

APPENDIX A

INITIAL STUDY AND NOC/NOP

APPENDIX A-1
INITIAL STUDY



ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

CEMEX ELIOT QUARRY (SMP-23)
RECLAMATION PLAN AMENDMENT PROJECT
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

1. Project Title:

Eliot Quarry SMP-23 Reclamation Plan Amendment Project

2. Lead Agency Name and Address:

Alameda County (County) Community Development Agency
224 West Winton Avenue, Room 111
Hayward, California 94544-1215

3. Contact Person and Phone Number:

Mr. Bruce Jensen, Senior Planner
Alameda County Planning Department
224 W. Winton Avenue, Suite 111
Hayward, CA 94544
Telephone: (510) 670-5400
E-mail: bruce.jensen@acgov.org

4. Project Location & APN:

The project site is located at 1544 Stanley Boulevard and consists of approximately 920 acres situated between the cities of Pleasanton and Livermore, south of Interstate 580 and Stanley Boulevard in the Livermore-Amador Valley, north of Vineyard Avenue, and both east and west of Isabel Avenue (State Route 84 [SR 84]) (See Figure 1, "Regional Location Map").

The project site includes Alameda County Assessor's parcel numbers (APNs) 904-6-1-18, 904-6-2 (part), 904-8-1-3 (part), 904-8-1-2, 904-8-2-5, 946-1350-9-12, 946-1350-9-19, 946-1350-10-5, 946-4598-19, 950-6-3-9, 950-6-1-5, and 99-290-11-7.

5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address:

RMC Pacific Materials, LLC, a wholly owned entity of CEMEX (hereafter "CEMEX"), is the project sponsor and current owner/operator of the Eliot Quarry.

CEMEX
c/o Yasha Saber
Compass Land Group
3140 Peacekeeper Way, Suite 102
McClellan, CA 95652
Telephone: (916) 825-4997
E-mail: ysaber@compassland.net

6. General Plan Designation:

The project site is designated on the Alameda County General Plan (County General Plan), East County Area Plan (ECAP) diagram, as "Large Parcel Agricultural" and "Water Management." The Water Management land use designation provides for sand and gravel quarries, reclaimed quarry lakes, watershed lands, arroyos, and similar and compatible uses. Sand and gravel quarries allow a range of uses including sand and gravel

processing, associated manufacturing and recycling uses requiring proximity to quarries, reclamation pits and public use areas.

The ECAP contains land use policies pertaining to quarries and Regionally Significant Aggregate Resource Areas. The goal for these special land use policies is to “recognize the regional value of the County's construction aggregate resources and to ensure compatibility between quarry operations and surrounding land uses.”

The ECAP also contains policies that place strict limits on where new mine excavations may be conducted. ECAP Policy 155 provides that, “Except to the extent required by State law, no new quarry or other open-pit mine may be approved by the County outside the Urban Growth Boundary, unless approved by the voters of Alameda County. Excavation not adjacent to an existing quarry site and on the same or an adjoining parcel shall be regarded as a new quarry.” The project does not propose a new quarry.

7. Zoning:

The zoning for the project site is principally Agriculture, but portions of the site also include Unclassified and Planned Development. Mining activities may be permitted within any County zoning designation, including lands designated as Agricultural, subject to the provisions of the County Surface Mining and Reclamation Ordinance.

As the local land use authority, Alameda County authorizes mining activities on unincorporated lands through the issuance of Surface Mining Permits and approval of reclamation plans pursuant to Alameda County Code of Ordinances, Title 6: Health and Safety, Section 6.80: Surface Mining and Reclamation. The provisions of the County's Surface Mining and Reclamation apply to all lands within the County, both public and private. As provided by this ordinance, surface mining operations are permitted only upon County approval of a surface mining permit (or existence of vested rights), reclamation plan, and financial assurances for reclamation.

8. Description of Project:

The project is a modification of an approved reclamation plan project, Surface Mining Permit 23 (SMP-23), for a vested mining operation. Except as outlined below, CEMEX proposes no change to any fundamental element of the existing operation (e.g., mining methods, processing operations, production levels, truck traffic, hours of operation).

CEMEX operates the Eliot facility. CEMEX's mining operation at the Eliot site is vested as documented in Alameda County (County) Quarry Permits Q-1 (1957), Q-4 (1957), Q-76 (1969), and subsequent County documents. In 1987, the County approved SMP-23 for the Eliot facility. As mining activities are a vested right, SMP-23 does not authorize mining activities at the site. SMP-23 was approved pursuant to the California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) and the Alameda County Surface Mining Ordinance (ACSMO). The SMP-23 Reclamation Plan is the “approved reclamation plan” currently applicable to the site.

Changes in circumstances at the site and in applicable regulatory requirements have necessitated the preparation of an amended reclamation plan that addresses these changes and provides reclamation objectives that can be feasibly accomplished and permitted by regulatory agencies. In considering the application and the discretionary action of approving the proposed reclamation plan amendment (the “proposed project” or “project”), the County is required to conduct environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

In evaluating the environmental impacts associated with a project, a lead agency must determine the baseline against which the environmental impacts will be evaluated. Normally, this is the existing setting. However, the courts have recognized that CEQA does not mandate that existing conditions always be used as a baseline, but rather that agencies retain the discretion to decide “exactly how the existing physical conditions without the project can most realistically be measured....” (See, e.g., *Communities for a Better Environment v. South Coast Air Quality Mgt. Dist.* [2010] 48 Cal.4th 310, 328.) In particular, when a project involves a modification of a previously approved project that underwent CEQA review, the appropriate baseline may consist of the conditions permitted under the previously approved entitlements as opposed to existing conditions on the ground. (See, e.g., *Communities for a Better Environment v. South Coast Air Quality Management Dist.* (2010)

48 Cal.4th 310, 326; *Fairview Neighbors v. County of Ventura* (1999) 70 Cal.App.4th 238, 240-241.) Such an approach is consistent with CEQA's policy of avoiding redundancy in environmental review. (See e.g., Public Resources Code Section 21003[e].) In this situation, the County will use the existing setting as the baseline, which is a conservative approach.

The project site underwent environmental review under CEQA, as documented in the Livermore-Amador Valley Quarry Area Reclamation Plan (LAVQAR Specific Plan) EIR (LAVQAR EIR), which was written in 1979, addended in 1980, and certified in 1981. Under the Supreme Court standard set out in *College of San Mateo Gardens v. San Mateo County Community College District*, the County determined that the LAVQAR EIR is relevant and retains informational value. Accordingly, the County has determined that a subsequent EIR (SEIR), as described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162, should be used for this evaluation. The California Supreme Court has stated that the purpose behind a subsequent EIR is to "explore environmental impacts not considered in the original environmental document." (*Friends of the College of San Mateo Gardens v. San Mateo County Community College District* (2016) 1 Cal.5th 937, 949.) The LAVQAR EIR is available for review on the County's website (www.acgov.org) or by request from the County.

Accordingly, the SEIR for the proposed project will evaluate the potential impacts associated with the reclamation plan amendment that were not previously considered in the LAVQAR EIR. Applying the most recent criteria set forth in CEQA Guidelines, Section 15162, the SEIR will evaluate the environmental impacts associated with changed circumstances, new information that was not known and could not have been known at the time of the earlier CEQA evaluation, and proposed revisions to SMP-23. SMP-23 includes the retention of Lakes A and B after mining and the dedication of these lakes to Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Zone 7 (hereafter referred to as "Zone 7") as designated by the LAVQAR Specific Plan. SMP-23 also includes an optional lake (referred to as "Lake J") near the current processing plant site that would be backfilled as part of ongoing mining and processing operations prior to reclamation. The lakes are located on-site as described below (see Figure 2, "Site Location"):

- Lake A is a mined area located north of Vineyard Avenue, between Isabel Avenue/SR 84 and Vallecitos Road. Lake A has not been mined to the full extent anticipated in the approved SMP-23. No further mining is planned in Lake A.
- Lake B is a mined area located north of Vineyard Avenue, west of Isabel Avenue/SR 84. Lake B has not been mined to the full extent anticipated in SMP-23. In fact, portions of Lake B as identified in the approved reclamation plan now include a segment of Vineyard Avenue and residential development to the south of Vineyard Avenue, which will no longer be subject to mining.
- As currently approved, the southeast end of a future "Lake C," west of Isabel Avenue and north of Lake B, is to extend into the approved reclamation plan area north of the eastern portion of Lake B.
- The Lake J area is located in the northwestern portion of the site, to the south of Stanley Boulevard and to the east of the Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area. Mining is ongoing in this area, and processing facilities that had been located there were relocated to areas south of the Lake J mining area. When reclaimed, Lake J would not be part of the Chain of Lakes and would not be granted to Zone 7. Lake J was never a part of the Chain of Lakes. Lake J was specified as Option #2 in the approved SMP-23. As part of the proposed project, Lake J would be backfilled with overburden and process wash fines during the course of mining elsewhere at the site and returned to open space and/or agriculture.

The 1981 LAVQAR Specific Plan includes an option that depicts rerouting the Arroyo del Valle (ADV) along the southern boundaries of Lake A and Lake B. However, SMP-23 provides for the ADV to be eliminated in the project reach and diverted into the eastern end of Lake A and then into Lake B over spillways. The original concept for the diversion/elimination of the ADV, which would be subject to federal and state regulatory agency authorizations, has not been implemented by CEMEX.

After SMP-23 was approved, CEMEX's predecessor prepared plans for water conveyance facilities. Those plans, which the County subsequently approved, have not been implemented. Those water conveyance facilities include:

- a 40-foot concrete spillway collecting flows from the ADV (under Vallecitos Road) before those flows

- descend 50 feet, at a slope of 2:1, into Lake A;
- an earth- and rock-lined structure to collect overflows within Lake A before conveying them under Isabel Avenue/SR 84 in a 40-foot concrete spillway to Lake B;
- an underground concrete pipe between Lake A and Lake C, which terminates at a spillway dropping water up to 70 feet down a 2:1 slope;
- an underground 30-inch concrete pipe between Lake C and Lake B; and
- a concrete and riprap apron along the western boundary of Lake B allowing overflow to continue down the ADV channel.

Since approval of SMP-23, significant changes have occurred in both the regulatory setting that applies to the project site and physical conditions near the project site that make SMP-23 infeasible (e.g., new regulations related to biological resources, residential development in neighboring areas, widening of Isabel Avenue/SR 84). The changed circumstances prompted County staff to recommend that the approved reclamation plan be revised to reflect the changed physical and regulatory conditions and to ensure that reclamation is feasible and carried out in harmony with all controlling regulatory requirements. In addition, CEMEX wants to remove the previously approved concrete spillways from the reclamation plan because the spillways are not environmentally sensitive and would create new barriers for future potential fish passage.

Mining in the Lake A area, north of the ADV, began in the late 1990s. SMP-23 was originally approved when the property to the north of Lake A was zoned agricultural and was within the jurisdiction of the County. Over the years, the property was annexed to the City of Livermore, the zoning was changed to residential, and houses were built adjacent to Lake A.

To accommodate mining, the ADV along the southern boundary of Lake A was relocated to the south in the mid-1990s with the authorization of a Section 1602 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Game (under Notification 1600-2004-0214-3), now the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. That agreement expired on December 31, 2009.

Mining in the Lake A area continued until approximately 2003, when CEMEX's predecessors-in-interest discontinued mining to address neighborhood concerns caused by a subsurface slide. All Lake A slopes are currently 2:1 (horizontal to vertical) or flatter with maximum depths of 100 feet below ground surface (bgs).

Mining of Lake B and Lake J is in progress pursuant to CEMEX's vested rights and the approved SMP-23.

Under the proposed project, CEMEX proposes a revised reclamation plan that serves to adjust reclamation boundaries and contours, enhance drainage and water conveyance facilities, incorporate a pedestrian and bike trail, and achieve current surface mining reclamation standards. The planned postmining end uses are water management, open space, and agriculture (nonprime). See Figure 3, "Reclamation Plan End Use Overview."

The project would include modifications to the reclamation of Lakes A and B, which are the first two lakes in the Chain of Lakes pursuant to the LAVQAR Specific Plan. Consistent with prior approvals, upon reclamation, Lake A and Lake B, along with their appurtenant water conveyance facilities, would be dedicated to Zone 7 for water storage, conveyance, and recharge management.

No further mining would occur in Lake A. Lake A reclamation would include:

- installation of a surface water diversion from the ADV to Lake A;
- conversion of a berm in Lake A, which blocks water, to a small island, which would allow water to flow across the lake;
- installation of a water conveyance pipeline from Lake A to future Lake C (located off-site to the northwest); and
- an overflow outlet to allow water to flow back into ADV when Lake A water levels are high, to prevent flooding in the localized area.

