SANTA CLARA COUNTY PL	LANNING BEXEDOPMERT	APPLICATION	
SANTA GLANA COUNTER	LAINING BRANKWANN	AFFLICATION	

PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME		Phone	
Hanson Permanente Cement I	nc.	N/A	N/A
Mailing Address		City	Zip
N/A		N/A	
APPLICANT OR APPELLANT NAME		Phone	
Bay Area Clean Environment,	Inc c/o	510-652-5373	c/o stu@stuflash.com
Mailing Address		City	Zip
10495 De Anza Blvd., Ste. A		Cupertino	95014
		Oupertino	00014
ADDRESS OF SUBJECT PROPERTY: 2	4001 Steven	s Creek Blvd.	APN: 351-09-011*
			ALLN.
EXISTING USE OF PROPERTY: illegal min	e waste disp	osal Access Restrictio	NS (gate, dog, etc.): guarded gate
The ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND AGREEMENTS FO	RM on the reverse side		
			* - and related parcels
205	4		
FILE NUMBER: 2250 - 1	OP(MI)	-JUEIR- APZ	
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:			
Appeal to the Board Planning Commission re	1 of Jz	spervisors the	e decision by the
Planning Commission re	esardihr	the Perhanent	E DUGVIY RPA + EIR
APPLICATION TYPES			/ SUBMITTAL MATERIALS
	FEE(S)	CONTRIENTS	SUBMITTAL MATERIALS
Architecture and Site Approval / ASX		Dorishoute	rebmittel
Building Site Approval / BA (Urban / Rural)		inclusion sp	the appeal
Certificate of Compliance Design Review / DRX			
CEQA (EA / Cat Ex / Prior CEQA / EIR)		Torm, ap	d correspondence
Compatible Use Determination (WA / OSE)	2000 - 2000	Torry an	a concoprimence
Geologic Report / Letter			and a second
Grading Approval / Abatement			
Lot Line Adjustment / Lot Merger			
Pre-Screening			
Special Permit			
Subdivision			
Use Permit	1		
Variance			
X Other - Appeal	1,318-		
TOTAL FEES	1,31800		
Application fees are not refundable.	Map Coordina	tes: XY	USA / SOI

Submittal review	ved JP
and received by	)_HK
Date:	6-19-12

Map Coordinates: X	/Y
Zoning:	
General Plan:	
Parcel Size:	

USA / SOI	
WA / OSE	
Supervisorial [	Dist:
Previous Files	:_/

# Department of Planning and Development Planning Office

# **Appeal Request Form**

I/We hereby appeal the decision as follows:

Appeal Description (Attach additional sheets if necessary):

1. Detail what decision(s) is/are being appealed. Please check all that apply:

□ Architecture and Site Approval □ Building Site Approval □ Design Review SMARA Recl. Plan Ame EIR Certification Nitigated/Negative-Declaration- □ Grading □ Special Permit □ Use Permit □ Variance Specifically address the findings, mitigation measures, conditions and/or policies with which you disagree. If you believe an item was omitted from the conditions of approval, please list it. Please be clear and concise.

The Reclamation Plan Amendment was improperly defined to exclude the cement plant site. The EIR was defective in 1) failing to properly consider project impacts, including: cumulative impacts from future expansion to a new pit and from the cement plant, 2) failing to consider mitigation measures for selenium water quality impacts, including stopping or reducing future dumping of mine waste on the site, restricting waste to reduce or eliminate limestone, or using chemical means to immobilize the selenium, 3) failing to consider alternatives, including an alternative that would immediately stop waste dumping/storage at the EMSA and begin remediation efforts, 4) failing to adequately respond to comments on the DEIR. 5) Failing to include a true no project alternative. See attached letters (incorporated by reference) for additional deficiencies. The environmental findings were defective by not being supported by substantial evidence in the record, specifically the findings on mitigation measures and alternatives, and the statement of overriding considerations was invalid because the impacts for which the statement was adopted were not unavoidable.

2. State why you are appealing. Address the items you listed in 1 above. Please be specific and concise and address each item separately. Attach any supporting documentation. The Project scope (reclamation plan amendment) was improperly defined to exclude the cement plan site, which the applicant has previously asserted is part of the overall mining operation. The EIR failed to adequately disclose and analyze significant project impacts, and specifically direct and cumulative air and water quality impacts, by not including 1) impacts associated with the cement plant, 2) impacts associated with the previously-proposed new pit mine, 3) impacts associated with future continued dumping on the site. The EIR failed to properly consider mitigation measures for the project's significant impacts, including 1) not allowing the site to be used to dump waste from the proposed new pit mine, 2) moving the cement plant off-site and beginning reclamation of that site, 3) reducing or stopping dumping of toxic waste on the site, 4)identifying a less environmentally sensitive site, diverting all future wast that site (including, if necessary, further amending the reclamation plan),

and beginning reclamation of the EMSA immediately. The EIR improperly defined the Project scope to exclude the cement plant, and failed to include a true no project alternative (i.e., no expansion of reclamation plan area, all lining use of EMSA stops immediately and effects of illegal mine waste dumping to be remediated immediately.



3. Please provide a summary of your arguments supporting the appeal. Please be clear and concise. Attach any supporting documentation.

The reclamation plan is incomplete because it does not include the cement factory, which Lehigh has asserted is an integral part of the mining operation. The EIR is inadequate because it does not fully disclose project impacts, notably the cumulative air & water quality impacts due to leaving out the cement factory and the previously-proposed new pit for the quarry mine. The mitigation measures are incomplete because they do not consider stopping or curtailing continued deposition of mining waste in the EMSA, nor do they consider moving the cement plant operations off-site to reduce local cumulative air quality, water quality, and traffic impacts. The EIR also fails to include a reasonable range of feasible alternatives (see above) a required by CEQA. Further, the EIR does not adequately respond to comments made on the DEIR, again, in violation of CEQA. The environmental findings also violate CEQA by not being supported by substantial evidence, and the statement of overriding considerations is invalid because many of the impacts it addressed are not, in fact, unavoidable. In addition to the attack letters supporting and expanding these arguments, Appellant also incorporates by this reference the entire FEIR, and specifically the comment letters on the DEIR, and all other comments submitted to the County prior to its approval of the project, as well as all other documents specified in Public Resources Code Sect. 21167.6(e).

4. State the changes or action requested of the appeal body. Please be clear and concise. Attach any supporting documentation.

Appellant asks that the certification of the EIR be overturned and the approval of the reclamation plan amendment be rescinded. The project should be revised to also encompass reclamation of the cement plant site. The EIR should be revised to properly address all associated potential water quality and air quality impacts, including cumulative impacts. Alternatives to address these impacts should include: 1) immediately curtailing dumping of mining waste at the EMSA, 2) not allowing the EMSA to be used to storemine waste from any site not already in use at this time, 3) only allowing the EMSA to be used to store mine waste from areas properly qualified as a legal nonconforming use, 4) improving selectivity in waste accepted for storage to eliminate high-selenium waste, 5) identifying a less environmentally sensitive site for waste storage, 6) immediately shifting all new waste storage to the new site, and immediately beginning reclamation of the EMSA. The EIR should also be revised to include a true no project alternative that would NOT expand the area included in the reclamation plan but would instead immediately cease illegal mine waste dumping in the EMSA and immediately begin remediation (under supervision of OMR) of the illegal dumping areas in EMSA. All waterways must, during and at completion of reclamation, comply with all state and federal water quality standards.

I/We certify that I/We are the:	🛛 Appellant
Name: Bay Area Clean Environment, Inc.	Telephone:
Address: 10495 De Anza Blvd., Ste. A, Cupertino, C	A 95014

Appellant(s) Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_ for Bay Area Clean Environment, Inc.

Attachments:

Letters provided by Bay Area Clean Environment, Inc., with Appeal submitted on June 19, 2012.

File 2250-10P(M1)-10EIR-APL

Re: West Valley Citizens Air Watch (WVCAW) and Bay Area for Clean Environment (BACE) comments for the Lehigh Reclamation Plan Amendment Final EIR

Please read before voting on the EIR and the Reclamation Plan. These documents do not comply with SMARA in an obvious and important aspect and therefore should not be approved. The issue of Selenium in the water has not been resolved or mitigated in the Reclamation Plan or EIR. We urge you to vote no on approving the Reclamation Plan and the EIR.

While WVCAW and BACE wants a Reclamation Plan in place for all the areas which have been disturbed by the Lehigh mining operations, it needs to fully comply with SMARA, otherwise they will be yet another meaningless pro-forma and non-compliant document. The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) brought up specific issues about selenium discharges and Federal Clean Water Act requirements which are not complied with in the EIR.

These documents do neither. The Reclamation Plan is offered as a 20 year plan, yet the Santa Clara County Planning Department admits that in 20 years is very possible that the amount of selenium discharges will neither be resolved nor mitigated. This is highly likely. The Planning Department therefore proposed to monitor the Selenium for another 5 years and other monitoring will be done for a total of 14 years. Therefore they are presenting a 34 year plan as if it is a 20 year plan. We hope you also realize that this is completely unacceptable and does not comply with SMARA.

