



County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development

Glenn S. Russell, Ph.D., Director
Dianne Black, Assistant Director

May 8, 2014

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SHELL GUADALUPE DUNES GRAVEL REMEDIATION IN-LIEU PROPOSAL PROJECT

(Case Nos. 13RVP-00000-00119; 13CDH-00000-00042)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Applicant proposes to leave in place approximately 293,752 cubic yards of sand impacted by remnant gravel that remains from an exploratory drilling project, and in exchange, provide a monetary in-lieu fee to the County for enhancement of public recreation and open space in the north coastal region of the County of Santa Barbara.

PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is located in the northeastern corner of Rancho Guadalupe Dunes Preserve County Park, commonly known as 6350 West Main Street, APNs 113-020-018, 113-020-020, and 113-020-021 in the Guadalupe Dunes area, 3rd Supervisorial District.

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT: Santa Barbara County P&D is soliciting comments on the adequacy and completeness of the analysis and proposed mitigation measures described in 13EIR-00000-00005 (State Clearinghouse No. 2013101107). You may comment by providing testimony at the public hearing on May 28, 2014 and/or submitting written or oral comments to the project planner identified below prior to the close of public comment on June 22, 2014 at 5 p.m.

PROJECT DETAILS: Applicant proposes to leave in place approximately 293,752 cubic yards of sand impacted by remnant gravel that remains from an exploratory drilling project. The original drilling and production project was approved by the County in 1983 and included the placement of gravel for road base to accommodate heavy equipment access and stabilize sand near the proposed drilling islands. Permit Condition #31 of 82-CP-75(cz) for the drilling project requires removal of all materials brought into the dunes to support the exploratory drilling project as follows:

#31. All introduced materials on or near the surface (depth of 15 feet) shall be removed when the drilling islands are abandoned.

In exchange for leaving the gravel in place, the Applicant would provide a monetary in-lieu fee to the County for enhancement of public recreation and open space in the north coastal region of Santa Barbara County. The Applicant ceased oil and gas operations in 1989 and commenced abandonment and reclamation of the site as required by the County. With the exception of the remnant gravel sites, all production wells and infrastructure were abandoned and site reclamation was completed under 96-CDP-010 in 1997 in compliance with County and DOGGR regulations. A portion of the gravel and some asphaltic materials were removed in 1997; however, up to 293,752 cubic yards of sand impacted by approximately 1,237 cubic yards of gravel remain.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FINDINGS: P&D has prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (13EIR-00000-00005) pursuant to requirements of the State Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the County of Santa Barbara Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA. P&D has prepared a SEIR for the proposed project due to the potential for significant adverse effects to result from project implementation. The SEIR prepared for the project identifies and discusses potential impacts, mitigation measures, residual impacts, and monitoring requirements for identified subject areas. Potentially significant but mitigable effects on the environment are anticipated in the following areas: **Recreation and Aesthetics/Visual Resources**. If the project description changes, P&D will require a reevaluation to consider the

changes. This reevaluation will be subject to all regular fees and conditions. If you challenge this environmental document in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues raised by you or others in written correspondence or in hearings on the proposed project.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: If a copy of the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report is not attached, the draft SEIR may be obtained and all documents referenced in the SEIR may be reviewed at Planning & Development offices located at 123 E. Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara and on our website at: <http://sbcountyplanning.org/environmental/active.cfm>. Draft documents are also available for review at the Santa Maria Public Library (421 S. McClelland Street, Santa Maria) the Santa Barbara Public Library (40 E. Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara), and at the UC Santa Barbara Davidson Library. The administrative draft of the SEIR and P&D's formal comments to the preparer are also available for review at our offices.

HOW TO COMMENT: Please provide comments to the project planner, Matt Young, at 123 East Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101, email: mayoung@countyofsb.org, Phone: 805-568-2513, Fax: 805-568-2030, prior to the close of public comment on June 22, 2014 at 5 p.m. or provide testimony at the public hearing on the date and time specified above. Please limit comments to environmental issues such as recreation, biology, aesthetics/visual resources, etc. You will receive notice of the dates of future public hearings to consider project approval or denial.

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

G:\GROUP\PERMITTING\CASE FILES\RVP\13 CASES\13RVP-00000-00119 SHELL GUADALUPE\CEQA\PUBLIC DRAFT NOTICING\NOA.DOC