The final surface area of Lake A would be 81 acres, as compared to 208 acres in the existing SMP-23.

Lake B reclamation would include:

- installation of a pipeline turnout from Lake A,
- a water pipeline conduit to future Lake C, and
- an overflow outlet to allow water to flow back into ADV when Lake B water levels are high.

The final bottom elevation of Lake B is proposed at 150 feet above mean sea level (msl) (compared to 250 feet msl under the existing SMP-23) to maximize the available aggregate resource. The final surface area of Lake B would be 208 acres as compared to 243 acres in the SMP-23.

To facilitate the southerly progression of Lake B, the proposed project includes realignment and restoration of an approximately 5,800-linear-foot reach of the ADV. The proposed ADV realignment would result in an enhanced riparian corridor that flows around, rather than through, Lake B, which is anticipated under SMP-23. (See Figure 4, "Realigned Arroyo del Valle Concept.") The ADV realignment was contemplated in the LAVQAR Specific Plan and subject to environmental review in the LAVQAR EIR.

Outside of Lakes A and B, reclamation treatment for other disturbed areas, including the Lake J excavation (not part of the Chain of Lakes), processing plant sites, and process water ponds would involve backfills and/or grading for a return to open space and/or agriculture.

As stated in CEMEX's March 4, 2019 application, and later expanded during preparation of this Initial Study, the project includes the following basic objectives:

1. Address the requirements of Condition 7 of County Resolution No. 12-20.
2. Realign and restore an approximately 5,800-foot reach of the Arroyo del Valle (ADV) resulting in an enhanced riparian corridor that flows south of, rather than through (as currently anticipated in SMP-23), Lake B.
3. Maximize the extraction of the remaining available on-site sand and gravel resources through the anticipated reclamation end date of 2056, including a change in the final bottom elevation of excavation in Lake B to 150 feet msl.
4. Continue to supply the regional demands for Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) grade aggregate.
5. Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and the related air emissions by retaining a local source of aggregate.
6. Carry out the objectives of the LAVQAR and Zone 7 Agreement for implementation of the Chain of Lakes on the portions of land controlled by CEMEX.
7. Implement a public use pedestrian and bike trail on the southern perimeter of the CEMEX property.
8. Implement the proposed reclamation plan amendment to establish end uses of water management, open space, and nonprime agriculture in accordance with the California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) (Public Resources Code 2710, et seq.).

9. Environmental Setting:

In addition to the environmental setting described above, the predominant land uses near the site are aggregate mining, recreational, and residential. A separate mine operated by Vulcan Materials Company (subject to separate reclamation entitlements referred to as "SMP-16") abuts the site's eastern and northern border of Lake B. The ADV flows along the southern border from southeast to northwest, and is currently, but not historically, separate from the active operating areas at the Eliot Quarry. The East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) Shadow Cliffs Recreation Area, also a reclaimed surface mine, abuts the site's western border. The Ruby Hills subdivision and other residential developments in the city of Pleasanton are located across Vineyard Avenue to the south of the ADV and Lake B. Residential uses are also located in the city of Livermore to the north of Lake A.

10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval Is Required:

The discretionary actions for the County to consider include approval of an amendment to the existing reclamation plan (SMP-23), which was approved by Alameda County in 1987 and last amended in 2013, in compliance with SMARA.

Other public agencies whose approval may be necessary to implement the project, and who may need to rely on the project's CEQA documentation pursuant to their subsequent decision making, include the:

- California Department of Conservation, Division of Mine Reclamation (reclamation plan amendment review and review and release of financial assurances);
- San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board (Section 401 certification and waste discharge requirements, as may be applicable, and Waters of the State permit);
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) (streambed alteration agreement and possibly California Endangered Species Act permit)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Section 7 consultation; which may result in the issuance of an incidental take statement)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Section 404 permit)
- National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) (Section 7 Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation)

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, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?

On April 8, 2019, the County provided formal notification of the project in accordance with PRC Section 21080.3.1(d) to potentially interested California Native American tribes. The County requested that the interested tribes request consultation within 30 days of your receipt of the formal notification. As of the date of this initial study, the County has not received any requests for notification.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/Forestry Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality | <input checked="" 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"/> Recreation | <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:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 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 or agreed to by the project proponent. _____ MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, 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. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 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. |

Signature

Date

I. AESTHETICS

| Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views (i.e., from a publicly accessible vantage point) of the site and its surroundings? In urbanized areas, would the project conflict with applicable zoning or other regulations governing scenic quality? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, aesthetic impacts were determined to be less than significant regarding the project's effects on the visual quality of the surrounding area and less than significant with mitigation regarding the project's impacts on the visual quality of the ADV area.

The approved project includes the following mitigation of aesthetic impacts (Alameda County 1980: 45):

- To mitigate loss of the natural Arroyo del Valle, a specific landscaping/design plan should be proposed by Lone Star Industries at the time their specific reclamation plan is submitted. The landscape/design plan should incorporate extensive revegetation of the channel banks to native species, perhaps a meandering channel alignment, and in general a restoration to as near a natural appearing watercourse as possible. Costs for this program should be borne by the company, as relocation is to occur solely to increase resource yield.
- Mitigation of adverse effects of 1:1 side slopes could occur by establishing 2:1 slopes as the norm, unless 1:1 can be shown to be beneficial, as discussed in Sections IV.C.1. Topography and IV.D.1 Land Use. Details of revegetation, slope treatments, and other aesthetic considerations involved in reclamation are most appropriately analyzed in future specific plans to be submitted by the individual operators.

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

The proposed project would adjust the boundaries and contours of the 1981 project, incorporate a public use pedestrian and bike trail, and realign and restore an approximately 5,800-linear-foot reach of the ADV.

Changed Circumstances

Since 1981, the project site has become more visible from public and private vantage points due to new public rights-of way (e.g., Isabel Avenue north of Stanley Boulevard), residential developments to the south (e.g., Ruby Hills south of Lake B), and residential developments to the north (e.g., Pulte Oaks and Kristopher Ranch north of Lake A).

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

Regarding checklist items a and b, the project is not located within the viewshed of a recognized scenic vista and is not located within a state scenic highway corridor (Caltrans 2015). Therefore, no additional analysis for these issues are required, and items a and b are eliminated from further consideration. The proposed reclamation plan amendment would likely improve views aesthetically compared to the existing conditions. However, because the proposed project will include facilities of a different nature than currently exist and public and private views of the site have increased, the County has decided to evaluate aesthetic impacts for items c and d in the checklist above as part of the SEIR.

II. AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

In determining whether agricultural 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: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|--|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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))? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, the approved project was determined to have a significant and unavoidable impact on agricultural resources; however, loss of prime agricultural soils was due to the quarrying operations and not the reclamation plan. The LAVQAR EIR determined the reclamation plan should be responsible for the mitigation of the impact. The approved project includes the following mitigation of impacts to agricultural resources (Alameda County 1980: 7-9):

- A drainage system would need to be designed to ensure adequate drainage of below-grade filled areas. Loss of prime and unique agricultural soils is due to the quarrying operations and not the Reclamation Plan, but the Plan should be responsible for mitigation of this impact. The Plan does propose that a 5 to 10-foot layer of soil be used to cover settling ponds. This measure should be made a requirement in Reclamation Plan implementation and it should be ensured that the top few feet of soil replaced consists of the richest topsoil. Uncapped settling ponds may also be viable for intensive agricultural use. Alameda County has recognized the loss of prime and unique agricultural soils as being an unavoidable adverse impact of quarrying but has determined that the sand and gravel resource is of sufficient economic importance to the County and region as to outweigh this impact.

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

The anticipated land use of the site after reclamation actions are completed includes, water management for the Lake A, Lake B, and future Lakes C and D areas, open space/agriculture in the northern reclamation area and open space within the riparian corridor of the ADV, which is consistent with the uses under the 1981 project. Further, the mitigation measure regarding replacement topsoil would be implemented under the proposed project. Therefore, the proposed project would not create a new or increased significant impact to agriculture.

Changed Circumstances

No changed circumstances related to the project would create a new or increased significant impact to agriculture. The surrounding area consists of lands zoned Large Parcel Agriculture and Water Management in the County's *East County Area Plan* (Alameda County 2002). These land uses are not changed circumstances that would create a new or increased significant impact to agriculture.

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

No additional agricultural analysis is required because the proposed project would not result in a new significant agricultural impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project, substantial changes with respect to project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. However, to ensure that potential impacts have been fully evaluated, the following impact analysis regarding potential impacts to agricultural resources is provided below.

Regarding items a and b, the project site is designated on the *Alameda County General Plan* (County General Plan), *East County Area Plan* (ECAP) diagram as "Large Parcel Agricultural" and "Water Management" (Alameda County 2002). The Watershed Management designation denotes the importance of this site for quarrying operations. The zoning for the project site is "Agricultural-100-acre minimum district" (A-100). No portion of the project site is under Williamson Act contract. The project site is permitted and operating as a quarry. The quarry has an approved reclamation plan that includes reclaiming the site to a water management and open space/agricultural use. The proposed project does not include changing the approved end use. Thus, this project does not include converting farmland to nonagricultural use, and the revisions to the approved reclamation plan do not conflict with existing zoning.

Regarding items c and d, the project site is located within a broad alluvial valley and is not covered with forestland or dense tree vegetation. The proposed project would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forestland (as defined in PRC Section 12220[g]), timberland (as defined by PRC Section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production. The project would also not result in the loss of forestland or conversion of forestland to nonforest use.

Regarding item e, the proposed project would not include activities that could, because of their location or nature, result in conversion of farmland to nonagricultural use. Therefore, these agricultural issues are eliminated from further consideration.

III. AIR QUALITY

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations.

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Conflict with, or obstruct implementation of, the applicable air quality plan? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) 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? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, air quality impacts were determined to be less than significant with implementation of mitigation. The 1981 project included the on-site operation of mobile equipment related to the excavation, grading, and transportation of materials on-site; the processing of mined materials; the backfill of slopes, and revegetation activities (Alameda County 1980: 40-41).

The approved project includes the following mitigation of air quality impacts:

- Availability of reclaimed land for higher intensity land uses does not necessarily mean that the land would actually be put to such uses. The potential impact on air quality would be eliminated by adherence to environmental policies which do not allow large scale development which would measurably deteriorate air quality. (Alameda County 1980: 41)

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact to air quality compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

As discussed in the project description in Section 8, above, the proposed project involves revisions to approved reclamation activities and does not involve evaluation of permitted mining or processing activities. The activities and equipment used would be similar to the equipment that was evaluated in the LAVQAR EIR, except that the proposed project (which involves reclamation) would not include processing mined materials, which would reduce emissions compared to the 1981 project. In addition, the equipment used today is more efficient and produces fewer emissions than the equipment proposed to be used as part of the 1981 project. Therefore, the proposed project's revisions would not create a new or increased significant impact in this regard.

Changed Circumstances

In 1981, the property to the north of Lake A was zoned "Agricultural" and within the jurisdiction of the County. Over the years, the property was annexed to the City of Livermore, the zoning was changed to residential, and houses were built adjacent to Lake A. These land uses are changed circumstances that could create a new or increased significant impact as potential receptors are now closer to where reclamation activities will occur.

New Information

The Applicant has submitted the Air and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Study (Compass Land Group 2019) that has been peer reviewed by the County. The evaluation focuses on emissions associated with reclamation activities and quantifies emissions associated with ongoing mining for informational purposes. The SEIR will quantify estimated criteria air pollutant and greenhouse gas emissions associated with reclamation activities under existing conditions (baseline or environmental setting) and under the proposed SMP-23 reclamation plan amendment, as these potential impacts were not considered in the LAVQAR EIR.

Analysis Required

The County has determined that the project may have a potentially significant impact on the surrounding air quality, expose sensitive receptors, and result in cumulatively considerable air quality impacts. Therefore, the County has decided to evaluate air quality impacts associated with items a through c in the SEIR. Reclamation-related activities are not expected to create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people. Therefore, this odor impact under item d will not be evaluated in the SEIR.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 a native wildlife nursery site? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, biological impacts were determined to be less than significant with mitigation or less than significant. The approved 1981 project included disturbing and reclaiming significantly more surface area than the proposed project, considering the proposed ADV realignment and reduced Lake A and B surface area, as described in the project description. The approved 1981 project includes the following mitigation measures for biological resources impacts (Alameda County 1980: 39-40):

- The best mitigation of loss of the natural Arroyo del Valle channel is to construct the new channel as close in appearance and function to the natural channel as is feasible. (An alternative of leaving the existing channel untouched is discussed in Section VI. Alternatives). The most important measure is revegetation of the channel banks to natural riparian species. Also, ponds should be placed at certain points along the channel to encourage fish habitat. The channel should meander in a natural manner to maximize edge habitat and also for aesthetic reasons. In general, its artificiality should be minimized and softened. The proposed new channel should be completed, revegetation established, and should be functioning as a viable watercourse prior to commencement of mining in the existing channel. Continuous riparian habitat should be maintained at all times; in time it will become even more critical as wildlife habitat as urbanization continues. Modification of the Del Valle channel will require a stream alteration permit issued by the State Department of Fish and Game. The Department will impose conditions intended to mitigate adverse

impacts of stream alteration on fish and wildlife. A program of revegetation and other mitigation measures should be worked out between Fish and Game and the operator involved (Lone Star Industries).