Based on the Selenium issue alone, the only response to this is to vote no and not approve the EIR or the reclamation plan.

It should be noted that the final EIR was not posted until about 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

weeks prior to the hearing and no notification was made when it was posted. Considering the substantial changes, the size of the document, the scale and complexity of the project and far reaching impacts, the allotted time for public review is wholly inadequate. It also seems unlikely that the planning commission will have the time to review the information in any depth.

In the short time available, we reviewed our letter and the response comments from the Santa Clara County Planning & Development Planning Office in the final EIR for the Lehigh Permanente Quarry Reclamation Plan Amendment.

It is unfortunate that several of our carefully worded comments and questions were dismissed or not answered at all. Referral to sections of the Draft EIR is helpful yet this still does not answer all questions submitted that is required by law.

1. WVCAW comment #1. County EIR designation O6-3, pages 3.3-168 and 3.3-197:

WVCAW and BACE understands that the period given for review of the DEIR meets the 30-60 day period for public review but complained in our comments that the RPA was substantially modified long after the original NOP. In the County's response, they do not offer any evidence of why they consider the changes to be "updates and not a new proposal" despite the fact that it has increased by 42% in volume. Curiously and without explanation, they offer only spurious arguments about NOP's given for previous RPA's which have been withdrawn and are no longer relevant to this project.

The County admits that "CEQA requires that the NOP shall provide the responsible and trustee agencies and [OPR] with sufficient information describing the project and the potential environmental effects to enable the responsible agencies to make a meaningful response. The information provided must include at least the following three things: a description..." WVCAW has a legitimate concern that the description

of the project was inadequate to the extent that 4-5 months into the process the RPA was increased by 42% in volume. Given the significant extent of this project, the public should be given a full CEQA process on the complete proposal with a new scoping process, and not be limited to a fraction of the project description for a majority of the public CEQA process.

2. WVCAW comment #2. County EIR designation O6-4, pages 3.3-169 and 3.3-198:

The County has ignored this DEIR comment by incorrectly presuming and asserting that the Planning Commission has absolutely no authority to regulate mining activities no matter what the environmental impact might be from those activities. This is clearly not the case because the County as the lead agency must ensure that the RPA is consistent with SMARA. For example, the RPA could not be approved if the operation will result in irreversible environmental damage.

CEQA requires a 'No Project Alternative" and specifically precludes speculation such as the County's presumption that a future RPA would have the same environmental effect except that it would be delayed. Not only does the Planning Commission have a measure of authority to modify the applicants extraction plans, but the applicant could change their plans at any time and pursue some other use for the property as they have previously proposed. This was included in our original comment but not addressed in the County's response. The speculative strategy employed in the County's argument is a violation of CEQA and a cynical manipulation that yields the absurd conclusion that the "No Project Alternative" would have a bigger environmental impact than the proposed project. The County must amend the EIR to include a "No Project Alternative" as required by CEQA.

3. WVCAW comment #3. County EIR designation O6-5, pages 3.3-171 and 3.3-200:

The County has failed to address the issues listed in this comment. They claim that "public and private parties are entitled to a presumption that they will comply with applicable requirements" and refer to an explanation of this statement in "Master Response M3(A)" but no such explanation is contained therein. They further claim that County enforcement "can be relied upon to regularly perform its official duties", and ignore the facts presented which provide a consistent pattern to the contrary. The details provided in this comment should be reviewed in the EIR, including particularly the excerpt quoted from the State Mining and Geology Board which states, "...there is little evidence in the administrative record demonstrating that the County has the understanding, or will, to enforce SMARA". The dismal record of enforcement by the County cannot be denied and the County offers no explanation of how it would be corrected. The community deserves and CEQA requires that the County consider the issues contained in this comment in the final EIR as they directly pertain to the reasonably expected environmental impact of the project.

We also note in this same M3(A) section, the county seems to confuse abatement of SMARA violations with approval of SMARA violations, which does not provide the intended deterrent. The County also summarizes frequent public comments that claim: "despite the issuance of multiple notices from the County and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) that violations of applicable laws have occurred, no enforcement, remedial action, or levying of penalties against the Quarry operator has occurred", and claims this is incorrect. But the County clearly does not address the public comments that the NOV's have not resulted in corrective action. Once again, the county's explanation does not appear to take the public's concerns in this matter seriously.

It is also clear in the M3(A) section that many of the public comments received question whether the Applicant may be relied upon to implement lawfully and faithfully the proposed Reclamation Plan Amendment (for example Mid Peninsula Regional Open Space District and many, many others). The County says the public shouldn't worry because they perform inspections, but they fail to address their dismal record or suggest how and when they will amend their ways. The egregious and contentious EMSA violation was found by a private citizen for example, and they offer no evidence of significant fines or other penalties, nor evidence that the NOV's effected any change in behavior by the operator. In fact, the County made a illegal agreement with the applicant to allow them to continue dumping in the EMSA after the NOV was issued. Ironically, they even refer to a AB3098 provision which has not been enforced despite the fact that Lehigh is in violation for more than 10 years.

4. WVCAW comment #4. County EIR designation O6-6, pages 3.3-173 and 3.3-200:

The County's response does not address the question about digging deeper into the hillside. Given that the existing selenium problem is largely due to the depth of the pit which as intercepted the natural water flow, the question of how much impact will occur from digging even deeper deserves to be answered. The County just assumes that the proposed mitigation measure is sufficient, despite the fact that the interim impact from the selenium is deemed "significant and unavoidable". Clearly, digging deeper into the hillside makes the problem worse and is avoidable. The EIR should clarify how much of this impact is caused by digging deeper into the hillside as requested in this comment.

WVCAW comment #4, County EIR designation O6-7, pages 3.3-174 and 3.3-200:

This comment requested that contingency plans be included for generating emergency pumping power when the electric power goes out, but the County chose to answer it by merely stating that there is no emergency power in the proposal. This comment clearly expresses concern about the environmental impact of power failure and County should answer it in the EIR.

WVCAW comment #4, County EIR designation O6-8, pages 3.3-174 and 3.3-200:

This comment requested an example project where a "cap" was used to mitigate selenium migration and the County provided one. However, in the example the County provided, the depth of the cap was 4 feet instead of the 1 foot proposed by the applicant. The County states that 1 foot is adequate for this project because the selenium concentrations are not elevated as high as the example project however no justification is provided to support their assumption that the depth required is a function of the concentration. It seems to the lay person that a 1 foot thick covering would easily be eroded by animals, rainfall, seismic activity, etc, whereas a 4 foot thick cover is much more substantial and plausible. Consequently, we do not feel that the example provided by the County is adequate unless the proposed cap depth is increased to 4 feet.

WVCAW comment #4, County EIR designation O6-9, pages 3.3-175 and 3.3-200:

The County makes an assumption that once the RPA is implemented, no long term monitoring for selenium is necessary of Permanente Creek of the San Francisco Bay.

This testing should be done on a regular basis near the lower reaches of Permanente Creek and the San Francisco Bay over the long term. On page 3.3-201 the County states that Basin Plan Water Quality Objectives for selenium may not be met.

WVCAW comment #4, County EIR designation O6-10, pages 3.3-175 and 3.3-201:

This comment concerns the selenium discharges expected during the 20 year span of the reclamation plan. In the County's response they claim that since Permanente Creek is already listed as an impaired water body, selenium pollution coming from the RPA project area should be considered an existing condition and "Any liability that may be associated with existing water quality conditions is not within the County's purview in the context of SMARA or CEQA for this project."

Nothing could be farther from the truth. The County is the lead agency for administering SMARA and the RPA must conform to the Federal Clean Water Act. The Selenium that will be discharged by the applicant in the coming years is hardly an existing condition. The fact that they have been negligent in the past does not excuse them from the law. Before this project can be approved, the EIR must demonstrate that the applicant will cease discharging Selenium into Permanente Creek.

Furthermore, the County has not provided any data that establishes the selenium discharge versus time. It is critical to know approximately what date the quarry operator dug deep enough into the hillside to intercept the water flow and when they began pumping contaminated water out the of quarry (illegally). Also, how much is the (illegal) EMSA waste pile contributing to the selenium discharge, noting that the stated baseline for the EIR is prior to the EMSA dumping.

The EIR amendments that address interim selenium discharge are wholly inadequate. In this plan, the applicant is allowed to proceed with digging deeper into the hillside and begin a massive earthmoving project with only an experimental pilot project to mitigate the selenium discharge, and the design of this pilot project has not been completed. Construction of the proposed mitigation measure would not even be started on a meaningful scale if more than two years of consecutive tests show failing result, and then after a public hearing. A reliable mitigation measure must be proposed and submitted by the applicant and addressed by the EIR before this project can proceed. Furthermore, this plan must be circulated to the public so it can be given an adequate review. We are concerned that this serious problem is being addressed by a plan that appears to be thrown together in a hurried fashion and released to the public only weeks before approval is expected.

The last paragraph of this section states that the "DEIR recognizes the

uncertainty of storm water and sediment control measures and therefore determined that the Basin Plan Water Quality Objectives for selenium may not be met, resulting in a significant and unavoidable impact." Lehigh needs to do what ever it takes to reduce the selenium in the run off water and if this means they have to build a temporary "on site" water treatment plant then this needs to happen. The County can make this a stipulation of approval of the RPA.

