quaternary Patterson alluvium deposits of Los Banos Creek for about 6 miles upstream of Los Banos Reservoir.

Sector C: Los Banos Creek Fan, Quaternary Patterson alluvium deposits of Los Banos Creek alluvial fan east of Los Banos Reservoir and Interstate 5.

Sector D: Lower Merced River, Quaternary Post-Modesto stream channel and terrace deposits of the Merced River northeast of the town of Livingston.

Sector E: Central Merced River, Quaternary Post-Modesto stream channel and terrace deposits of the Merced River and historic gold mine dredge tailings about 7 miles northeast of the town of Winton.

Sector F: Upper Merced River, Quaternary Post-Modesto stream channel and terrace deposits of the Merced River near the town of Snelling.

Sector G: Kelsey Ranch, Historic gold dredge tailings of the Merced River west of Lake McClure and the town of Merced Falls.

Sector H: Bear Creek, Quaternary Post-Modesto stream channel deposits of Bear Creek north of Highway 140 and west of the Merced-Mariposa County line.

Sector I: Mariposa Creek, Quaternary Post-Modesto stream channel deposits of Mariposa Creek east of the town of Le Grand.

Sector J: Basalt Hill, Miocene Basalt Hill basalt deposits south of San Luis Reservoir.

Credits

Note: Authority cited: Section 2790, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 2726, 2761-2763 and 2790-2791, Public Resources Code.



Agenda Item No. 12B

June 18, 2026

Consideration of preliminary regulatory language and approval to start pre-rulemaking activities for the Board's termination of some previously designated mineral lands in the Saugus-Newhall and San Fernando Valley Production Consumption Regions.

BACKGROUND:

Special Report 254 (SR 254) – “Update of the Mineral Land Classification for Portland Cement Concrete Aggregate Resources in the San Fernando Valley and Saugus-Newhall Production-Consumption Regions” was released by the California Geological Survey (CGS) in 2021 and accepted by the State Mining and Geology Board (Board) on August 19, 2021. SR 254 reevaluates the Portland cement concrete aggregate resources within the San Fernando Valley and Saugus-Newhall Production-Consumption (P-C) Regions and serves as an update to the findings presented in Special Report 143 parts I, II (1979), and V (1987) and Open-File Report (OFR) 94-14 (1994).

New mineral lands were not identified for designation in SR 254. However, existing sector boundaries were revised, and the Board elected to either partially or wholly terminate previously designated areas of regional significance based on the recommendations of the CGS. These revisions account for urbanization of the previously designated mineral lands that now preclude future surface mining operations.

STATUTORY AND REGULATORY AUTHORITY:

Public Resources Code (PRC) Sections 2755 and 2793 authorize the Board to adopt regulations. Specifically, PRC Section 2793 authorizes the Board to terminate, partially or wholly, the designation of any area of statewide or regional significance on a finding that the direct involvement of the Board is no longer required.

DISCUSSION:

Board staff consulted with the Department of Conservation to prepare the preliminary regulatory language for the purposes of pre-rulemaking outreach activities. These revisions account for urbanization that would preclude mining of existing regionally significant mineral lands. If incorporated into California Code of Regulations (CCR) Sections 3550.1 and 3550.9, the proposed rulemaking could result in the termination of approximately 126 acres of mineral lands in San Fernando Valley P-C Region and approximately 1,630 acres of mineral lands in the Saugus-Newhall P-C Regions.

Board staff requests consideration of preliminary language and Board approval to proceed with pre-rulemaking activities. Pre-rulemaking activities will include outreach workshops with affected lead agencies and the public to discuss the regulatory text and potential impacts of termination of designated areas of regionally significant mineral lands in the Saugus-Newhall and San Fernando Valley Production Consumption Regions. The information gathered during pre-rulemaking outreach will guide Board staff in preparing documents required for rulemaking under the Administrative Procedures Act.