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

The proposed project area has been disturbed by mining activities and the proposed project involves disturbance of soil beyond that already disturbed in the stream restoration portion of the project area. The proposed project includes activities similar to those analyzed under the 1981 project (grading and backfill, stream restoration, revegetation). However, because the proposed project will involve relocation and restoration of the ADV, the analysis provided below describes potential impacts of the stream restoration component of the proposed project. The required biological surveys have been completed, but the required permits must still be acquired per all regulatory requirements.

Changed Circumstances

To accommodate mining, the ADV along the southern boundary of Lake A was relocated to the south in the mid-1990s with the authorization of a Section 1602 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Game (under Notification 1600-2004-0214-3), now the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. After the ADV was relocated south of Lake A, that agreement expired on December 31, 2009. In addition, the site is now made up predominantly of the Lake A, B and J pits with the ADV channel relocated south of the existing active pits. Also, additional listing of special-status species may result in changed circumstances that could create a new or increased significant impact biological resources.

New Information

New information resulting in the additional listing of special-status species since 1981 is available and could create a new or increased significant impact to biological resources.

Analysis Required

Additional biological analysis is required because the proposed project may result in a new significant biological impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact to biological resources. The project site is an active gravel quarry and has been for over 100 years. ADV, part of the Alameda Creek watershed, flows through the southern portion of the project site. Before completion of the upstream Del Valle Reservoir on the ADV in 1968, the ADV had an intermittent flow, containing water in most winters and springs and drying in the summer. The ADV now contains a perennial flow because of managed releases from the Del Valle Reservoir. The site is now made up predominantly of the Lake A, B and J pits with the ADV channel relocated south of the existing active pits. The condition of vegetation growing within the active portions of the quarry is dependent on the timing of the most recent disturbance. Recently disturbed areas remain barren, while those that have been undisturbed for several years can support a cover of grasses and forbs.

Regarding items a through d, the project involves reclamation activities and does not involve permitted ongoing mining activities. The proposed reclamation activities could result in impacts to the ADV, its surrounding habitat, and biological flora and fauna that either occur or could occur on the site. Because potentially significant impacts to biological resources have been identified for items a through d in the checklist above, these issues will be evaluated in the SEIR.

Regarding item e, some local policies or ordinances (e.g., Policy 129 in the East County Area Plan [ECAP]) would apply to the biological resources that exist or have the potential to use the project site. Therefore, this impact is considered potentially significant, and this issue will be evaluated in the SEIR.

Regarding item f, the *East Alameda County Conservation Strategy* (EACCS) (East Alameda County Conservation Strategy Steering Committee 2010) has not been adopted by the County. CDFW considers the EACCS to be a template for all project mitigation in the east County, regardless of local adoption status. Zone

7 and the City of Livermore have adopted the EACCS. Furthermore, the East Bay Regional Conservation Investment Strategy (EBRCIS) is intended to supersede the EACCS; however, the document has yet to be adopted. The County will consider the mitigation guidance contained in the EACCS and EBRCIS to the extent applicable to reduce relevant impacts to biological resources. No other adopted habitat conservation plans are applicable to the Project. Therefore, the project will not conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan, and this issue requires no further consideration.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, cultural resources impacts were determined to be less than significant with mitigation. Chavez, Holman and Love prepared a cultural resources assessment for the project site in 1975. The assessment found no local evidence of archaeological sites (Alameda County 1980: 48).

The approved project includes the following mitigation measure related to cultural resources impacts:

- If archaeological finds are made during excavation, work in the area should halt pending consultation of a qualified archaeologist, whose recommendations should be followed. Work could continue in other areas not near the site.

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

The proposed project area has been disturbed by mining activities, and the proposed project does not involve disturbance of soil beyond that already disturbed or proposed to be disturbed under the approved 1981 project. Further, the project would implement the mitigation measure above, which provides steps to take if suspected archaeological materials are located during reclamation activities. Therefore, the proposed project would not create a new or increased significant impact to cultural resources.

Changed Circumstances

No changed circumstances related to the project would create a new or increased significant impact to cultural resources.

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

No additional cultural resources analysis is required because the proposed project would not result in a new significant cultural resources impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project, substantial changes with respect to project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. However, to ensure that potential impacts have been fully evaluated, the following impact analysis regarding potential impacts to cultural resources is provided below.

Regarding items a through c, reclamation activities proposed in the reclamation plan amendment would be less intensive than the permitted mining activities that immediately precede reclamation and would not disturb more acreage (laterally or vertically) than those areas of the site that will be mined under existing approvals. Therefore, no new impacts to cultural resources associated with reclamation activities that were not previously studied would occur under the reclamation plan amendment. The applicant would be required to adhere to the existing conditions of approval and mitigation measures, provided below, related to protection of cultural resources:

- “If, however, archaeological finds are made during excavation, work in the area should halt pending consultation of a qualified archaeologist, whose recommendations should be followed. Work could continue in other areas not near the site” (Alameda County 1979).
- “Operations shall cease in the vicinity of any suspected archaeological resource until an archaeologist is consulted and his or her recommendations followed, subject to approval by the Planning Director” (Resolution 12-20, Condition of Approval 34).

Therefore, items a through c require no further consideration.

VI. ENERGY

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, energy impacts were not evaluated, and the EIR proposed no mitigation of energy impacts.

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

The scope of the proposed project pertains to reclamation and not to mining activities. The proposed project activities would consume energy through the operation of a temporary pump for a dry-season low-flow water diversion to support the realignment of the ADV, as well as the operation of heavy off-road equipment, trucks, worker traffic, and haul trips for the import of fill and rock materials. Electricity would be used in association with lighting for security. Therefore, the proposed project has the potential to create a new or increased significant impact to energy.

Changed Circumstances

Changed circumstances may exist related to the project that would create a new or increased significant impact to energy. The proposed project has the potential to conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

Additional energy analysis is required because the proposed project may result in a new significant energy impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project or substantial changes with respect to project circumstances. Therefore, the following impact analysis regarding potential impacts to energy is provided.

As discussed in the project description in Section 8, above, the project involves revisions to approved reclamation activities and does not involve permitted mining activities. Regarding criterion a, the proposed project activities would consume energy through the operation of a temporary pump for a dry-season low-flow water diversion to support the realignment of the ADV, as well as the operation of heavy off-road equipment, trucks, worker traffic, and haul trips to conduct reclamation activities at the site. These emissions are included in the *Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Study* described in Section III.

The project is designed to use materials available on-site whenever possible, which would reduce the haul trips necessary, which in turn would reduce the amount of fuel the project requires. Materials stored on-site are also located to minimize the distance they must be moved to be placed in their final location, which conserves fuel

use. Additionally, increasingly stringent federal and state regulations on engine efficiency combined with federal, state, and local regulations limiting engine idling times would further reduce the amount of transportation fuel demand. Considering these reductions in transportation fuel use and electricity use, the proposed project would not result in the wasteful and inefficient use of energy resources and this impact would be less than significant.

In terms of criterion b, many of the state and local plans regarding energy efficiency (e.g., the *Community Climate Action Plan*, an Element of the *Alameda County General Plan* [Alameda County 2014]) are focused on increasing building efficiency and renewable energy generation and reducing water consumption and vehicle miles traveled (VMT). The project would not include construction of a building or result in a land use that would increase energy use; thus, no policy specifically applies to the project. As described above, the proposed project activities would not result in wasteful or inefficient use of energy. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency, and this impact is considered less than significant.

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Directly or indirectly cause potential 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 Zone 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 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ii) Strong seismic ground shaking? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| iv) Landslides? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Be located on a geological 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, geology and soils impacts were determined to be less than significant with mitigation or less than significant. The 1981 project included disturbing and reclaiming significantly more surface area compared to the proposed project, due to the proposed ADV realignment and reduced Lake A and B surface area, as described in the project description. The 1981 project included "capped settling ponds," in which 5 to 10 feet of overburden material was proposed to be placed over water saturated fine sand and silt. (Alameda County 1980: 8)

The approved 1981 project includes the following mitigation of impacts to geology and soils:

- Ability of capped settling ponds to support structures should be clearly demonstrated through extensive soil and geotechnical investigations at the time such structures may be proposed. The Alameda County Surface Mining Ordinance requires that fill placement in backfilled and graded areas conforms to the Uniform Building Code "except. that alternate methods of backfilling and grading may be utilized when incorporated in the approved reclamation plan." It is not expected that the forthcoming detailed reclamation plans for each operator will propose specific structural uses for these areas, but if so, then methods as specified in the Surface Mining Ordinance should be detailed and subject to approval by the Building Official. A program for inspection of fill placement, which is often difficult due to the size and staging nature of quarry operations, should also be presented at that time. Until demonstrated otherwise, it should

be assumed that the capped settling pond areas are not suitable for structures. Recreation and open space uses would remain as options. (Alameda County 1980: 8)

- A drainage system would need to be designed to ensure adequate drainage of below-grade filled areas. Loss of prime and unique agricultural soils is due to the quarrying operations and not the Reclamation Plan, but the Plan should be responsible for mitigation of this impact. The Plan does propose that a 5 to 10 foot layer of soil be used to cover settling ponds. This measure should be made a requirement in Reclamation Plan implementation and it should be ensured that the top few feet of soil replaced consists of the richest topsoil. Uncapped settling ponds may also be viable for intensive agricultural use. Alameda County has recognized the loss of prime and unique agricultural soils as being an unavoidable adverse impact of quarrying but has determined that the sand and gravel resource is of sufficient economic importance to the County and region as to outweigh this impact. (Alameda County 1980: 9)
- The Alameda County Surface Mining Ordinance provides some mitigation in that it requires topsoil to be stockpiled at the site of mining operations in amounts necessary for future reclamation and also specifies how resoiling is to take place; however, it only applies to new permits and not existing operations. (Alameda County 1980: 9)
- Agricultural use of many of the reclaimed land areas is proposed by the Plan. If topsoil is required to be replaced, then all reclaimed land areas could probably support intensive agriculture if deemed more desirable than urban uses at the conclusion of quarrying in 2030. Agricultural use will continue over many undisturbed areas of the site while quarrying is still taking place and is compatible with adjacent or nearby mining use. (Alameda County 1980: 9)

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

The LAVQAR EIR assessed the realigned ADV to flow through Lake B. The 1981 project also included a Lake A with a final surface area of 208 acres and Lake B with a surface area of 243 acres. Under the proposed project, approximately 5,800 linear feet of the ADV would be realigned to flow around, rather than through, Lake B. Reclamation of Lake A would involve limited earthmoving, with a reduction in final surface area from 208 acres to 81 acres. Reclamation of Lake B would also involve a reduction in final surface area from 243 acres to 208 acres. Furthermore, the proposed project will adjust reclamation boundaries and contours. These design changes would be substantial and may create a new or increased significant impact.

Changed Circumstances

Since 1981, new residential subdivisions have been developed to the north of Lake A (e.g. Pulte Oaks and Kristopher Ranch) and to the south of Lake B (e.g. Ruby Hills) These sensitive land uses are changed circumstances that could create a new or increased significant impact through additional exposure to geological risk on life and property. In 1989–1992, CEMEX’s predecessor purchased four parcels of land from Pleasanton Gravel Co. and Jamieson Co., which parcels are herein collectively referred to as the Jamieson Parcels. Jamieson Parcels 1 and 2 were within the scope of Q-76, while Jamieson Parcels 3 and 4 were within the scope of Q-4 initially granted to California Rock and Gravel Company in 1957. The Jamieson Parcels also have vested mining rights. The Jamieson Parcels were acquired by CEMEX’s predecessors after the County had approved SMP-23 in 1987; therefore, those parcels were not included within the currently approved SMP-23 reclamation plan boundary.