WVCAW comment #4, County EIR designation O6-12, pages 3.3-176 and 3.3-201:

This comment expressed concern about flooding during the later part of the reclamation plan. But the response from the County refers only to the flooding impact once reclamation is complete. This comment should be addressed in the EIR as required.

WVCAW comment #5, County EIR designation 06-14, pages 3.3-176 and 3.3-202:

The county says on page 202 that they are relying on the applicant's RPA submittal and bears no responsibility in the EIR to make sure it is adequate. We disagree.

WVCAW comment #6, County EIR designation 06-15, pages 3.3-177 and 3.3-202:

The County refers the reader to section A6-7 for their response to this comment but does not address the point of the comment within that section. The EIR includes the benefit of the EMSA as a view shed improvement because it partially screens the factory from view, but the lifetime of the factory (temporary) versus the lifetime of the EMSA (permanent) has not been considered in the impacts.

WVCAW comment #8, County EIR designation 06-17, pages 3.3-177 and 3.3-202:

Despite the fact that the applicant has chosen to remove the new open pit mine from the proposal, the County has full knowledge that this was done in order to expedite the RPA and knows full well that a proposal for a new pit mine will be submitted shortly after approval of the RPA currently proposed. The project that has been proposed is therefore disingenuous because the applicant does not intend to follow it through. It seems impossible that this new pit mine would be independent from the proposed RPA because it is fair to expect that the overburden from the new mine will be used in reclamation of the existing pit. It is clear that this larger combined project has been in planning for a long time and separating the two for the operator's convenience of getting faster approval is not consistent with CEQA.

WVCAW comment #9, County EIR designation 06-18, pages 3.3-177 and 3.3-202:

The vested rights issue is still pending in court and has not been settled. The County says they will assume the applicant has vested rights until the Court says otherwise, but the EIR fails to consider the consequences if the County decision is overturned. A copy of the complaint that petitions to vacate the County's decision is attached to this document.

WVCAW comment #12, County EIR designation 06-21 through 06-27, pages 3.3-178 and 3.3-203:

Our concerns regarding the geology were largely ignored. Significantly, the County states that a low factor of safety is acceptable because there is no immediate plan for residential housing and so avoids including the impacts of numerous unavoidable landslides which will impact the vegetation, selenium containment, damage to neighboring property (such as the Mid-Peninsula slide in 2001), and stability of hiking trails that may be reasonably expected.

In addition, the County does not acknowledge or attempt to assess the possibility that the material in the WMSA may be contaminated. The fact that they cannot find a record of the contamination in the available databases does not relieve their responsibility to physically test the site based on the longstanding history of the industrial facilities located there, particularly since these facilities long predate any database, and even

predate the creation of the EPA by several decades.

WVCAW comment #13, County EIR designation 06-29, pages 3.3-183 and 3.3-206:

Our comments in this section have been ignored by the County in the final EIR. The county cannot dismiss them by stating without basis that the decision not to include the cement plant has already been made. Our comments point out that the decision is flawed and appear to be outside the law. The public deserves to hear the County's response.

WVCAW comment #14, County EIR designation 06-30, pages 3.3-183 and 3.3-206:

Our letter shown in this section to the OMR lays out a compelling basis for including the cement plant in the RPA and EIR, but this comment has been completely ignored by the County in the final EIR. The county again avoids addressing this comment directly by stating without basis that the decision not to include the cement plant has already been made. The cement plant must be included in the RPA and EIR.

WVCAW comment #15, County EIR designation 06-31, pages 3.3-191 and 3.3-207:

The county ignored our comment because they said the HRA is related only to the cement plant but failed to consider it as part of the cumulative impact.

WVCAW comment #16, County EIR designation 06-32, pages 3.3-191 and 3.3-207:

The County refers the reader to master response A4-5 where we find that the RWQCB had similar concerns with specific professional observations and photographs documenting toxic cement kiln bricks buried in the EMSA yet the County dismissed this documentation by quoting Marvin Howell, a San Diego based employee of the applicant, who states it was not true. We are very concerned that the County disregarded the concerns and physical documentation of RWQCB staff in favor of a Lehigh employee who does not even regularly work on site. (In addition, the fact that the applicant has been disposing of cement kiln bricks in the EMSA is at odds with the notion that the cement plant should be separate from the mining operation.)

WVCAW comment #21, County EIR designation 06-41, pages 3.3-194 and 3.3-209:

The County cannot dismiss this comment simply because the subject aggregate storage piles are outside the proposed project boundary. These aggregate storage piles come from the quarry and are not used in the manufacture of cement. According to SMARA, stockpile areas need to be reclaimed and furthermore this is one more example of County negligence and reluctance to enforce SMARA since no notice of violation has yet been issued.

General statement:

We agree with the RWQCB comment letter dated 2/21/2012 regarding comments on the draft EIR in their entirety. And specifically we would like to note their opinion that SCC must by law maintain and protect Permanente Creek, and only the State can make the decision to allow lower water quality, requiring a specifically defined public process. (40 CFR 131.12) Lowering the water quality standard for Permanente Creek is not within the Purview of Santa Clara County.

We urge the Planning Commission to consider the legal requirements and serious environmental effects before political influence. This decision is one that will effect many generations to come and should not be taken lightly or hastily.

Sincerely,

Tim Brand, Karen Del Compare, Joyce Eden and Marilyn McCarthy

Michele Napier Subject: Please oppose the proposed Lehigh Reclamation Plan Date: Thursday, May 24, 2012 12:29 AM Hook <gcwaldeck@gmail.com> Hook <gcwaldeck@gmail.com>

# Hello

I am Gary Waldeck, Vice Mayor of Los Altos Hills.

For more than a year now, I have been leading a joint LAH - Los Altos Committee in reviewing the Lehigh Quarry and its associated issues. I am writing now to ask you, as planning commission members, to reject the final EIR proposal because it clearly misses the mark in so many ways, only a few of which follow:

**CEMENT PLANT** - The Cement Plant is a major source of pollution including Green House Gases. But it is excluded from the EIR on the basis that 5 years ago, the OMR said it could be; CEQA says to be included it must be related to the Project. And, it really is.

The State buys cement not limestone from Lehigh as a qualified AB3098 list supplier.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District states that leakages such as lime slurry in the Cement Plant are the responsibility of the County.

Lehigh defined the RPA to not include the Cement Plant and the County has embraced that definition but Lehigh has argued concurrently in the Vesting resolution that the Cement plant was integrated and inseparable from the Quarry. So which is right? Only one must be. It is important to determine which statement is correct and follow that conclusion to the logical answers. The attempt by the County to eliminate the Cement Plant from consideration is obvious and just plain wrong. The Cement Plant must be included in the EIR.

**SCENIC EASEMENT** - The FEIR states that the Ridgeline Scenic Easement above Los Altos is not a component of the Reclamation Plan even though it is part of the current Plan that is being amended. So .... what has happened to cause this dichotomy of opinion? It further states that "A complete restoration of the ridgeline within the conservation easement is not proposed under the Project and

thus is not evaluated in the EIR". But, this easement was key to the current RPA being approved and was not only part of the Plan but was also Deeded! It cannot be silently put away without a Public Hearing. The justification suggested is that the ridgeline collapsed from an Act of God. In reality, it collapsed because the Quarry Operator quarried too close to the edge with no County NOV ever being issued. This set the stage for an earthquake trigger that soon readily occurred. The ridgeline must be restored. As a member of the Los Altos Hills government, we have counted on the County to do the right thing. But this proposal misses the mark by a lot. PERMANENTE CREEK - The FEIR confirms that Permanente Creek is polluted due to Selenium in the water that is dumped into every day from the Quarry Pit. This is a fact agreed in detail by all. According to the County, Lehigh has a vested right to do this for another 20 years and accepts that the pollution will rise over that period. The County presumes there is no current economic way to remove the selenium but the Water Board differs.

The County proposes to override the Water Board and is asking the Planning Commission to make a "Statement of Overriding Considerations" that says Pollution trumps the Environment. As an inducement the County says it will study the matter for 30 months as long as the EIR and RPA are approved immediately. That position is a fallacious delaying tactic! The Creek must be cleaned up now.

According to the CA Regional Water Quality Control Board's letter of 2012-02-21 to the SCC Planning office, the Board emphatically states that:

- The environmental impacts have been significantly underestimated and under identified.
- The standards of work required under the dEIR are not consistent with level required by the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (."SMARA."), Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations (."CCR27."), the Federal Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Cologne Water Quality Control Act, (at Water Code Sections 13000 et seq.).

The analysis is based on data not capable of statistical analysis to support the conclusions drawn. It is premature to approve the dEIR as it is currently written. To do so would ignore the better practical alternatives and the reclamation activities' real threats to water quality or human health.