ATTACHMENTS AND LINKS:

Please see the attached documents and links for your review:

1. Proposed preliminary regulatory language for CCR Sections 3550.1 and 3550.9

2. [Designation Map Plate 1](#)
3. [Special Report 254](#)

EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the preliminary regulatory language and direct Board staff to proceed with pre-rulemaking activities.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Board Chair and Members, in light of the information before the Board today, I move that the Board approve the preliminary regulatory language for the Board's termination of some previously designated mineral lands in the Saugus-Newhall and San Fernando Valley Production Consumption Regions, and direct Board staff to proceed with the pre-rulemaking process.

Respectfully submitted:



Jeffrey Schmidt
Executive Officer

§ 3550.01 and § 3550.09 MINERAL DESIGNATION REGULATIONS

TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS

Added text is shown in underline.

Deleted text is shown in ~~strikethrough~~.

**CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 14
Division 2. Department of Conservation
Chapter 8. Mining and Geology
Subchapter 1. State Mining and Geology Board
Article 2. Areas Designated to be of Regional Significance**

§ 3550.01. Tujunga and Pacoima Wash Areas of the San Fernando Valley Region, Los Angeles County.

On January 7, 1981, following a December 11, 1980, public hearing, the Mining and Geology Board designated Sectors A, B, C, and D of the Tujunga and Pacoima Wash areas to be of regional significance. These sector boundaries were revised and partially terminated in the Update of the Mineral Land Classification for Portland Cement Concrete Aggregate Resources in the San Fernando Valley and Saugus-Newhall Production-Consumption Regions, Los Angeles County, California, Special Report 254 (2021) because certain areas are no longer compatible with mining. The revised sector areas designated are shown on Plate 1 – Designation Map for Concrete Aggregate in in the San Fernando Valley and Saugus-Newhall Production-Consumption Regions (2026). This Plate is incorporated by reference into this regulation. The map is available from the State Mining and Geology Board's office in Sacramento.

In general, these sectors are described as follows:

- (1) Sector A -- Tujunga Valley east of the Hansen Dam flood control basin, west of the 210 freeway and excluding identified archaeological sites;
- (2) Sector B -- the Hansen Dam Area;
- (3) Sector C -- an area southwest of Hansen Dam; and
- (4) Sector D -- Pacoima Wash north of Lopez Dam.

These sectors contain sand and gravel deposits which provide a source of construction aggregate for the region's future need.

~~Designation Map #81-1 and a report summarizing the designation findings of the State Mining and Geology Board are on file at the Board's office in Sacramento.~~

Credits

Note: Authority cited: Section 2790 and 2793, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 2726, 2761-2763 and 2790-2793, Public Resources Code.

§ 3550.09. Construction Aggregate Resources, Saugus-Newhall and Palmdale Regions.

Sector boundaries in the Saugus-Newhall and San Fernando Region were revised, either partially or wholly terminated, in the Update of the Mineral Land Classification for Portland Cement Concrete Aggregate Resources in the San Fernando Valley and Saugus-Newhall Production-Consumption Regions, Los Angeles County, California, Special Report 254 (2021).

A set of maps identifying the exact locations of the designated resources areas ~~entitled "Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources Areas in Saugus-Newhall and Palmdale Production-Consumption Region"~~ is are incorporated by reference into this regulation and are listed below. These maps are available from the State Mining and Geology Board's office in Sacramento.

Palmdale Region: Regionally Significant Construction Aggregate Resources Areas in Saugus-Newhall and Palmdale Production-Consumption Region, SMARA Designation Map No. 85-3, Plates 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

Saugus-Newhall and San Fernando Region: Designation Map for Concrete Aggregate in the San Fernando Valley and Saugus-Newhall Production-Consumption Regions (2026), Plate 1.

The construction aggregate deposits in the following areas are designated as being of regional significance:

~~Sector A-Portions of the Santa Clara River and its immediate flood plain extending from the Los Angeles County Line to Bee Canyon, parts of Castaic Creek, and Oak Spring Canyon.~~

Sector A-1- Alluvial deposits of the Santa Clara River Valley extending from the Los Angeles County line to southeast of Castaic Junction.

Sector A-2- Alluvial deposits of the Santa Clara River Valley located west of Castaic Junction.