As required by Condition No. 16 of the Planning Commission’s circa 1992 5-Year Periodic Review, CEMEX (RMC Lonestar at the time) also submitted drawings prepared by Spinardi Associates to Alameda County in June 1993 entitled Lake A Grading Plan showing the specific mining plan for the Lake A area. The Spinardi Associates plan showed the proposed mining footprint, slopes, landscaping, berms, a trail system along the southern side, and a Zone 7 maintenance road along the northern side. These improvements were constructed, and the ADV reach within Lake A was realigned closer to Vineyard Avenue around 1994. Substantial mining occurred north of the ADV until 2005, at which time Cemex discontinued mining to address neighborhood concerns due to a potential subsurface slide. To remediate the potential slide issue, a Corrective Action Plan

was developed by CEMEX and approved by the County. Construction activities under the Corrective Action Plan were completed in 2008. No further mining is planned for Lake A, but some limited surface disturbances still need to occur to prepare the lake for installation of water conveyance facilities for future dedication to Zone 7.

New Information

New information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. In addition to existing publicly-available data and reports, aerial photos, and field observations discussed above, there are two applicant-prepared ***geotechnical*** studies that have been peer reviewed and incorporated into Draft SEIR as appendices.

Analysis Required

Additional geology and soils analysis is required because the proposed project could result in a new significant geology and soils impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project and as a result of substantial changes with respect to project circumstances that have occurred since the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. Analysis of all thresholds is provided in the following section.

Regarding item a (i through iv), the Livermore-Amador Valley is seismically active and contains numerous faults. The nearest fault is the Las Positas Fault located approximately 2 miles southeast of the project site. The nearest major fault is the Greenville Fault (approximately 11.5 miles southwest).

The project site is not located within the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Zone. Thus, the project would not expose people or structures to rupture of a known earthquake fault; seismic ground shaking; and seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction and landslides. However, to fully disclose potential impacts, the County has decided to evaluate geology and soil impacts associated with items a(i) through a(iv) in the SEIR.

Regarding item b, substantial soil or loss of topsoil is not expected to occur under the proposed project, as the project is limited to reclamation related activities. However, to fully disclose potential impacts which were not previously studied, the County has decided to evaluate potential geology and soil impacts associated with item b in the SEIR.

Regarding items c and d, on the basis of technical evaluations that will be included in the SEIR's geology and soils evaluations, the project does not have the potential to be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable or that would become unstable as a result of the project or to be located on expansive soil. At the time of the preparation of this Initial Study, those technical evaluations are being peer reviewed. Therefore, to fully disclose potential impacts, these criteria will be evaluated in the SEIR.

Regarding item e, the project would not include changes to the use of septic tanks or changes to the existing waste water disposal systems; therefore, this issue requires no further consideration.

Regarding item f, the project would include ground disturbance activities that could directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontology resource or site or unique geological feature. Therefore, this impact is considered potentially significant and will be evaluated in the SEIR.

As noted above, to fully disclose potential impacts, the County has decided to evaluate geology and soils impacts for items a through d in the checklist above in the SEIR.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

As described under Section III, “Air Quality,” previously, air quality impacts were determined to be less than significant with implementation of mitigation. The 1981 project included the on-site operation of mobile equipment related to the excavation, grading, and transportation of materials on-site; the processing of mined materials; the backfill of slopes, and revegetation activities (Alameda County 1980: 40-41).

The approved project includes the following mitigation of air quality impacts:

- Availability of reclaimed land for higher intensity land uses does not necessarily mean that the land would actually be put to such uses. The potential impact on air quality would be eliminated by adherence to environmental policies which do not allow large scale development which would measurably deteriorate air quality.

However, greenhouse gas emissions were not included among the CEQA significant threshold topics in 1981 and therefore not analyzed in the LAVQAR EIR.

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

As described under Section III, “Air Quality,” previously, the project involves revisions to approved reclamation activities and does not involve evaluation of permitted mining or processing activities. The reclamation activities would be similar to the activities evaluated in the LAVQAR EIR, except that the proposed project would result in less surface acreage requiring reclamation, which would reduce emissions compared to the 1981 project. In addition, the equipment used today is more efficient and produces fewer emissions than the equipment proposed to be used as part of the 1981 project.

Changed Circumstances

No changed circumstances related to the project would create a new or increased significant impact to greenhouse gas emissions.

New Information

Since the date of the certification of the LAVQAR EIR, various State laws have been adopted to require the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. CEMEX has submitted an Air and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Study (Compass December 2019) that was peer reviewed by the County and found to be acceptable for use in the SEIR. The evaluation focuses on emissions associated with reclamation activities. Emissions estimates for existing mining and processing uses are presented in Appendix C-1 for informational purposes only. The SEIR will evaluate estimated greenhouse gas emissions associated with the proposed SMP-23 reclamation plan amendment, as these potential impacts were not considered in the LAVQAR EIR and this is new information.

Analysis Required

The County has conservatively determined that the proposed project may have a potentially significant impact on greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, the County has decided to evaluate greenhouse gas impacts associated with items a and b in the SEIR.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, hazards and hazardous materials impacts were not evaluated. The 1981 project included mining and reclamation activities. The approved project required no mitigation of hazard and hazardous materials impacts.

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

The project does not involve transporting or using large volumes of hazardous materials. Petroleum-based fuels and oils are used on-site for fueling and maintaining the project trucks and heavy equipment. On-site storage of fuels is contained consistent with applicable County and regulatory requirements to ensure that both groundwater and surface water are adequately protected. Mobile service trucks conduct on-site maintenance operations; major repair and equipment rebuilds occur off-site. Petroleum products are disposed of off-site in a state-licensed facility. None of these existing permitted operations would change as a result of the proposed plan approvals.

Changed Circumstances

No changed circumstances related to the project would create a new or increased significant impact to hazards and hazardous materials.

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

No additional hazards and hazardous materials analysis is required because the proposed project would not result in a new significant hazards and hazardous materials impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project, substantial changes with respect to project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. However, to ensure that potential impacts have been fully evaluated, the discussion below provides the County's impact analysis regarding potential impacts to hazard and hazardous materials.

Regarding items a and b, the project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials nor 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. The project does not involve transporting or using large volumes of hazardous materials. Petroleum-based fuels and oils are used on-site for fueling and maintaining the project trucks and heavy equipment. On-site storage of fuels is contained consistent with applicable County and regulatory requirements to ensure that both groundwater and surface water are adequately protected. Mobile service trucks conduct on-site maintenance operations; major repair and equipment rebuilds occur off-site. Petroleum products are disposed of off-site in a state-licensed facility. None of these existing permitted operations would change as a result of the proposed plan approvals.

Regarding item c, the project is not located within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school.

Regarding item d, the project would not be located on a site included on a list of hazardous material sites (EnviroStor 2019).

Regarding item e, the Livermore Municipal Airport is located approximately 1 mile north of the project site. However, the site is an existing and ongoing quarry operation and reclamation workers would not be affected by noise or safety risks due to the proximity of the airport. Aircraft safety would not be further affected by the proposed project modifications at the site because no structure or stockpile would be greater than 200 feet tall and the project site is outside of designated safety zones (Alameda County ALUC 2012).

Regarding item f, the project would not impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The project would not alter access to the site or alter roadways surrounding the site.

Regarding item g, the project site is not located in an area designated as having a very high or high potential for wildland fires within either the State Responsibility Area or the Local Response Area, as designated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention (CAL FIRE 2007, 2008). Thus, criterion h does not apply to the project.

Therefore, items a through g require no further consideration.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site; | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite; | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| iv) impede or redirect flood flows? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, several hydrology and water quality impacts were determined to be significant and unavoidable, though several mitigation measures were proposed to lessen the impacts. (Alameda County 1980: 22-38).

The approved project includes the following mitigation measures relevant to water quality impacts:

- **Side Slopes.** Experience in California in Los Angeles County, in Orange County, in Santa Clara County, and in the Niles Canyon area has been that worked out gravel pits used for groundwater recharge must occasionally be cleaned and reshaped. Steep side slopes are difficult to maintain, are not conducive to water-oriented recreation, and present a safety hazard to those who may enter the water for any reason. Earthquakes may create problems, and equipment should be able to enter the pits. As a mitigation measure enabling maintenance and management of the gravel pits after excavation is finished, a minimum side slope standard of 2:1 should be set. Exception to this standard should be allowed under certain conditions when compatible with the water and land use planning for a specific area. (Alameda County 1980: 32)
- **Maintenance Access and Buffer Strips.** Without access worked out gravel pits can become a nuisance; it is difficult to monitor them, to prevent or clean up pollution, and to maintain, and/or to rehabilitate them.

For routine maintenance, a minimum access of at least 20 feet should be provided around the gravel pits. These access areas should be shown in the Plan. Additional area should be designated where special maintenance problems might occur; for example, around water conduits and areas where silt cleaning equipment would have to operate. In Los Angeles County, maintenance benches are designed for the pits so

carry-alls can collect silt as it is scraped from the pit sides. These benches could also be used for recreation purposes and for safety.

In addition, buffer strips should be provided along each major traffic corridor and adjacent to urban areas to minimize the potential for pollution of groundwater. The major traffic corridors identified in the Plan are Vineyard Avenue, Isabel Avenue (State Route 84), Stanley Boulevard, Las Positas Boulevard, and El Charro Road. Extra space also should be provided where pollution could be a problem from heavy concentrations of people, traffic, or urban uses. Reasonable standards would be 50 feet along major corridors and 50 to 200 feet or more adjacent to urban areas where direct pollution could be a problem. Lands adjacent to the basins could be zoned for uses that would be compatible and non-polluting; for example, service stations should not be allowed next to the open gravel pit lakes.

In the past, setbacks for maintenance roads and buffer strips have been set for individual quarry permits. With standards adopted as part of the Reclamation Plan, or as part of the County General Plan, the general setback allowances could be modified over time as necessary in the site specific reclamation plans developed by the quarry operators. A general agreement should be reached on the setback standards by the County, local agencies, Zone 7, and the gravel companies. However, the establishment of maintenance access and/or buffer strip standards cannot be done without considering alternative plans for the area as described in the Alternative Section. Maintenance and buffer strips should be shown as part of the Reclamation Plan as illustrated in Figure 14 [of the LAVQAR EIR]. (Alameda County 1980: 33)

- **Relocation of Arroyo Mocho and Arroyo del Valle Channels.** For both channel relocations, the existing streamflow capacity and the percolation rates under both low flow and storm conditions would have to be maintained. To prevent possible adverse impacts on the groundwater due to any reduction in channel percolation, spreading basins might be needed. All costs for design and construction and in-kind maintenance for the proposed relocation of these two channels would accrue solely to increase gravel production.

Extensive studies would be required to determine existing channel capacities and percolation rates. Some special monitoring of streamflow rates would be necessary. Both Zone 7 and ACWD share rights to storm water in Del Valle. Existing agreements between the two agencies might have to be modified if percolation rates in ADV are changed. A water rights study will be needed if the channel is relocated and percolation rates changed and the point of diversion moved. (Alameda County 1980: 33)

- **Desilting Facilities.** Desilting and flocculation facilities would be necessary for storm runoff diverted to spreading basins if spreading basins were found necessary. Desilting basins will be necessary if water is diverted into the gravel pits for any operational Local Storm Water Control Facilities. (Alameda County 1980: 34)
- **Local Storm Water Control Facilities.** Because of potential pollution from storm water originating on the development areas envisioned in the Plan, storm water runoff should be prevented from directly entering the gravel pit lakes. A storm drainage system should be designed for Reclamation Plan Class 1, 2, and 3 development areas as part of the reclamation plans for individual quarry areas. Likewise, storm runoff from adjacent or nearby industrial, commercial, residential and agricultural areas should be prevented from directly entering the lakes through diking or other means.
- **Groundwater Movement and Storage Facilities.** To determine natural flow rates, additional groundwater monitoring and planning studies would be required. Water quality must be considered. Modeling might be necessary. The size and design of the facilities needed to maintain water movement and water quality would have to be determined. More conduits might be needed to release water into Arroyo Mocho and del Valle and also in the forebay area south of Stanley Boulevard since the northwesterly movement of water might be more rapid under the Reclamation Plan than under natural conditions. Gates might be needed on the conduits to maintain water quality and flow. With full exposure of the gravel pit lakes along both sides of Stanley Boulevard, the proposed conduit under Stanley Boulevard probably would not be required for water movement.

During mining operations, each gravel pit is composed of several individual cells separated by earthfill dikes. After the pit has been worked out, it is proposed to breach the earthfill dikes between these cells so as to allow water to move freely within each gravel pit lake. The dikes should be lowered to a point below normal low groundwater levels, as shown by studies, and the breaching should be done in a manner which

will ensure adequate water movement throughout the pit after the dike has been under water many years. (Alameda County 1980: 34).