These are telling statements from our own State water quality experts. To ignore them is folly and just plain wrong. To go a bit further, in their letter of 2011-02-17, the Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District has cited a number of meritorious points, I encourage you to read it in its entirety. Perhaps their statements that cut to the chase are:

An additional alternative should be analyzed in the DEIR, an alternative that allows no further placement of waste within the EMSA and the immediate removal of all material that has been in placed there, and <u>immediate</u> site restoration. Further, the alternative overburden disposal shou been included in the DEIR. These alternatives would <u>avoid</u> the significant and "unavoidable" implicentified in the DEIR related to the EMSA. The alternatives presented in the DEIR, including the Preferred Project, attempt to address the Project's significant impacts when Lehigh is finished in the stated DEIR objectives, alternatives considered must be capable of eliminating or reducing significant environmental effects. The removal of the EMSA would eliminate and/or reduce the significant and unavoidable impacts identified in the DEIR. Per CEQA this alternative is also feasil capable of being accomplished in a successful manner.

# ..... AND ...

An additional alternative should be analyzed in the DEIR, an alternative that allows no further placement of waste within the EMSA and the immediate removal of all material that has been placed there, and <u>immediate</u> site restoration. Further, the alternative overburden disposal sho been included in the DEIR. These alternatives would <u>avoid</u> the significant and "unavoidable" imidentified in the DEIR related to the EMSA. The alternatives presented in the DEIR, including the Preferred Project, attempt to address the Project's significant impacts when Lehigh is finished i them, as opposed to avoidance of impacts or immediate mitigation of existing impacts. Per CEC the stated DEIR objectives, alternatives considered must be capable of eliminating or reducing significant environmental effects. The removal of the EMSA would eliminate and/or reduce the significant and unavoidable impacts identified in the DEIR. Per CEQA this alternative is also feas capable of being accomplished in a successful manner.

Compared with the FEIR's conclusions, it seems as if there really are existing alternatives that both have merit and that can be accomplished. It is indeed unfortunate that our planners seemed to have overlooked these very reasonable and achievable alternatives. Similarly, to reject the Water Board's recommendations seems to be the height of folly. These are the people who are charged with protecting our citizen's health ... they have forcefully stated that this plan is just plain wrong ... Selenium is dangerous. A water treatment plant is the minimum that should be included instead of poisoning Permanente creek for 20+ years.

I agree.

So, it is for these reasons and so many others, I would counsel

that a vote to disapprove the proposed Reclamation Plan be made.

Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Gary Waldeck Vice Mayor, Los Altos Hills GCWaldeck@Gmail.com <mailto:GCWaldeck@Gmail.com> 650 739-8823 (Office/Cell)

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Michele Napier

Subject: Comments for Thursday Planning Commission Meeting 5/31/2012 Supplemental Packet Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012 2:22 PM From: Rhoda Fry <fryhouse@earthlink.net> **To:** <planning.commission@pln.sccgov.org> Cc: <ombudsman@da.sccgov.org>, <Marni.Weber@conservation.ca.goV>

Conversation: Comments for Thursday Planning Commission Meeting

# Dear Planning Commission:

I have many concerns about the RPA/EIR and am disappointed by the responses provided by county staff. For example, while it is correct that rain caused landslides, the root cause was slope instability caused by excessive mining activity and the county's failure to enforce SMARA. Similarly, I re-verified today with the SMGB, that the RPA MUST BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH SMARA, not "substantial compliance." SMARA compliance in the EIR is a separate story.

#### 1. THE RPA MUST BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH SMARA

Please ensure that the RPA is in compliance with SMARA. In addition, earlier this year I went to a planning workshop with the OMR and the OMR representative confirmed that according to the annual SMARA report from the county, that Lehigh was not in compliance (the report stated general compliance). Notably missing was a required biannual report from the operator. Noncompliance must be followed up by a SMARA violation, this is particularly important because Lehigh is seeking to dilute the AB-3098 regulation.

#### PLEASE INCLUDE THE CEMEN' PLANT IN THE RPA and EIR 2.

- According to California Public Resources Code Section 2714 section c, the cement plant cannot be excluded from the RPA because minerals being processed are being extracted onsite.

- The OMR previously requested inclusion (they're out of the office for a couple of days at a training session in Napa, so I haven't learned why they changed their minds).

- The water boards also requested inclusion (one reason being that waste from the plant has been found in the waste piles).

- Lehigh themselves made compelling reasons for inclusion for the vested rights decision last February – that the cement plant, quarry, and aggregate facilities were one.

#### PLEASE INCLUDE ALL CURRENTLY DISTURBED AREAS IN THE RPA AND 3. **TEST WMSA PRIOR TO RE-MINING:**

We know that there are legacy environmental hazard issues given the previous use of the land beneath and adjacent to the EMSA. There is a toxic history with manufacturing dating back to WWII: magnesium-filled incendiary bombs, ferrosilicon (highly flammable, ignites hydrogen, toxic), fertilizer made of phosphate rock in Idaho and serpentine from New Almaden, and later pressed aluminum products that also received attention from the EPA and county for improper storage of hazardous materials. The cement plant has also moved from one part of the property to another. There have

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been leaching underground tanks scattered of the property. There must be assurances in place that this land be reclaimed.

Moreover, the historical record shows 40 structures dating back to 1961, many of which are no longer standing. The county planning department could not account for all of them and while some received demolition permits, final inspections did not occur. It is a logical conclusion that the remains of these buildings, many of them toxic, are sitting within the WMSA. The WMSA likely contains foreign material (in addition mining waste) and must be tested before it is re-mined. Note that the previous RPA intended to vegetate the WMSA (a broken promise).

While Lehigh is proud of their safety record, the Mining Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is not. Lehigh has at least twice been the poster child for bad behavior on press releases in 2010 and 2011. There were over \$.5M in labor fines levied in 2011 and 2012, the vast majority of which is unpaid according to their database. For the safety of their employees and the safety of county citizens, **waste material must be tested before it is re-mined**.

# 4. SELENIUM TREATMENT

The selenium pollution in the up to 2 million gallons of daily effluent must be treated now. Lehigh chose to mine below the water table and now they must deal with it. Why the county would consider allowing them to mine yet another 200 feet into the existing pit is beyond me (this is an EXPANSION – even though it is vertical). Digging deeper is adding to a cumulative impact. Selenium pollution is Lehigh's problem and they must solve it now, regardless of cost. Here are several links to selenium treatment:

http://www.namc.org/docs/00057713.PDF http://www.wqa.org/pdf/TechBulletins/TB-Selenium.pdf http://www.mse-ta.com/brochures/mrk\_02\_watertreatment\_selium2c.pdf

Separately, below is one of many photos (automotive lubricants and other chemicals stored in standing water) taken by the water boards as part of a Lehigh water violation that would fill several binders. This is one of many problems unrelated to the selenium problem. What gets me that if this were to occur at a mom and pop service station,



they'd be shut down instantly.

sisminn wider

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# 5. WE MUST FIX OUR SCENIC EASMENT NOW

The unstable slopes which are threatening our scenic easement must be repaired now. This was a promise made to us and it has been broken. The multiple letters from MROSD point to the delays. **We must repair** what has been broken now.

I know that this is a very painful process. We must do due diligence to bring Lehigh into compliance – not bend the rules so they can be dubbed compliant. There have been so many changes since February that we must recirculate the EIR so that the public and the planning commission can be appropriately informed. Sincerely, Rhoda Fry



Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

GENERAL MANAGER Stephen E. Abbors

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Pete Siemens Yoriko Kishimoto Jed Cyr Curt Riffle Nonette Hanko Larry Hassett Cecily Harris

County Planning Commission c/o Ms. Marina Rush Santa Clara County Planning Office County Government Center 70 W. Hedding Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, East Wing San Jose, CA 95110

May 23, 2012

RE: Planning Commission Hearing Concerning Lehigh Permanente Quarry Reclamation Plan Amendment Final Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2010042063, Project File # 2250-13-66-10P)

On behalf of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) I would like to provide the following comments on the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Lehigh Permanente Quarry Reclamation Plan Amendment. This letter is intended to address County responses to comments raised in our Draft EIR comment letter dated February 17, 2011. We have also previously submitted numerous comment letters regarding recent Reclamation Plan Amendments and the Legal Non-Conforming Use determination for the Permanente Quarry. These comment letters are on file at the Planning Office, are referenced in the FEIR, and are referenced as exhibits to this letter.

We are concerned with the short time frame afforded concerned agencies and members of the public to comment on the Final EIR, but will attempt to comment within this hurried schedule.

**A6-1** The District remains opposed to the use of the East Materials Storage Area (EMSA) for quarry waste disposal. We disagree with the conclusion of the Board of Supervisor's that the EMSA parcel is an existing non-conforming quarry use. Instead, we came to a shared independent conclusion with the County Geologist (January 26, 2011 Memorandum), and the analysis by Shute, Mihaly, & Weinberger (February 4, 2011) that the subject parcel did not show evidence of quarry related activities prior to 1948, the vesting date as determined by the County. The FEIR incorrectly concludes that the parcel now being utilized as the EMSA quarry waste dump was in 1948 an existing parcel used for quarry operations. The record clearly shows that the substantial grading evident in exhibits from the time were related to the construction of the manufacturing plant facilities, not quarry related grading as purported by the project proponent. Therefore, the EMSA is in fact a new quarry use of the parcel.