Sector A-3- Alluvial deposits of the Santa Clara River Valley extending from Castaic Junction north to Castaic Lagoon.

Sector A-4- Alluvial deposits of the Santa Clara River Valley located in a small area southeast of Castaic Junction.

Sector A-5- Alluvial deposits of the Santa Clara River Valley extending east of Castaic Junction to Bouquet Junction.

Sector A-7- Alluvial deposits of the Santa Clara River Valley extending from Bouquet Junction southeast ~3.6 miles to where Soledad Canyon Road crosses the Santa Clara River.

Sector A-8- Alluvial deposits of the Santa Clara River Valley located in the area between Soledad Canyon Road and Sierra Highway south of Canyon Country.

Sector A-9- Alluvial deposits of the Santa Clara River Valley located in the area between Sierra Highway and the Antelope Valley Freeway south of Solemint.

Sector A-10- Alluvial deposits of the Santa Clara River Valley extending east from the Antelope Valley Freeway ~1.3 miles to north of Sand Canyon.

Sector A-11- Alluvial deposits of the Santa Clara River Valley extending from north of Sand Canyon east to Bee Canyon.

Sector A-12- Alluvial deposits of the Santa Clara River Valley extending from southeast of Oak Spring Canyon and continues southeast 1 and two-thirds mile.

~~Sector B- An area bounded by Bee Canyon on the northwest, the Santa Clara River to the south, and extending approximately one mile east of the Agua Dulce Canyon; and a triangle-shaped area with a boundary extending from the mouth of Pole Canyon west along an old railroad grade, south to Oak Spring Canyon then northeast back to the mouth of Pole Canyon.~~

Sector B-1- Interbedded sedimentary deposits located in a triangular area extending from Pole Canyon southwest 2.5 miles, north-northwest 1.7 miles to the railroad, then east-northeast to Pole Canyon.

Sector B-2- Interbedded sedimentary deposits located in a triangular area extending from Bee Canyon northeast, bound by Agua Dulce Canyon on the east and the Santa Clara River to the south.

Sector B-3- Interbedded sedimentary deposits located in an area bound by Agua Dulce Canyon to the east and the Santa Clara River to the south. Extends ~1.15 miles to the east of Agua Dulce Canyon and 1.25 miles north of the Santa Clara River.

Sector C-A triangular area beginning at the mouth of Pole Canyon, running southeast along the canyon to Oak Spring Canyon then southwest to Coyote Canyon, turning northeast to close the triangle back at the mouth of Pole Canyon.

Sector C-1- Intrusive igneous rocks located in in a triangular area extending from Pole Canyon southeast 2.5 miles to the P-C region boundary, continuing southwest for 4.25 miles along the P-C region boundary, then northeast back to Pole Canyon.

Sector D-An area north of the California Aqueduct whose eastern boundary is along Little Rock Wash then turns west approximately one mile north of Boundary Avenue. The western boundary runs south near 47th Street and Fort-Tejon Road.

Sector E-An area of the Big Rock Wash bounded by the aqueduct on the south, North 165th Street on the east, Palmdale Boulevard on the north, and 116th Street on the west.

Credits

Note: Authority cited: Section 2790 and 2793, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 2726, 2761-2763 and 2790-2793, Public Resources Code.



Agenda Item No. 13A

June 18th, 2026

Presentation: *V-Eagle Critical Materials Project*

by: Richard Dunham, President & Co-Founder, VTRU Corporation

INFORMATION:

V-Eagle Critical Materials Project is a commercial-scale, separation-only rare earth and zirconium/hafnium facility planned for California's Mojave-Barstow corridor, producing nine individualized oxides at 4N-5N purity to address limited domestic heavy REE and Zr/Hf separation capacity for defense, nuclear, and clean-energy supply chains.



Agenda Item No. 13B

June 18th, 2026

Presentation: *Mining Ordinance Update Project, Progress Update*
by: SMGB staff

INFORMATION:

Board staff will provide an update on the Mining Ordinance Update Project, reporting on progress with the first group of lead agencies, the status of current ordinance reviews, and the planned outreach to the second group.