Engineering studies should be made in each major pit area to show that the underwater earthfill material will not create sediment and/or turbidity that would block water flow through exposed gravel faces. This is particularly necessary in the forebay area south of Stanley Boulevard and in the area west of El Charro Road. In the forebay area, water percolates sideways and downward into the upper and lower aquifers. It is very important to maintain this area free of silt. The gravel pits north of Stanley Boulevard could theoretically be dewatered for maintenance, but it would be difficult to dewater the forebay area once it is filled with water. As shown in the Plan, earthfill dikes would be constructed adjacent to ADV and in between the gravel pit lakes. Gravel dikes, perhaps topped with earthfill above the high groundwater level, should be used instead of earthfill dikes in the forebay area unless it can be conclusively shown that earthfill dikes would not interfere with water movement or create other problems. Since the storage capacity created would exceed the present groundwater storage, mitigation measures with respect to storage capacity would not be necessary except for the volume of water necessary to fill the additional space. The Alameda County Surface Mining Ordinance prohibits, upon reclamation, any condition "which will or could lead to the degradation of water quality below applicable standards of the Regional Water Quality Control Board or any other agency with authority over water quality." (Alameda County 1980: 34)

- **Monitoring.** Geohydrologic and water resource data for the project area and areas adjacent thereto are insufficient for the needed analyses. Zone 7 has a groundwater monitoring program for the entire Valley. This needs to be expanded so the gravel extraction area and adjacent areas, where maximum disruption to the basin is occurring, can be modeled in detail. Specifically, the monitoring program should be expanded to include more data on groundwater levels, water quality, and water use in the Plan area. Geologic data on storage and transmissibility should be compiled. Water quality data is needed on flows in Arroyos Los Positas, Mocho, and del Valle. Water levels and pumpage into specific pits during specific period of time should be monitored as needed. One of the best ways to design the monitoring system would be to develop a detailed model nodal pattern for the area and then monitor to obtain the hydrologic and geohydrologic input needed. The detailed or fine grid model would be part of the larger model of the Valley already partially developed by the California Department of Water Resources. The monitoring program should be carried out by Zone 7 and the gravel companies. (Alameda County 1980: 35)
- **Water Resource Optimization/Multiple Use Scenario.** The arrangement of land and water areas proposed in the Reclamation Plan presents great opportunities for a variety of public benefits. An ideal Reclamation Plan could present basic elements needed for management of the Livermore-Amador Valley's water resources for multiple purpose and not just minimal mitigation facilities needed for water transmissivity as proposed. This would enable the general public and agencies using the Plan report to be aware of the larger potential water resource management concepts for the area, and the validity of subsequent reclamation plans for individual areas could be judged against this larger concept. Included would be use of the Plan area to help achieve management goals for flood control, water conservation, recreation, and water quality management. All these goals are mentioned in the Reclamation Plan but are not fully explored, especially as they translate to possible physical facilities necessary for effectuation.

Properly envisioning this alternative requires postulation of a possible optimum water resource management concept, under which landforms would be shaped over time to accommodate all needed water management facilities, not just mitigation facilities. Costs of both mitigation and non-mitigation facilities would be estimated. Allocation of costs toward different functions, such as between quarry mitigation, flood control, and water supply, could be identified. Complete range of benefits (many of which could outweigh impacts which cannot be directly mitigated) could be specified, rather than just adverse impacts.

An example of such a concept is presented in Figure 14 [of the LAVQAR EIR]. Illustration of a water resource optimization scenario. The basic land and water areas as proposed in the Reclamation Plan would be retained because of their assumed flexibility. Building upon the Plan, general management concepts could be explored for their feasibility, benefits, cost, and compatibility. Such a scenario, for example, could be based on the following management concepts:

- Water management in the gravel pits would be done in conjunction with the adjacent groundwater basin.

- The west gravel pit basins would be used for current operation purposes.
- The south (forebay) basins would be used for recharge purposes and as a source of emergency water supply.
- Flood control storage would be provided in the north and east basins area.
- An annual average of over 10,000-acre feet of runoff would be conserved.
- Well fields to evacuate water stored in the gravel pits lakes would be located within the project area and in the groundwater basin to the west.
- The pit basins could be used for temporary storage of imported South Aqueduct water and storage of storm flows for other agencies.
- Urbanization and urban activities would be minimized in the forebay area; the forebay would be used primarily for passive recreation and open space to prevent pollution.
- In the west and east basins area there would be strict separation of the basins from urban uses.
- Buffer zones would be maintained.
- To minimize the inflow of poor-quality groundwater it might be practical to seal off the northern side of the north and east basins.
- Recreation use, facilities, and linkage trails would be considered in the design of the water management facilities.

The facilities needed to manage the water under these concepts would include:

- Surface water diversion structures
- Surface conveyance channels connecting the streams to the basins and turnouts as required.
- Desilting areas for each stream.
- Maintenance areas for each stream.
- Maintenance roads throughout the area.
- Buffer strips needed for prevention of pollution.
- Well fields.
- Recreation facility linkage including bridges.
- Gated multiple level conduits designed for water quality control purposes between the basins.

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

Approximately 5,800 linear feet of the ADV would be realigned to flow around, rather than through, Lake B under the proposed project. Reclamation of Lake A would involve limited earthmoving, with a reduction in final surface area from 208 acres to 81 acres and construction of a diversion structure from the ADV that is capable of diverting up to the first 500 cfs of flow from the ADV into the lake. Reclamation of Lake B would also involve a reduction in final surface disturbance compared to the currently approved design from 243 acres to 208 acres, in addition to installation of a pipeline turn-out from Lake A, a water pipeline conduit to future Lake C, and two overflow outlets to allow water to flow back into ADV when Lake A and Lake B water levels are high. Furthermore, the proposed project would adjust reclamation boundaries and contours, develop a new segment of public use trail along the southern boundary of Lake B, as well as enhance drainage and water conveyance facilities. These design changes are substantial and may create a new or increased significant impact to hydrology or water quality.

Changed Circumstances

In 1989–1992, CEMEX’s predecessor purchased the Jamieson Parcels. Jamieson Parcels 1 and 2 were within the scope of Q-76, while Jamieson Parcels 3 and 4 were within the scope of Q-4 initially granted to California

Rock and Gravel Company in 1957. The Jamieson Parcels also have vested mining rights. The Jamieson Parcels were acquired by CEMEX's predecessors after the County had approved SMP-23 in 1987; therefore, those parcels were not included within the currently approved SMP-23 reclamation plan boundary.

New Information

New information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. In addition to existing publicly-available data and reports, aerial photos, and field observations discussed above, there are several applicant-prepared studies that have been peer reviewed and will be incorporated into the SEIR as appendices.

Analysis Required

Additional hydrology and water quality analysis is required because the proposed project could result in a new significant hydrology and water quality impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project. Regarding items a through e, the project could result in a potentially significant impact to the surrounding environment that was not previously studied by potentially violating water quality standards and discharge; depleting groundwater supply, substantially altering existing drainage patterns; creating or contributing runoff water; degrading water quality; being within a 100-year flood hazard area, which could impede or redirect flood flow; and conflicting with or obstructing implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. Many of these potential impacts could occur with the implementation of the already approved plan. However, the differences in impacts between the existing conditions and the proposed reclamation plan have not been evaluated at this time. Thus, the County has decided to evaluate hydrology and water quality impacts associated with items a through a through e in the SEIR.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Physically divide an established community? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, land use and planning impacts were determined to be less than significant with mitigation. The 1981 project included mining and reclamation activities in an area zoned for agricultural and open space uses.

The approved project includes the following mitigation measures relevant to land use and planning impacts:

- To mitigate impacts of untimely or illogical development on reclaimed lands, policies should be adopted in the Specific Plan to implement the Reclamation Plan as part of Livermore-Amador Valley General Plan to guide such uses during the Plan period. To avoid impacts of commitment to intensive land uses, an assumption could be made in the Specific Plan that Open Space and mining related industrial uses of reclaimed lands are appropriate as a present designation until it can be demonstrated that agricultural, industrial, or residential uses would not conflict with other land uses, policies, plans, and environmental quality existing at that future time. If it can be so demonstrated, then commitment to such uses should be made through revisions in the Specific Plan as early as possible. As quarrying is phased out and much land becomes available for development, planning will have to continue to ensure minimization of impacts. This can be accomplished through the 5-year review of Reclamation Plans required by the Alameda County Surface Mining Ordinance. It is impossible to be more specific at this time with scarce knowledge to predict what environmental and other issues will dominate planning for the area 50 years hence. Any specific land uses or infrastructure (roads, utility extensions, etc.) would undergo environmental review at the time of proposal.

Impacts caused by 1:1 slopes could be reduced if 2:1 slopes were adopted as the conceptual standard in reclamation. This measure is discussed in Section IV.C.1.c. (Mitigation of Topographic Impacts). An explicit trade-off is involved between this mitigation measure and maximization of extraction and sale of the gravel resource. For example, assuming a yield of saleable materials at 90% of total volume of materials, average excavation depth of 100' and weight of saleable materials of 100 pounds per cubic foot, the difference between 1:1 and 2:1 is approximately 225 tons per foot of frontage. Taken altogether, the 10 lake pits proposed have a combined frontage of about 142,000 feet. Of this total, about 60% is interior frontages which abut impermeable fills, which are not critical for groundwater movement and which thus can be excavated and then backfilled to 2:1. The remaining frontage, if harvested to only 2:1, represents a loss of about 12.6 million tons of gravel resource, about 3.2% of the 400 million tons expected to be excavated from the Quarry Area. The actual loss would be less because of overburden and the thinning of deposits to the north and west, where much exterior frontage is concentrated. Perhaps between 2% and 3% would be lost, roughly equivalent to about one to one and one-half years current production in the Quarry Area. (Alameda County 1980: 43)

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

As discussed in the project description in Section 8, above, the proposed project does not include mining and would consist of reclamation activities, similar to the 1981 project. Therefore, the proposed project would not create a new or increased significant impact to land use.

Changed Circumstances

Since 1981, new residential subdivisions have been developed to the north of Lake A (e.g. Pulte Oaks and Kristopher Ranch) and to the south of Lake B (e.g. Ruby Hills) These land uses are changed circumstances that could create a new or increased significant impact.

New Information

New regulatory requirements of substantial importance are available that were not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. These new requirements will be discussed at least in the SEIR.

Analysis Required

Because circumstances regarding the surrounding land uses have changed and new regulatory requirements are in place, the County has decided to evaluate land use and planning impacts for items a and b in the checklist above as part of the SEIR.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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"/> |
| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, mineral resources impacts were determined to be less than significant with mitigation because it would be consistent with the General Plan policies relating to extraction of mineral resources. The 1981 project was proposed to include mining and reclamation activities.

The approved project includes the following mitigation measures relevant to impacts to mineral resources:

- A Specific Plan for the Quarry Area will be developed, based on the submitted Reclamation Plan as may be modified through further studies and public hearings. The Specific Plan should define policies for land use within the Quarry Area as reclamation takes place, to ensure compatible uses and maintenance of environmental quality. The Specific Plan would be, under State Law, part of the General Plan and serve as the implementing procedure for overall progressive reclamation of the Quarry Area. Review of the Reclamation Plan every 5 years, as required by the Alameda County Surface Mining Ordinance, will ensure timely consideration of land use issues prior to final commitment. (Alameda County 1980: 51)

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

The site is delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan as a locally important mineral resource recovery site. However, as discussed in the project description in Section 8, above, the project involves revisions to approved reclamation activities and does not involve evaluation of permitted mining activities. Therefore, the proposed project would not create a new or increased significant impact on mineral resources.

Changed Circumstances

No changed circumstances related to the project would create a new or increased significant impact on mineral resources.

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

No additional mineral resources analysis is required because the proposed project would not result in a new significant mineral resources impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project, substantial changes with respect to project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. However, to

ensure that potential impacts have been fully evaluated, the following impact analysis regarding potential impacts to mineral resources is provided below.

The project would facilitate the already permitted ability to continue mining by revising the reclamation plan. The project would facilitate the production of these mineral resources, thereby making them available for beneficial use within Alameda County and surrounding areas. The project's utilization and development of these mineral resources is not considered adverse in terms of the County's CEQA review, because the site is being used for the extraction of mineral resources. The reclamation plan revisions would decrease the amount of aggregate resource mined on the project site compared to existing approvals; however, the proposed end use of water management and open space/agricultural would not preclude future additional mineral extraction on the site if the applicant and the County deem such additional extraction to be desirable and if the necessary reclamation plan amendment and associated CEQA review were conducted. Thus, no further analysis of these issues is necessary.

XIII. NOISE

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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 ordinances, or applicable standards of other agencies? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, noise impacts were determined to be less than significant with implementation of mitigation. The LAVQAR EIR recognizes that noise impacts would occur as a result of mining operations and use of city streets for transportation of haul trucks and construction vehicles, for example. However, the LAVQAR EIR notes the incremental increase in noise resulting from reclamation as compared to the 90 dBA or greater estimate from mining activity is not considered significant (Alameda County 1980: 49).