The County response comment states that the former aluminum plant and incendiary materials manufacturing facility site are not within the project area. This is misleading. The main aluminum foil plant and magnesium plant buildings are located just outside of the EMSA footprint. However, the DEIR and County fails to recognize numerous other related facilities buildings which formerly existed within the project footprint. These other buildings are shown on County Exhibit 21 (1944 Record of Survey) and

Exhibit 48 (Metals Facility Site Plan) to the Non-conforming Use Analysis presented to the Board of Supervisor's. The DEIR project area (EMSA) is located within the "Lands of the Permanente Metals Corporation" on the 1944 Record of Survey, and depicts numerous plant-related structures that are also within the project area. The Metals Facility Site Plan shows a conveyer connecting facility structures located both inside and outside of the FEIR project area.

**A6-2, A6-3.** The County response states that the EIR does not analyze issues related to conformity of existing conditions or proposed reclamation with the Permanente Ridge Scenic Easement because the easement is an existing legal agreement between the applicant and the County. This response is somewhat baffling. The 1985 County Staff Report to the Planning Commission and 1985 Mitigated Negative Declaration in support of the original Reclamation Plan for the quarry, addresses the Permanente Ridge Scenic Easement. This easement was an important scenic "protection" dedicated to the public, related to the quarry development and visual impacts/ protection important at the time for the County and surrounding cities. In fact, the 1985 Environmental Assessment (Mitigated Negative Declaration) discusses the scenic easement as mitigation for an otherwise significant impact under Section 2 (Resources and Parks), and Section 5 (Aesthetic).

Mapping by Cotton, Shires and Associates (March 2003) show four landslides which have impacted the scenic easement. The current FEIR Reclamation Plan Amendment appears to defer implementing substantial beneficial stability measures to protect the scenic easement until late Phase 2 (2021-2025), but primarily during Phase 3 (2026-2030). The proposed quarry pit infill still does not appear to buttress the upper portion of the excavated quarry slope, which may still be subject to slope failure into the scenic easement, even after the proposed reclamation.

The geologic analysis by Golder and Associates characterizes the existing quarry slopes abutting the scenic easement as marginally stable, at best, in their current configuration. This conclusion has also been challenged by Cotton, Shires and Associates in their Preliminary Geotechnical Peer Review of the current Reclamation Plan Amendment, dated February 20, 2012, and quarry slope/ landslides could actually be less stable than presented in the FEIR.

An Emergency Grading Authorization was requested by the quarry in 2002 for a repair of a landslide that had failed removing a substantial portion of District land. In a letter to then owner Hanson Permanente Cement, the County responded that "one major concern is how this work and the continuing slope instability problems at the quarry are affecting the County's ridgeline easement. In order for this office to give further consideration to the emergency grading authorization proposal, additional information must be submitted to more specifically define the proposed emergency grading project. This office is cognizant that the rainy season is imminent, but also takes note that it has been 10 months since the slope stability problems were identified, and that any areas that are identified as unsafe due to slope instability should be cordoned off and closed to workers for a safe distance. Hanson Permanente can and should suspend work in the area of the hazard until the area is made safe."

To date this "emergency" work has not been enacted to our knowledge, but clearly the County recognized the scenic easement issue needed to be addressed for this permit request at the time. Not only does the proposed reclamation plan amendment prolong instability issues within the County scenic easement that have already been deferred for 10-25 years prior, but the existing quarry slope conditions also pose potential safety concerns as well.

In 2006, The Executive Officer's Report to the State Mining and Geology Board (Meeting of July 13, 2006) states that "The landslides along the rim of the mine pit were caused in part, if not in whole, by the mining operation, and thus the County had a responsibility and obligation to request that the operator amend its reclamation plan. The report also states that the County claims that the repair process (as of 2006) "has taken longer than anticipated due to potential adverse impacts to a ridgeline easement and slope stability issues."

The District disagrees with the omission of an analysis regarding the County scenic easement within the FEIR. Further prolonging action to protect the easement, granted to the County (public) in 1972 in recognition of the important scenic resource protected, will likely result in additional impacts to the scenic easement, and immitigable visual impacts incurred by the public.

**A6-4** We note the correction regarding the baseline condition of 2007 related to the EMSA. It is difficult to maintain perspective related to the EMSA given the mountain of quarry waste that continues to grow, under County agreement with Lehigh in response to a County Notice of Violation, yet we are reviewing it as a "proposed" part of the reclamation plan amendment. The EIR assumes that the EMSA is constructed. The level of construction just varies from the 2007 baseline (no project alternative) which has not been fully characterized or quantified, to the assumption of all the other "alternatives" that 6,500,000 tons of quarry waste have been dumped. We strongly agree with the EIR conclusion that the visual impact associated with the EMSA is significant, and unfortunately at present, unavoidable. We refer back to our DEIR comment letter regarding our characterization of the EMSA and the extent of visual impact "proposed."

We also disagree with response A6-3 that the "completion of the proposed reclamation of the EMSA, including revegetation, would improve views of the EMSA relative to baseline conditions" since the quarry waste dumped by 2007 was substantially less than what exists now, or what is envisioned under the preferred alternative.

**A6-5** The County response to our prior comment states "the historic manufacturing plant uses of the site are located near, but not within the project Area. These historic facilities would not be 'buried' by the EMSA as suggested in the comment." As with comment A6-1 above, the response comment is misleading. The main aluminum foil plant and magnesium plant buildings are located just outside of the EMSA footprint. However, the EIR fails to recognize numerous other related facilities buildings which formerly existed within the project footprint. These other buildings are shown on County Exhibit 21 (1944 Record of Survey) and Exhibit 48 (Metals Facility Site Plan) to the Non-conforming Use Analysis presented to the Board of Supervisor's. The DEIR project area (EMSA) is located within the "Lands of the Permanente Metals Corporation" on the 1944 Record of Survey, and depicts numerous plant-related structures that are also within the project area. Historic facilities shown on The Metals Facility Site Plan and on the 1944 record of survey will in fact be buried by the project. A review of recent aerial imagery appears to show that some of these locations have already been heavily disturbed, and portions buried.

**A6-6,7,8,9** We remain vehemently opposed to the extensive new visual impact associated with the "proposed" EMSA. Not only do we believe that the EMSA is a new use located on a parcel without evidence of quarry activity prior to the 1948 date established by the County, but the EMSA is also incompatible with County scenic policies C-CR 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, Land Use Compatibility and Minimizing Environmental Impacts sections of the Mineral Resources section of the Resource Conservation policies, and policy C-RC 47, and the Permanente Ridge Scenic Easement.

**A6-10** The EIR has not adequately address cumulative air quality impacts of the quarry operation and the cement plant facility. There has been no collection (and related analysis) of air quality parameters at the District's shared property line with the quarry. We again request that a continuous air monitoring station be established near the District property line, adjacent to the EMSA.

**A6-11,12** The County response provided does not address the concerns that we raised. Please refer to our prior comments for the DEIR. We agree with the comment that "Removal of mining overburden from the EMSA would abate the notice of violation related to mining related use of this area, remove an existing source of selenium and thereby preclude its mobilization into downstream waterways, and return views from the valley floor and beyond to a pre-mining condition." We however believe that the EMSA is a new source as opposed to an existing one, grandfathered by the 2007 baseline date established in the EIR.

The County response offers a comment that "CEQA does not give lead agencies the discretion to require alternatives to or mitigation of existing significant environmental effects for which the Project now under consideration is not the source of the existing problem." The Reclamation Plan Amendment evaluated in the EIR is the first Project under consideration by the County to propose the EMSA waste dump, and thus should not be characterized as an existing problem.

**A6-13** We stated the concern that reclamation activities associated with the EMSA may be constructed in soils that may have been contaminated from past activities related to the metals manufacturing that occurred on the site. As with comment A6-1 and A6-5 above, the response comment is misleading, and dismisses this significant concern. The main aluminum foil plant and magnesium plant buildings are located just outside of the EMSA footprint. However, the EIR fails to recognize numerous other related facilities buildings which formerly existed within the project footprint. These other buildings are shown on County Exhibit 21 (1944 Record of Survey) and Exhibit 48 (Metals Facility Site Plan) to the Non-conforming Use Analysis presented to the Board of Supervisor's. The DEIR project area (EMSA) is located within the "Lands of the Permanente Metals Corporation" as shown on the 1944 Record of Survey, and depicts numerous plant-related structures that are also within the project area. Historic facilities locations shown on The Metals Facility Site Plan and on the 1944 record of survey will in fact be disturbed and buried by the project. A review of recent aerial imagery appears to show that some of these locations have already been heavily disturbed, and portions buried.

Building facilities that existed within the "proposed" EMSA project area are identified on the Metals Facility Site Plan and include: the Main Laboratory, Foundry-converted to the research machine shop in 1955, compressor building-transformers, electrical building, switch house-substation, hydrogen building, nitrogen building, batter building, briquette building, electrical storage building, and an undefined storage building.

The EMSA quarry waste dump portion of the project area has not been evaluated for potential hazardous materials. As stated in our prior comments, the grading keyways, proposed per the geotechnical fill placement details in the DEIR, will excavate into these areas to buttress the EMSA waste fill. Given the long industrial history on the site and within the project area, we believe that a thorough investigation should be completed.