The approved project includes the following mitigation measures relevant to impacts to mineral resources:

- Reduction of noise at the source can be accomplished by proper maintenance of equipment and usage of newer equipment. Newer trucks, for example, are quieter than old trucks because of recent noise emission standards. Use of quieter trucks will increase over the life of the Reclamation Plan as older trucks are replaced. (Alameda County 1980: 49)

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

As discussed in the project description in Section 8, above, the proposed project would not include mining activities as those are vested activities and not subject to discretionary approval. Reclamation activities would result in similar levels of noise as reclamation activities under the 1981 project and would occur during the same hours evaluated under the 1981 project. Truck traffic hauling materials from the site would be replaced by truck traffic hauling fill and stream restoration materials (rock) to the site. The proposed project's maximum noise generation is anticipated to fall below the 90 dBA or greater estimate for mining and reclamation noted in the LAVQAR EIR at no greater than the rate evaluated in the LAVQAR EIR.

Changed Circumstances

Since 1981, new residential subdivisions have been developed to the north of Lake A (e.g. Pulte Oaks and Kristopher Ranch) and to the south of Lake B (e.g. Ruby Hills) These land uses are changed circumstances that could create a new or increased significant impact regarding noise and vibration.

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

Because potentially significant impacts associated with reclamation activities for items a through c have been identified based on changed circumstances (e.g. substantial development that has occurred since the certification of the 1981 LAVQAR EIR), additional analysis is required. Therefore, these issues will be evaluated in the SEIR.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and business) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, population and housing impacts were determined to be less than significant. The 1981 project was proposed to include mining and reclamation activities. Sand and gravel, collectively, is a basic building material, and its availability accommodates growth induced by other factors. The resource is not in short supply in absolute terms, but alternative sources are more expensive to the consumer. The project is in the center of the urbanized Livermore Valley, and its adoption for future use through reclamation planning is not construed to be growth inducing. Land areas to be created would have the potential to contain development. Development, if it were to occur at all, would be too far in the future (50 years) to speculate upon its extent, form, and impacts (Alameda County 1980: 63).

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

The proposed project would include reclamation activities and would not substantially increase the number of employees employed at the project site. Also, the project would neither directly or indirectly cause population changes in the area, nor involve the displacement of any existing housing or people. Therefore, the proposed project would not create a new or increased significant impact on population and housing.

Changed Circumstances

No changed circumstances related to the project would create a new or increased significant impact on population and housing.

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

No additional population and housing analysis is required because the proposed project would not result in a new significant population and housing impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project, substantial changes with respect to project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. However, to ensure that potential impacts have been fully evaluated, the following impact analysis regarding potential impacts to population and housing is provided below.

Regarding item a, the project does not include activities that would substantially increase the number of jobs needed to operate the mine and complete the activities under the existing reclamation plan. Therefore, the project would not substantially induce population growth in the area. The project does not include a proposal for new homes or businesses. No new public roads or public services would be installed that could induce population growth.

Regarding item b, the project would not result in the removal of existing housing and would not create a need for the construction of new housing. Therefore, issues a through b are eliminated from further consideration.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Would the project 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: | | | | |
| i) Fire protection? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| ii) Police protection? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| iii) Schools? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| iv) Parks? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| v) Other public facilities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, public services impacts were determined to be less than significant as sand and gravel excavation and reclamation activities are self-contained and have little need for public services. Furthermore, land uses on reclaimed areas were not determined at the time of the LAVQAR EIR; therefore, determination of service requirements would occur when reclamation land uses are established.

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

As discussed in the project description in Section 8, above, the project involves revisions to approved reclamation activities and does not involve evaluation of permitted mining activities. The project would not increase the demand for fire protection services or police services; would not increase employment, housing or population, or otherwise have effects that would increase the demand for schools or parks; and would not result in the need for construction of new facilities to provide public services. Therefore, the proposed project would not create a new or increased significant impact on public services.

Changed Circumstances

No changed circumstances related to the project would create a new or increased significant impact on public services.

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

No additional public services analysis is required because the proposed project would not result in a new significant public services impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project, substantial changes with respect to project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. However, to ensure that potential impacts have been fully evaluated, the following discussion provides the County's impact analysis regarding potential impacts to public services.

The project would not result in the need for new or altered public facilities or public services including roads, or governmental services (police and fire protection and medical facilities) and, therefore, the project would not cause physical impacts associated with the alteration or construction of new governmental facilities. Therefore, these issues are eliminated from further consideration.

XVI. RECREATION

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|--|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Would the project 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, recreation impacts were determined to be less than significant with mitigation. The 1981 project was proposed to include mining and reclamation activities, which featured a new regional hiking trail along the ADV.

The approved project includes the following mitigation measures relevant to recreation impacts:

- The expense of creating usable parkland could most inexpensively and efficiently be borne by the quarry operators, over a period of time, through shaping their operations to permit specified recreational needs. Interested recreation agencies should specify minimum requirements for their prospective re-use of mined lands and these should be translated into operational guidelines for the operators to be made a part of their own, more detailed specific reclamation plans. Tentative recreation areas should be identified as soon as possible. Optimum landforms should be specified by landscape architects and adhered to through mining planning and staging. To mitigate the expense of operating recreational areas upon completion of mining, the possibility of operation as a State Park should be Investigated, as well as certain operations by private interests.

Alternative water management scenarios as they affect surface elevations in various pits should be studied to determine at the earliest practical date the potential areas for various types of recreation. Some pits may be suitable for recreation with the understanding they would be unavailable a certain percentage of the time due to more critical uses, such as flood control storage. Planning for safety should be an important part of recreational study of the area. Recreational use would have to be well supervised and monitored to ensure that it was not adversely affecting water quality (Alameda County 1980: 46).

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

As discussed in the project description in Section 8, above, the project involves revisions to approved reclamation activities and does not involve evaluation of permitted mining activities. Reclamation activities would not 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. However, the proposed project would alter the alignment of the proposed recreational trail along the restored ADV. The project would not substantially increase employment and would not increase housing or population, or otherwise have effects that would increase the demand for recreational facilities, and thus would not result in accelerated deterioration or the need for construction of new parks or recreational facilities.

Changed Circumstances

No changed circumstances related to the project would create a new or increased significant impact to recreation.

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

Regarding issue a, the project would not require the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks, nor would it indirectly increase use of neighborhood or regional parks through population growth or other means; therefore, the project would not contribute to physical deterioration of any facilities.

Regarding issue b, no off-site recreational facilities would be required to be constructed as a result of the proposed project. The trails proposed in the Lake A postmining scenario would be consistent with the existing reclamation plan; thus, the Lake A trail is not a component of the proposed project. The project would include a Lake B trail. The applicant would cooperate with City of Pleasanton and EBRPD to enhance the existing bike path along the northern side of Vineyard Avenue, from Isabel Avenue west to the southwest end of the project site. The construction and use of the new segment of trail along Vineyard Avenue could affect, for example, existing biological resources and water quality; however, any impacts resulting from the trail will be evaluated under the applicable resource sections (e.g., “Biological Resources,” “Hydrology and Water Quality”) in the SEIR. As discussed above, impacts to recreation and recreational facilities would be less than significant. Therefore, these issues are eliminated from further consideration.

XVI. TRANSPORTATION

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g. sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Result in inadequate emergency access? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, transportation impacts were determined to be less than significant. The LAVQAR EIR acknowledged that urban or recreational development of the area would generate significant amounts of traffic; however, “meaningful analysis [could not] be accomplished at [that] time, but would occur in detailed environmental review for any specific proposal.” (Alameda County 1980: 44)

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

The proposed project would not include an expansion or increase of quarry operations beyond the 1981 project. Truck traffic hauling materials from the site would be replaced by truck traffic hauling fill and stream restoration materials (rock) to the site, at no greater than the volume of traffic that was evaluated in the LAVQAR EIR and over a 3-year period. The project would not conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This property is located in a rural area that does not have provisions for alternative transportation. The project would not increase traffic volumes or otherwise affect the use of area roads that may be used by public transit, bicyclists, and pedestrians. In addition, providing a location for the beneficial reuse of excess soil will address a regional need for disposal sites and reduce vehicle miles traveled. Site access will not change compared to the 1981 project. Therefore, the proposed project would not create a new or increased significant impact on transportation.

Changed Circumstances

The project’s contribution to roadway traffic would be similar to that analyzed under the LAVQAR EIR. Therefore, no changed circumstance exists that would create a new or increased significant impact on transportation.

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

No additional transportation analysis is required because the proposed project would not result in a new significant transportation impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant

impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project, substantial changes with respect to project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. Therefore, transportation impacts will not be discussed in the SEIR. However, to ensure that potential impacts have been fully evaluated, the following section provides the County's impact analysis regarding potential impacts to transportation.

The project would result in the same or less daily motor-vehicle trips to and from the project site for employees and equipment and supplies delivery. Thus, motor-vehicle trips related to the project would be similar to those approved under the existing reclamation plan. In addition, the multiuse trail system south of Lakes A and B would be enhanced. Therefore:

- regarding item a, the proposed project would not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, accounting for all modes of transportation and relevant components of the circulation system;
- regarding item b, the proposed project would not conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b);
- regarding item c, the project would not substantially increase hazards due to a design feature or incompatible uses, and
- regarding item d, the project would not affect emergency access.

Therefore, items a through d are eliminated from further consideration.

In addition to the checklist items provided above, the Resources Agency has promulgated a new checklist item that focuses on a project's impacts associated with Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT). As the proposed project is limited to on-site and off-site traffic associated with reclamation activities, the project will not significantly increase VMT. Table 1, "Vehicle Miles Traveled for Reclamation Actions," provides a summary of the proposed VMTs for the proposed reclamation actions. In summary, for Lake A reclamation actions worker trips would amount to 3,586 VMT, while vendor trips would be 161, and hauling trips would be 9,760. For Lake B reclamation actions, worker trips would amount to 2,408 VMT, while vendor trips would be 44, and hauling trips would be 4,736. Last, for North Area (Lake J, and processing and silt pond areas) reclamation actions, worker trips would amount to 1,361 VMT, while vendor trips would be 44, and hauling trips would be 2,000. The combined total of 24,100 VMT is about 1.5% of the existing mining and reclamation VMT (1,624,119) (Compass Land Group 2019), and therefore considered less than significant.

Table 1
Vehicle Miles Traveled for Reclamation Actions

| Phase Name | Worker Trips | | | Vendor Trips | | | Hauling Trips | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | Number of Trips | Trip Length (miles) | Total Miles | Number of Trips | Trip Length (miles) | Total Miles | Number of Trips | Trip Length (miles) | Total Miles |
| LAKE A | | | | | | | | | |
| Convert Berm to Island | 10.00 | 10.80 | 108.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| ADV Berms | 12.00 | 10.80 | 129.6 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| Overflow Outlet to ADV | 12.00 | 10.80 | 129.6 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 72.00 | 20.00 | 1,440.0 |
| Pipeline to Lakes B and C (1-10) | 152.00 | 10.80 | 1,641.6 | 14.00 | 7.30 | 102.2 | 72.00 | 20.00 | 1,440.0 |
| Diversion Structure | 126.00 | 10.80 | 1,360.8 | 8.00 | 7.30 | 58.4 | 344.00 | 20.00 | 6,880.0 |
| Fill Percolation Ponds | 10.00 | 10.80 | 108.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| Revegetation | 10.00 | 10.80 | 108.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| TOTALS: | | | 3,585.6 | | | 160.6 | | | 9,760.0 |
| LAKE B | | | | | | | | | |
| Realign ADV | 90.00 | 10.80 | 972.0 | 4.00 | 7.30 | 29.2 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| Pedestrian and Bike | 53.00 | 10.80 | 572.4 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 464.00 | 4.00 | 1,856.0 |

| Phase Name | Worker Trips | | | Vendor Trips | | | Hauling Trips | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------|
| | Number of Trips | Trip Length (miles) | Total Miles | Number of Trips | Trip Length (miles) | Total Miles | Number of Trips | Trip Length (miles) | Total Miles |
| Trail | | | | | | | | | |
| Lake B to C Conduit | 18.00 | 10.80 | 194.4 | 2.00 | 7.30 | 14.6 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| Overflow Outlet to ADV | 26.00 | 10.80 | 280.8 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 144.00 | 20.00 | 2,880.0 |
| Sharks Fin Drainage Notch | 14.00 | 10.80 | 151.2 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| Revegetation | 10.00 | 10.80 | 108.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| ADV Berms | 12.00 | 10.80 | 129.6 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| TOTALS: | | | 2,408.4 | | | 43.8 | | | 4,736.0 |
| NORTH AREA | | | | | | | | | |
| Soil Cap on Main Silt Pond | 28.00 | 10.80 | 302.4 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| Revegetate Main Silt | 6.00 | 10.80 | 64.8 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| Removal of Processing Plants | 36.00 | 10.80 | 388.8 | 6.00 | 7.30 | 43.8 | 100.00 | 20.00 | 2,000.0 |
| Grade Plant and Lake J Area | 23.00 | 10.80 | 248.4 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| Retention Ponds | 23.00 | 10.80 | 248.4 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| North Area - Revegetation | 10.00 | 10.80 | 108.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 | 0.00 | N/A | 0.0 |
| TOTALS: | | | 1,360.8 | | | 43.8 | | | 2,000.0 |

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|---|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 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"/> |
| 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 Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 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 type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, tribal cultural resources were neither discussed nor required to be discussed.