Relying on other regulatory agency records alone to identify hazardous sites, particularly when there is no record of this site ever being tested, and given the site history, is clearly problematic. Attempting to dismiss this concern because the main aluminum and magnesium plant buildings are located just outside of the project area is also problematic. The geologic map of the east materials storage are (Figure 4, Golder Associates) shows the EMSA footprint as close as 50 feet from the edge of these main plant buildings. Regardless of the presence of the other Metals Facility buildings noted, 50 to even hundreds of feet distance from the main plant buildings is still plenty close for potential toxic hazards to exist. This is particularly true with the level of grading that has occurred within the immediate area which could spread toxic material, not to mention the potential for groundwater contamination which is well known to have the potential to spread for miles.

With regard to potential hazardous materials within the project site (EMSA), the EIR has failed to investigate this potentially significant environmental impact.

**A6-14** Please refer to our original comment for the DEIR. We respectfully disagree with the baseline date established in the DEIR.

**A6-15,16,17** Regarding disagreement with the baseline date noted above, we believe that a baseline that uses the approved original reclamation plan is a more appropriate place to establish what the reclamation plan amendment is actually amending. This should include a comparison of the former reclamation plan and the proposed amendment, including area and cross-sections of the two. Simply showing the footprint, while impressive in the area that the quarry has disturbed in excess of the original reclamation plan, does not provide for the appropriate level of analysis.

The County response states that this detail and analysis was not provided in the DEIR because the "DEIR evaluates the significance of Project-related changes relative to actual physical conditions in the environment, not to physical limits established by prior approvals." The quarry clearly has an excess of overburden that was not envisioned at the time of the original reclamation plan. This is evidenced by the WMSA which is out of compliance, and the EMSA which was initiated by the quarry, and received a notice of violation from the County. The waste generated is a result of quarrying methods and conditions. These are clearly changes to the physical environment appropriate for analysis.

**A6-18** The District remains extremely concerned with existing water quality impacts and biological resource impacts and the project potential to increase and or prolong these impacts. Please refer to our DEIR comment letter for discussion.

A point of clarification to the County response. We acknowledge that the quarry has obtained a permit from the Regional Water Quality Control Board- San Francisco Bay Region (RWQCB), following their order from the RWQCB. The RWQCB has noted that this is essentially a stop-gap until the required individual permit is completed and approved. Clearly, the limestone quarry is not an aggregate mining, sand washing, and sand offloading facility, as referenced in the FEIR.

A6-19 The District stands by our DEIR comments related to water quality impacts.

A6-20 We support the inclusion of vegetated buffer areas with the conditions discussed in our DEIR comment letter.

A6-21 We appreciate the response and clarifying discussion, but defer to our DEIR comment .

In closing, the District believes that the FEIR is deficient in many critical areas as noted in these comments and our prior comments that we have submitted throughout the process. We respectfully request that the County Planning Commission deny the Permanente Quarry Reclamation Plan Amendment FEIR.

Sincerely,

#### Matt Baldzikowski Resource Planner III

Cc: District Board of Directors Stephen E. Abbors, District General Manager Erin Garner, Chair, State Mining and Geology Board Jim Pompy, Director, Office of Mine Reclamation George Shirakawa, President, County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors From: "Bill Almon" <balmon@pacbell.net>
Subject: FEIR Comments

Date: May 24, 2012 8:45:26 AM PDT

To: "Marina Rush" <marina.rush@pln.sccgov.org>

#### QUARRYNO

May 24, 2012

Marina,

I have attached below our additional comments on the final EIR and RPA in advance of the Planning Commission Meeting May 24, 2012. We appreciate the efforts to respond to our prior comments and applaud the additional information that came from the Workshop. We still object to the hurried effort to get the EIR and RPA approved particularly since it will bind the residents for another 20 years minimum. That demands careful scrutiny and wise review.

CEMENT PLANT-The Cement Plant even though it is a major source of pollution is not included in the EIR on the basis that 5 years ago OMR stated it did not have to be. This is very misleading. In a letter to the County dated September 22, 2006 OMR stated the opposite. Specifically they said that the Cement Plant met the definition of mined lands as that term is defined in Public Resources Code(PRC) Section 2729. OMR directed the County to include the area occupied by the Cement Plant in a required amendment to the reclamation plan.

The Quarry operator objected and argued the Cement Plant was a separate and distinct operation from the Quarry and that no surface mining operations had ever occurred there. OMR accepted this pleading as correct and the County then embraced it. However on February 8, 2011 Lehigh argued the exact opposite that all parcels in the area of the Cement Plant had been disturbed by mining activity and that the Cement Plant and Quarry were totally integrated with one set of management and ownership. That is a matter of public record and another example of the County accepting whatever Lehigh says.

In addition to the questionable OMR position the exclusion of the Cement Plant is justified on the basis of CEQA. CEQA Guidelines 15041(a)and 15126.4(a)(4) are quoted stating there must be a reasonable relationship between the project proposed and the impact of it. There is such a relationship for the Cement Plant to the Quarry. In fact there are many reasonable relationships.

The rush to get the EIR and RPA approved is justified on the basis that Lehigh will be removed from the State's list of qualified cement suppliers if EIR and RPA approval is not immediate. Lehigh sells the State cement not limestone. The limestone must be produced by the Cement Plant in order to be sold. This is a very real relationship.

The Air District stated on May 21, 2012 at a Public Hearing in Cupertino that leakages such as lime slurry in the Cement Plant are the responsibility of the County even though the lime slurry is fed by feeders that are permitted by the Air District. The dust generated by Quarry crushers and trucks is regulated by the Air District not the County. The Cement Plant and the Quarry are one integrated entity.

In order to avoid the pollution inherent from the operation of the Cement Plant Lehigh deliberately defined the RPA to not include the Cement Plant and the County embraced that definition while Lehigh argued at the same time in resolving the Vesting issue that the Cement plant was integrated and inseparable from the Quarry. Indeed exhibits from the Vesting Hearing, presented by Lehigh, claimed quarrying activity on the land parcels now designated as Cement Plant. The two are one except when they are two. The attempt by the County to slice and dice the EIR just to eliminate the Cement Plant is obvious. The Cement Plant must be included in the EIR.

TRUCKS-The exclusion of the Cement Plant leads to the exclusion of the Diesel and Aggregate delivery trucks. They are excluded from the EIR and Reclamation Plan on the basis they are part of the Cement Plant. They come in empty and leave loaded but always add to particulate emissions that give the County a failing rating by the EPA. Obviously those carrying aggregate never come close to the Cement Plant but still are not counted. However all uncounted truck emissions are equal to the total toxic emissions from the Kiln.

In essence half of the toxic emissions are omitted from public sight by this sleight of hand. The trucks must be counted for the EIR to have any credibility and they must be represented before they can be mitigated. The Port of Oakland received \$25.7 million from the Air District last year to reduce the emissions of their Diesel Trucks. Santa Clara County will only receive similar relief after admitting the problem exists.

SCENIC EASEMENT-According to the FEIR the Ridgeline Scenic Easement above Los Altos is not a Component of the Reclamation Plan even though it is part of the current Plan that is being amended. It further states that "A complete restoration of the ridgeline within the conservation easement is not proposed under the Project and thus is not evaluated in the EIR". This easement was key to the current RPA being approved and was not only part of the Plan but was also Deeded. It cannot be removed by inaction.

Some have suggested that the ridgeline collapse was due to natural causes. However evidence shows it collapsed from quarrying too close to the edge in violation of the Easement. However as so often has been the case the County took no action. Now to avoid further embarrassment the County simply wants to forget about it. The abandonment of a public easement requires a Public Hearing. The ridgeline must be restored as part of the RPA.

PERMANENTE CREEK- According to the FEIR Lehigh dumps Pit Water containing high levels of Selenium every day into Permanente Creek. There is additional secondary selenium seepage from adjacent mine waste but the daily dumping is the primary cause of the pollution. The County suggests this is a vested right that must be allowed for another 20 years. However 20 years can easily become 40 years with yet another Reclamation Plan Amendment. History suggests that there is no limit to the endless Amendments that Lehigh can submit.

Lehigh must find another way to dispose of the Pit water. It can certainly be trucked away but only now within days of RPA approval are other alternatives being talked about. The EIR must be revised to include other alternatives. They should have been in the DEIR as suggested by the Water Board but were not. Instead the County asks the Planning Commission to make a "Statement of Overriding Considerations" that says the need for cement is more compelling than the public good. That will be difficult as the mission of the Planning Commission as stated on the County website is to protect Santa Clara County's natural resources and protect public health. The dumping of Pit Water must end now. It is up to Lehigh to find a solution not the County or the Public.

Because of the above conclusions we hope the Commission will reject the EIR and RPA.

Bill

from Jim Brand

1000001 11

This is an analysis of the 10-year health implications of the air pollution from the Lehigh Cement Plant using alternative emission scenarios. The analysis is based on documents from Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The primary results are summarized in the graph below.



Figure 1 - 10-Year Health Costs (or Benefit of Removing Pollutants) All calculations presume full production of 1,600,000 tons of clinker.

As seen in the graph:

- The proposed regulations in the BAAQMD Workshop (WS) result in only minimal improvement (reduction) in health costs (41 million dollars) relative to actual 2010 emission ratios.
- The regulations by the EPA for "New and Modified" Plants would result in much greater improvement (reduction) to health costs (384 million dollars).
- Moreover, there are technologies that have not been fully investigated that could potentially provide even greater health savings (511 million dollars)
- The assignment of health costs to the emissions is based on the methodology in BAAQMD's Clean Air Plan 2010 (CAP). <u>The use of the term "health costs" in this analysis is synonymous to the CAP's terminology "\$\$Benefit of Reducing".</u>
- It is worth noting that Lehigh would emit substantial amounts of mercury. According the WS information: 55lb/ton-clinker with WS regulation, which, although less than the 2010 actual of 305 lb/ton, is not as protective as the EPA regulation for "New and Modified" Plants of 21 lb/ton-clinker. These health impacts do not include the effects of mercury, chromium VI, and other toxins.

While the state-of-the-art in assigning health implications vs. emission levels is only approximate, I believe it is accurate to state that the costs over 10 years are many hundreds of millions of dollars while the equipment to reduce them substantially have costs of tens of millions of dollars. The WS regulations have these specific deficiencies:

- The WS draft regulation does not address SO<sub>2</sub> at all.
- The WS draft regulation for particulates actually stipulates an emission ratio that is greater (less protective) than what was observed in 2010!
- The WS draft regulation for particulates should adopt the EPA's for "New and Modified" Plants.
- The analysis in developing the WS regulations did not seriously consider emission reduction ratios achieved by other plants such the Holcim Siggenthal PH kiln in Switzerland, and other plants in the United States (see Appendix E and Removal Techniques section). The WS draft suggests emission reduction from the plant using a Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction (SNCR). However, there are other technologies that could be employed in addition such as Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR), use of alternative fuels, Coke filters, and others.

Certainly the more protective emission regulations will require capital and maintenance costs are the part of Lehigh, but the additional health benefits over 10-years are about half a billion dollars! The recommended regulation for Cement Plants that was specified in the BAAQMD Workshop (WS) does not provide sufficient health protection for Bay Area Residents. These health impacts are most likely understated since they don't include the effects of mercury, chromium VI, and other toxins. It is worth noting that Lehigh would emit substantial amounts of mercury. According the WS information: 551b/tonclinker with WS regulation, which, although less than the 2010 actual of 305 lb/ton, is not as protective as the EPA regulation for "New and Modified" Plants of 21 lb/ton-clinker.

The Federal Register in describing the regulations specifies proven technologies that have reduced emissions even more than those regulations. US Public Health Code 42 USC 7416 allows local government agencies to impose stricter regulations than the EPA regulation. In particular, since the Bay Area is already a non-attainment region regarding air quality, and the Lehigh Plant is unique in California for being adjacent to a large metropolitan area, I feel it is appropriate to regulate to the most technologically achievable emissions. Those technologies are apparently capable of removing almost all the emissions. As I explain in the section "Removal Techniques," I surmised after evaluating these materials that the regulations could be placed at on 10% of the SO<sub>2</sub> 2010 emission ratios and at 20% of the NOx 2010 emission ratios. The Florida Division of Air Regulation (FLTE) did an analysis that provides evidence (see Appendix E) of actual regulations at many plants near my suggested SO<sub>2</sub> level in 2007.

Residents of the entire Bay Area would receive the health benefits from more protective regulations. While the residents near the plant have been the most vociferous in their requests for more protective measures, the health benefits will come to the entire community. The 500 million dollar savings due to reduced emissions would most likely far exceed the capital equipment and maintenance costs that Lehigh would incur.

The health benefits from the more protective regulations are, because of the limited information available, understated from what would likely be achieved. The CAP only treated ten pollutants (excluding CO2), and the emissions from the plant were only available for <u>nine of those pollutants</u>. This results in not treating the health costs from mercury, chromium VI, ammonia, and other pollutants with known health effects. The proposed regulations depart from BAAQMD's recommended regulations in the treatment of SO<sub>2</sub>, NOx, and particulates (PM).

CO2 was not included in this analysis since although the effects of CO2 on climate change and health effects are real and significant, the CO2 emissions will occur either locally or somewhere else to produce the needed cement.

#### **Diesel Truck Emissions**

Also, neither this analysis nor the BAAQMD's analysis considers the impacts of the <u>diesel truck traffic</u> on the residents who live near the segments of Steven's Creek Blvd and Foothill Expressway where most of the truck traffic travels. In recent years, it has become evident to scientists that diesel exhaust has significant health effects to those who live near major diesel traffic routes.

#### <u>Analysis</u>

The subsequent tables (1-4) provide detailed the health impacts by each pollutant from Lehigh for different scenarios. Colors are used in the tables to indicate the source of information. Appendix A is a reference where all the sources are identified. An emission ratio is the amount of a pollutant emitted (in pounds) per ton of clinker produced. Clinker is the primary product of cement production. These tables assume the licensed production of 1,600,000 tons of clinker. The tables present the results for the primary pollutants: SO<sub>2</sub>, NOx, and PM 2.5, which were described in Figure 1 along with minor contributions from other pollutants. The other pollutants are reactive organics (ROG), benzene, diesel PM2.5, 1,3-butadiene, acetaldehyde, formaldehyde, and ammonia. Appendix C shows the health impact factors (red) that have been used from the CAP.

In developing the health impact costs, emission ratios of ROG, Benzene, Diesel PM 2.5, 1,3-Butadien, Formaldehyde, and Ammonia were calculated using the emission values in the "Revised AB 2588 Health Risk Assessment 2005, Average 2008/2009, and 2013 Production Scenarios" (Lehigh/ AMEC Report) prepared by AMEC Geomatrix". This report was produced by the consulting firm of AMEC Geomatrix under contract to Lehigh. In particular, Table ES-2 (see Appendix D), was used to develop the emission ratios based on a low production of 847,000 tons of clinker in 2010. The emission ratios are displayed with a brown background. The values are much smaller than the top three pollutants.

The tables represent annual health costs, but decisions on "health costs" vs. "reduction equipment and maintenance costs" should consider a 10-year period since most of the

costs for reduction are capital equipment costs, which would be amortized over 10-years or even longer. Note that over 99% of the health impact is due to NOx,  $SO_2$ , and PM emissions. Table 5 summarizes the emission ratios used throughout.

# Table 1 – BAAQMD Recommendations in Workshop Report(November 2011) based on EPA "Existing" Plants

	\$Costs/yr-				Notes on Emissior
Pollutant	ton	avg lb/ton clinker	tons/year	Cost /yr	Ratios
					WS page 6 -2010
SO2 <sup>1</sup>	\$37,900	1.150	920.00	\$34,868,000	actuals
NOx	\$7,300	2.300	1,840.00	\$13,432,000	WS page 15
Direct PM2.5 <sup>2</sup>	5/4/5/67/4/0(0)	0.014	19.84	\$9,054,976	WS page 7
					assume 2010 WS
ROG	5/4,800	2.550E-02	20.40	\$97,920	actuals
	-124. 				assume 2010 HRA
Benzene		6.919E-03	5.53	\$39,851	actuals
		constant: 24.7			assume 2010 HRA
Diesel PM2.5	\$459,300	lb/yr	0.01235	\$5,672	actuals
					assume 2010 HRA
1,3-Butadiene	\$225, 44000	6.588E-05	0.05	\$1,339	actuals
					assume 2010 HRA
Acetaldehyde	\$15,010)	8.300E-04	0.66	\$332	actuals
					assume 2010 HRA
Formaldehyde	\$.11,,11010	4.522E-05	0.04	\$40	actuals
Ammonia	\$153, \$1010		0.00	\$0	
CO2					
equivalent	Š 28			N/A	
				\$57,500,130	

<sup>1</sup>SO2 is not proposed to be regulated in this case. Actual emission ratios based on the WS report were used.

<sup>2</sup>The Direct PM 2.5 ratio is the product of the PM/clinker-ton times 62%. 62% is from the ARB and cannot necessarily assigned to this plant.

Table 2 assumes the plant operates with the EPA regulations for "New or Modified" Plants and is operating at full licensed capacity. The table shows 57.5 million dollars in annual health costs.

	\$Costs/yr-				Notes on Emission
Pollutant	ton	avg lb/ton clinker	tons/year	Cost /yr	Ratios
SO2 <sup>1</sup>	\$37,300	0.40	320.00	\$12,128,000	WS page 7
NOx	\$7,300	1.500	1,200.00	\$8,760,000	WS page 7
Direct PM2.5 <sup>2</sup>	5,45(6,4(0)0)	0.01	4.96	\$2,263,744	WS page 7
ROG	\$4 <sub>7</sub> 8(0)0	2.550E-02	20.40	\$97,920	assume 2010 WS actuals
Benzene	<i>7<sub>7</sub>2</i> (00)	6.919E-03	5.53	\$39,851	assume 2010 HRA actuals
Diesel PM2.5	SAP (9), 3010.	constant: 24.7 Ib/yr	0.01235	\$5,672	assume 2010 HRA actuals
1,3-Butadiene	52%,400	6.588E-05	0.05	\$1,339	assume 2010 HRA actuals
Acetaldehyde	5500	8.300E-04	0.66	\$332	assume 2010 HRA actuals
Formaldehyde	S.II, 11010	4.522E-05	0.04	\$40	assume 2010 HRA actuals
Ammonia	195(3,5000		0.00	\$0	
CO2 equivalent	\$278			N/A	
				\$23,296,898	

# Table 2 EPA "New or Modified" Plants

<sup>1</sup>SO2 is now assumed to be regulated.