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact to tribal cultural resources compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

The proposed project area has been disturbed by mining activities, and the proposed project does not involve disturbance of soil beyond that already disturbed. However, tribal resources were not previously discussed in the LAVQAR EIR.

Changed Circumstances

Tribal resources must now be discussed under current CEQA requirements.

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

No additional analysis of tribal resources, beyond what is provided in this initial study, is required because the proposed project would not result in a new significant impact to tribal resources or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project and substantial changes with respect to project circumstances. To ensure that potential impacts have been fully evaluated, the following section provides the County's impact analysis regarding potential impacts to tribal cultural resources.

On April 8, 2019, the County provided formal notification of the project in accordance with PRC Section 21080.3.1(d) to potentially interested California Native American tribes. The County requested that the interested tribes request consultation within 30 days of receipt of the formal notification. As of the date of this initial study, the County has not received any requests for notification. In addition, the cultural resources impact analysis contained in the LAVQAR EIR did not identify significant cultural resources in the project area. The applicant would be required to adhere to the existing conditions of approval and mitigation measures, provided below, related to protection of cultural resources:

- “If, however, archaeological finds are made during excavation, work in the area should halt pending consultation of a qualified archaeologist, whose recommendations should be followed. Work could continue in other areas not near the site” (Alameda County 1980).
- “Operations shall cease in the vicinity of any suspected archaeological resource until an archaeologist is consulted and his or her recommendations followed, subject to approval by the Planning Director” (Resolution 12-20, Condition of Approval 34).

In addition, reclamation will occur on areas already heavily disturbed by mining operations. Therefore, item a (i and ii) requires no further consideration. Further, mitigation measures, contained in the LAVQAR EIR and adopted as a condition of approval (see condition of approval 34), ensure that the most likely ancestor be contacted to protect the tribal cultural resource in the unlikely event that remains are discovered on site. Therefore, potential impacts to tribal cultural resources will not be evaluated in the SEIR.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|--|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, or stormwater 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it had adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, utilities and service system impacts were determined to be less than significant (Alameda County 1980: 44). Potential impacts from reclamation activities related to water supply and drainage were evaluated in the hydrology and water quality section of the LAVQAR EIR; therefore, mitigation on those topics are listed in Section X.

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

As discussed in the project description in Section 8, above, the project involves revisions to approved reclamation activities and does not involve evaluation of permitted mining activities. No aspect of the proposed reclamation activities proposed would increase demands on any utility or service system beyond that analyzed for reclamation activities under the existing LAVQAR EIR.

Changed Circumstances

No changed circumstances related to the project would create a new or increased significant impact on utilities and service systems.

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

No additional utilities and service system analysis is required because the proposed project would not result in a new significant utilities and service system impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project, substantial changes with respect to project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. However, to ensure that potential impacts have been fully evaluated, the text below provides the County's impact analysis regarding potential impacts to utilities and service systems.

Regarding item a, the project would not result in using a significant level of utilities and service systems, including wastewater treatment requirements, and, thus, would not diminish the availability of currently available facilities or treatment capacity or require the relocation or expansion of these facilities. Therefore, this issue requires no further consideration.

Regarding item b, the project would not require new or expanded water supply entitlements and sufficient water supplies are available to supply water for reclamation activities associated with the project. Potential impacts from reclamation activities related to water supply will be evaluated in the hydrology and water quality section of the SEIR. Therefore, from the perspective of utilities and service system-related impacts, this issue requires no further consideration.

Regarding item c, the project would not require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities because the reclamation activities do not involve construction of those facilities and the limited number of people needed to implement those activities would not increase the need or demand for new water or wastewater systems. Therefore, from the perspective of utilities and service system-related impacts, this issue requires no further consideration.

Regarding item d, solid wastes from the project requiring off-site disposal would be stored in designated containers adjacent to the shop in the containment area or within the shop, and would be disposed in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations. The information available from the *Alameda County Integrated Waste Management Plan Countywide Element* (Alameda County Waste Management Authority 2003: III-13) indicates that the County has sufficient landfill space to accommodate the County's needs through 2052. The proposed reclamation activities are not anticipated to generate significant solid waste that would be required for off-site disposal between 2052 and the anticipated end date of the reclamation plan of 2056. In addition, it is reasonably foreseeable that the Alameda County Waste Management Authority will establish sufficient landfill capacity to accommodate the limited amount of solid waste that will be generated by reclamation activities between 2052 and 2056. Therefore, this issue requires no further consideration.

Regarding item e, the project is required to comply with applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. No aspects of the project have been identified that suggest an inability to comply with applicable regulations and statutes. Therefore, this issue has been eliminated from further consideration.

XX. WILDFIRE

| If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|--|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, wildfire impacts were not evaluated, and the approved project included no mitigation of wildfire impacts.

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

No aspect of the proposed reclamation activities would increase risk of wildfire because the project site is not located in an area designated as having a very high or high potential for wildland fires within either the State Responsibility Area or the Local Response Area, as designated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention (CAL FIRE 2007, 2008).

Changed Circumstances

Wildfire must now be discussed under current CEQA requirements.

New Information

No new information of substantial importance is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

Analysis Required

No additional wildfire analysis is required because the proposed project would not result in a new significant wildfire impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project, substantial changes with respect to project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. To ensure that potential impacts have been fully evaluated, the following discussion provides the County's impact analysis regarding potential impacts to wildfire.

The project site is not located in an area designated as having a very high or high potential for wildland fires within either the State Responsibility Area or the Local Response Area, as designated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention (CAL FIRE 2007, 2008).

Regarding item a, the project would not impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The project would not alter access to the site or alter roadways surrounding the site. Therefore, this item requires no further consideration.

Regarding item b, the project components would not exacerbate wildfire risks to on-site workers or nearby residences. Reclamation would increase the local water storage in the area. Revegetation is not expected to increase the risk of wildfires. Therefore, this item requires no further consideration.

Regarding item c, following reclamation of the site, no additional roads or fuel breaks would be required that would exacerbate the fire risk or result in ongoing impacts to the environment. Therefore, this impact requires no further consideration.

Regarding item d, although there will be drainage changes and revised topography due to final grading for reclamation, the project will not expose people or structures to significant flooding resulting from wildfires. Flood hazards will be evaluated in the "Hydrology and Water Quality" chapter of the SEIR.

XIX. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

| Would the project: | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Does the project have the potential to substantially 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, substantially 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? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (<i>"Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.</i>) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAVQAR EIR Impact Analysis:

Under the LAVQAR EIR, these impacts were determined to be less than significant. As discussed throughout this initial study, potentially significant impacts were identified in the LAVQAR EIR with respect to aesthetics and visual resources, air quality, biological resources, greenhouse gases, geology and soils, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, and noise. Mitigation measures designed to minimize environmental effects to aesthetic and visual resources, agricultural resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gases, hydrology and water quality, and recreation are included throughout this document. Implementation of the mitigation ensured those potentially significant impacts remained below a level of significance.

Proposed Project Impact Analysis

The following subsections provide an evaluation of whether the proposed project would result in a new or additional significant impact compared to the approved 1981 project.

Project Revisions

The proposed project could create a new or increased significant impact to item a, b, and c. This initial study identified and analyzed the changes in the project description, physical environment, environmental impact analysis, and mitigation measures since the LAVQAR EIR. The County has determined that an SEIR will be necessary to reevaluate each environmental resource that this initial study has identified to cause new potentially significant effects to the environment (that were not previously discussed in the LAVQAR EIR). The proposed project could result in new significant effects or a substantial increase in the severity of any previously identified significant effects.

Changed Circumstances

Changed circumstances, identified in previous discussions, related to the project could create a new or increased significant impact to items a, b, and c.

New Information

New information of substantial importance, discussed in previous sections, is available that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted.

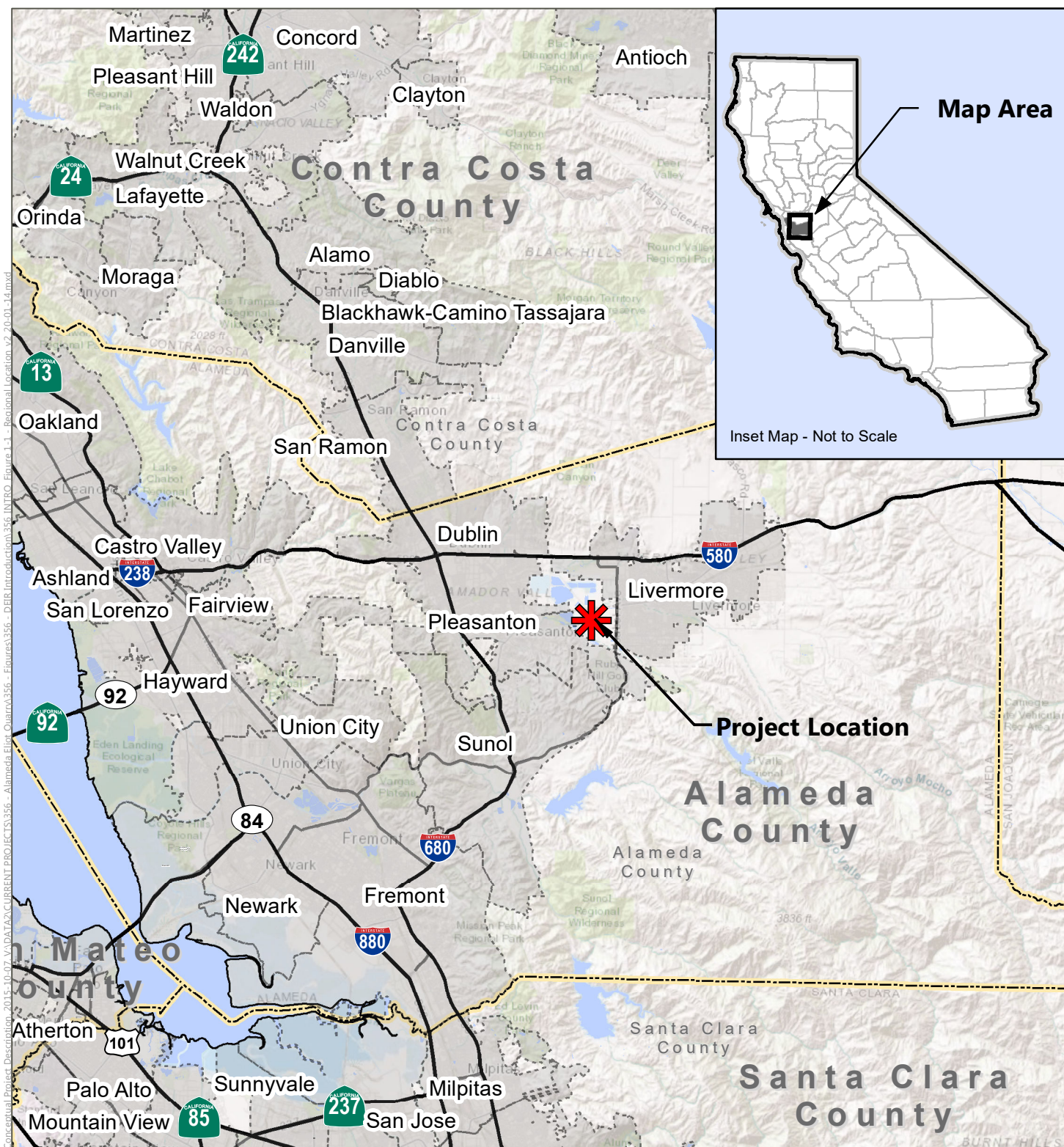
Analysis Required

Additional analysis is required because the proposed project could result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact caused by substantial changes proposed in the project, substantial changes with respect to project circumstances, or new information of substantial importance that was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the LAVQAR EIR was adopted. Regarding items a through c, the impacts of the project on biological resources and human beings and the cumulative impacts of the project will be evaluated in the draft SEIR.

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FIGURES



SOURCES: ESRI World Shaded Relief accessed Jan. 2020; ESRI World Topographic Map accessed Jan. 2020; ESRI World Streetmap, 2009; compiled by Benchmark Resources in 2020



Project Location



City Boundary



County Boundary

Major Highway

Major Road

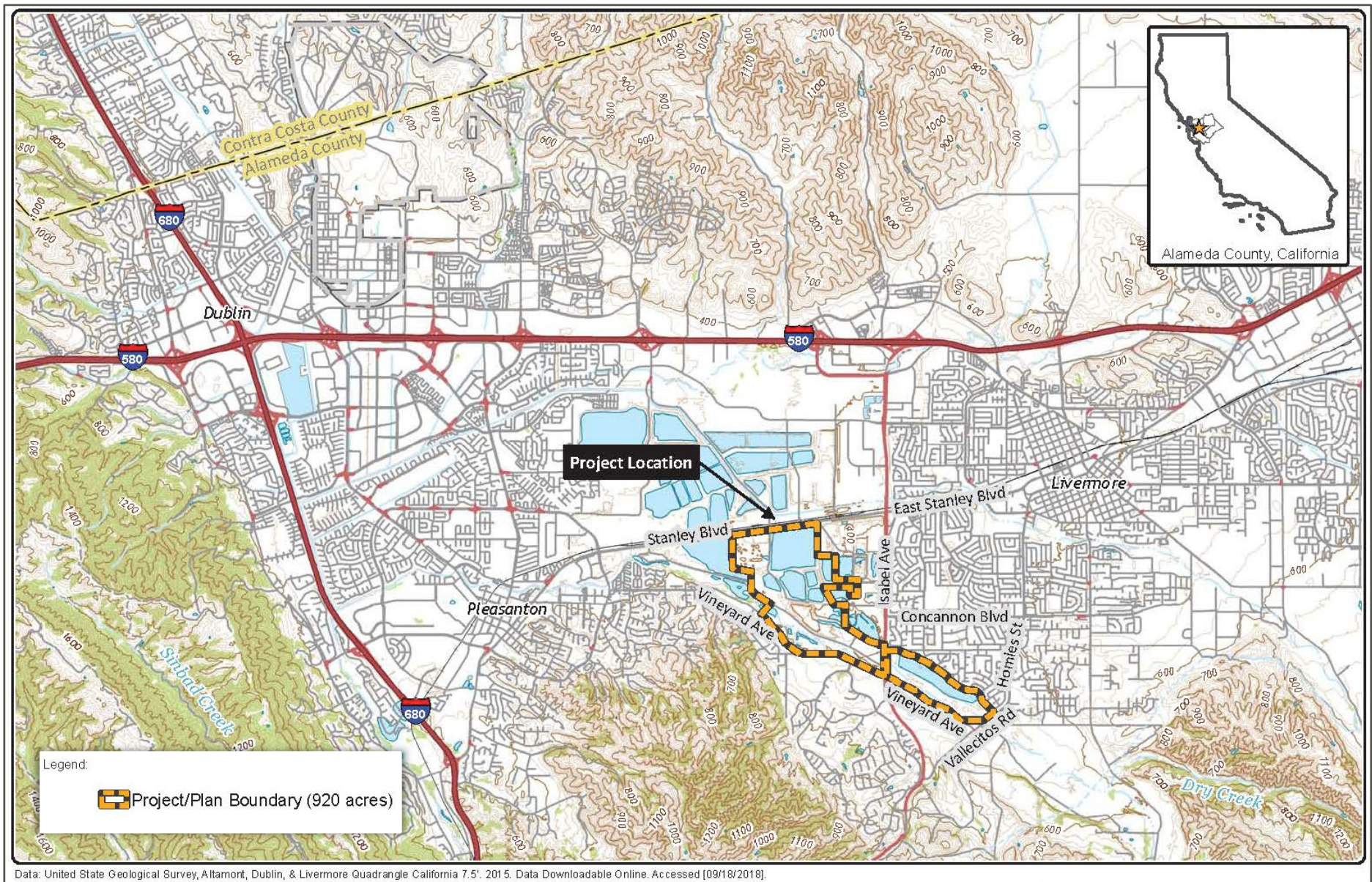
Regional Location

CEMEX ELIOT QUARRY (SMP-23)

RECLAMATION PLAN AMENDMENT PROJECT

INITIAL STUDY

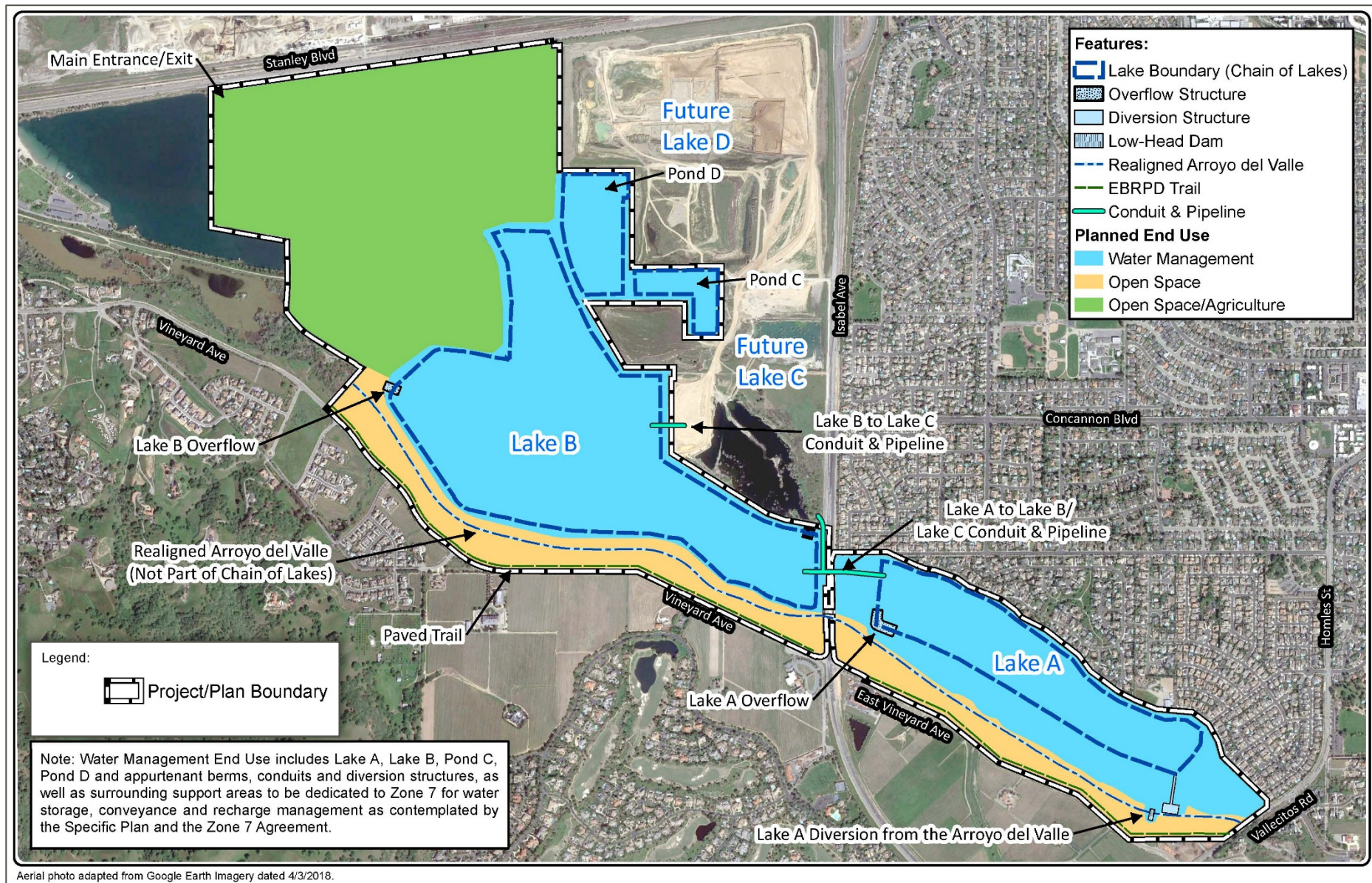
Figure 1



SOURCE: CEMEX 2019, Project Description; modified by Benchmark Resources in 2020.

NOTE: Figure is not printed to scale.

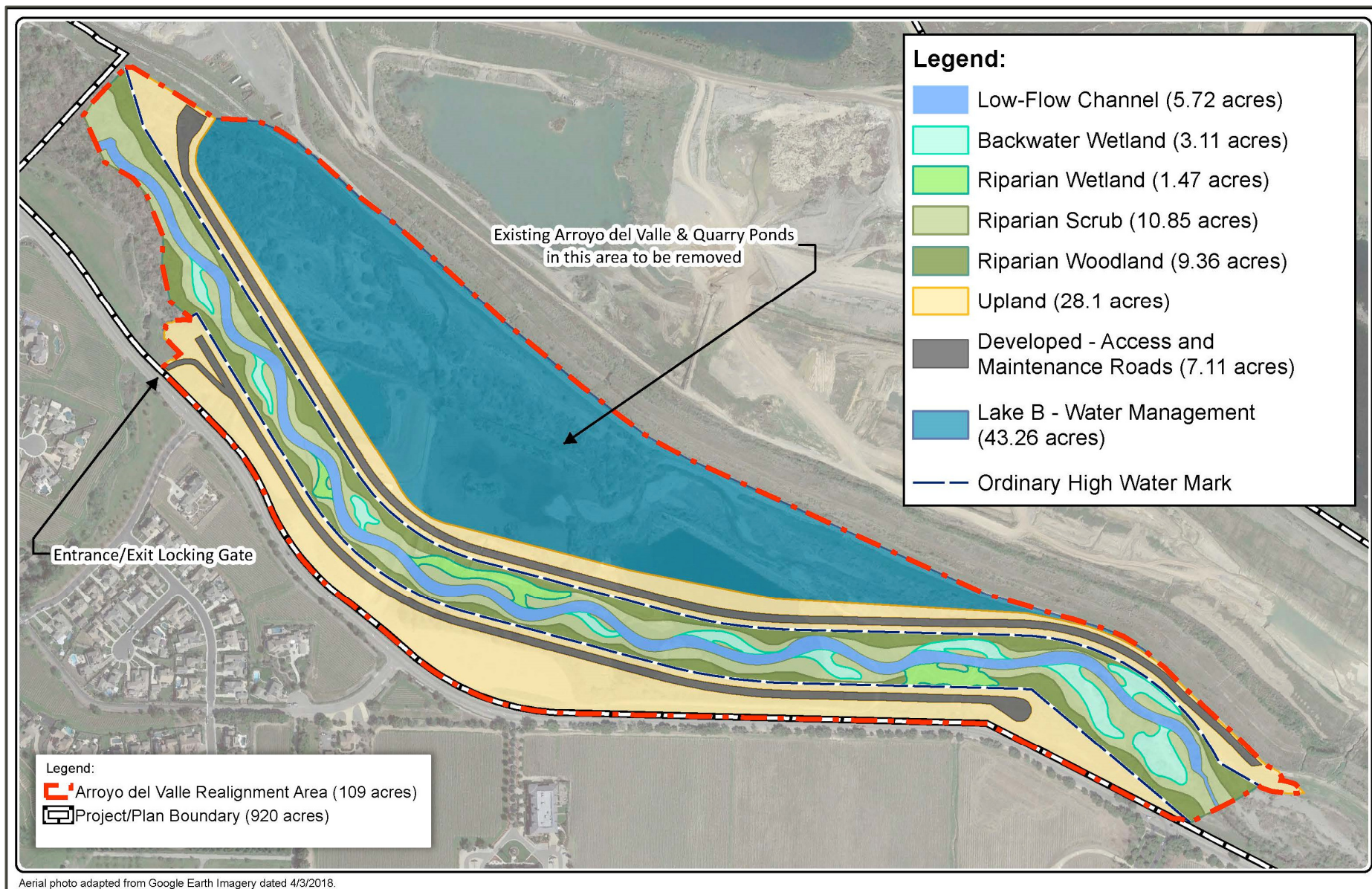
Site Location
CEMEX ELIOT QUARRY (SMP-23)
RECLAMATION PLAN AMENDMENT PROJECT
INITIAL STUDY
Figure 2



SOURCE: CEMEX 2019, Project Description; modified by Benchmark Resources in 2020.

NOTE: Figure is not printed to scale.

Reclamation Plan End Use Overview
 CEMEX ELIOT QUARRY (SMP-23)
 RECLAMATION PLAN AMENDMENT PROJECT
 INITIAL STUDY
Figure 3



SOURCE: CEMEX 2019, Project Description; modified by Benchmark Resources in 2020.

NOTE: Figure is not printed to scale.