<sup>2</sup>The Direct PM 2.5 ratio is the product of the PM/clinker-ton times 62%. 62% is from the ARB and cannot necessarily assigned to this plant.

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Table 3 assumes that the plant is operating at licensed production levels of 1,600,000 tons of clinker. The emission ratios for SO<sub>2</sub> are 10% of 2010 actuals and NOx are 20% of 2010 actuals based on what has been achieved elsewhere. The PM ratio is directly from the EPA's regulation for "New or Modified" Plants

	\$Costs/yr-				Notes on
Pollutant	ton	avg lb/ton clinker	tons/year	Cost /yr	Emission Ratios
SO2	\$37,900	0.115	92.00	\$3,486,800	WS: page 6
NOx	\$7,300	0.80	640.00	\$4,672,000	WS: page 6
Direct PM2.5	5/456,400	0.01	4.96	\$2,263,744	WS: page 6*
ROG	\$4,800	2.550E-02	20.40	\$97,920	WS: page 6
Benzene	7,200	6.919E-03	5.53	\$39,851	WS: page 6
		constant: 24.7			
Diesel PM2.5	5/4/5(9) 3(010)	lb/yr	0.01235	\$5,672	HRA Table E-2
1,3-Butadien	\$25,400	6.588E-05	0.05	\$1,339	HRA Table E-2
Acetaldehyde	\$500	8.300E-04	0.66	\$332	HRA Table E-2
Formaldehyde	\$1,100	4.522E-05	0.04	\$40	HRA Table E-2
Ammonia			0.00	\$0	
CO2					
equivalent	\$2/8			N/A	
				\$10,567,698	

# Table 3: Technologically Achievable

Table 4 is provided for comparison to these alternative regulations as it represents the actual emission ratios (from WS: page 6) and then presumes full licensed production of 1,600,000 tons of clinker.

Pollutant	\$Benefit/yr- ton	avg lb/ton clinker	tons/year	Cost/yr	Notes on Emission Ratios
SO2	\$37,900	1.150E+00	920.00	\$34,868,000	WS: page 6
NOx	\$7,300	4.000E+00	3,200.00	\$23,360,000	WS: page 6
Direct PM2.5	\$456,400	8.680E-03	6.94	\$3,169,242	WS: page 6*
ROG	\$4,800	2.550E-02	20.40	\$97,920	WS: page 6
Benzene	7,200	6.919E-03	5.53	\$39,851	WS: page 6
		constant: 24.7			
Diesel PM2.5	\$459,300	lb/yr	0.01235	\$5,672	HRA Table E-2
1,3-Butadien	\$25,400	6.588E-05	0.05	\$1,339	HRA Table E-2
Acetaldehyde	\$500	8.300E-04	0.66	\$332	HRA Table E-2
Formaldehyde	\$1,100	4.522E-05	0.04	\$40	HRA Table E-2
Ammonia	\$53,500		0.00	\$0	
CO2					
equivalent	\$28			N/A	
				\$61,542,395	

# Table 4 -2010 actual ratios @ 1,600,00 tons Production

Table 5 shows the emission ratios used in creating the health costs. These emission ratios were multiplied by the licensed production of clinker (1,600,000 tons/yr). With the exception of "Potentially Achievable", the ratios in this table are from the WS. The "Potentially Achievable" are my estimate based on reading the literature.

# Table 5 Alternative Regulations (Pounds of Pollutant/ton of clinker)

Pollutant	2010 Actuals	Draft Workshop	EPA New/ Modified	Potentially Achievable
SO2	1.15	None*	0.40	0.115
NOx	4.00	2.300	1.50	0.80
PM 2.5	0.014	0.04	0.01	0.01

Since no regulation of  $SO_2$  was proposed, this analysis assumed that the 1.15 actual for 2010. The health impacts from these three pollutants represent 99% of the total impact.

#### Removal Techniques

The rationale for recommending more protective measures for SO<sub>2</sub>, NOx, and particulates (PM) than the WS recommended is presented subsequently. The following analysis argues that more protective techniques are available to reduce the emissions to even less than the EPA's "New/Modified".

### $\underline{SO_2}$

This analysis reveals that there is the potential to regulate Lehigh at a SO2 production ratio of 0.115 lb/ton or perhaps even more protective. At this production ratio, health benefits associated with SO<sub>2</sub> reduction of 314 million dollars would accrue over 10 years (relative to 2010). The 2010 actual ratio was 1.15 lb/ton. The <u>WS has no regulation for SO2 stipulated</u>. The EPA level for "New or Modified" Plants is 0.4 lb/ton.

<u>As stated the WS does not specify any regulation on SO2</u>. The WS (page 17) states that: "Based on preliminary dispersion modeling according to EPA specified methodology, Lehigh may trigger an exceedance of the new ambient standard; however, these modeling results do not correlate well with local monitoring data." The WS goes on to argue that the complex terrain makes these modeling results suspect. However, what is not discussed is that the majority of the monitoring is at a site that is close to trees and insulated from the Plant by hills. These trees will remove pollutants from the atmosphere and the hills will divert most of the pollutants away from the monitoring station.

SO2 is an extremely potent pollutant with a very high health benefit of removal – hundreds of millions of dollars over 10 years. In addition to the chemical having harmful health effects, it is also a precursor to the development of fine particulate (PM2.5) in the atmosphere, According to the FAR (page 54984): "Reducing SO2 emissions also reduces PM2.5 formation, human exposure, and the incidence of PM2.5-related health effects, among them premature mortality and cardiovascular and respiratory morbidity."

The NESHAP federal regulations require for "New and Modified" Cement Plants a limit of  $SO_2$  emissions at 0.4 lb/ton of clinker. According to the table on page 6 of WS, Lehigh emitted 1.15 lb/ton of clinker of SO2 in 2010. The report indicates in several places that measures to reduce the production of other pollutants should also lower SO2 levels. I feel it is only reasonable to specify a regulation. It is noteworthy that Lehigh emitted 181 tons of  $SO_2$  in 2008 (page 3 of WS). If production levels in 2008, which were not specified, were similar to 2010, then in 2008 the ratio of  $SO_2$ /ton of clinker would be 0.2 lb/ton of clinker – an emission ratio less than the proposed regulation.

The referenced statements below provide evidence that 90% of the  $SO_2$  emissions (relative to 2010) can be removed. A removal efficiency of 90% relative to 2010 actuals would provide an emissions ratio of 0.115 lb/ton of clinker. However, the 2010 production of SO2 is 1.15 lb/ton, which has been reduced from completely unregulated

probably due to the injection of lime in the kiln. Starting at an already reduced level may not allow the post-processing methods to extract 90% of the remaining.

- Appendix A of the CAP (page A-26) states that retrofitting an <u>SO<sub>2</sub> scrubber into</u> the flue gas train would remove 90% of the SO<sub>2</sub>.
- The WS identifies in some detail the way a SO2 can be controlled by scrubbing, but then <u>never suggests any regulation of SO2</u>. On page 14 of the WS:
  - "Wet scrubbing is another means of controlling SO<sub>2</sub> emissions which 0 involves spraying a mixture of calcium carbonate and water countercurrent to the exhaust gas in a tower as an add-on control device. The calcium carbonate reacts to form calcium sulfate dihydrate, which is then separated and can replace gypsum as a modulating agent in the finished cement depending on the properties required. The liquid is recovered and reused in the wet scrubbing tower. Wet scrubbing also removes HCl, residual dust and to a lesser extent metal and ammonia emissions. This is the most commonly used method of desulfurization in coal fired power plants and its use is also well established in cement manufacturing, although more often at facilities where sulfur levels are high in the fuel or raw materials. Limitations on the use of this means of control would be increased energy consumption, increased CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, increased water consumption and risk of water contamination, and increased operational costs."

• The FAR has several examples of very high efficiencies in removing SO<sub>2</sub>. Quoting the FAR in several places:

"We also note that SO2 scrubbers in the utility industry have consistently achieved 90 percent SO2 since since the 1970s. We see no technical reason that the same removal levels are not achievable in the cement industry." (page 55019)

"State commenters (60) and (72) state that the Ash Grove Chanute PH/C kiln in Kansas achieves less than 0.30 lb SO2/ton despite high sulfur in the raw materials without even using a wet scrubber. State commenter (60) states that this performance is attained using important innovations (The F.L. Smidth DeSOx system and Envirocare Micromist Lime system) not yet assessed by EPA. Attachments provided as part of the comment describe these technologies. State commenter (60) states that without controls, the proposed Chanute kiln would emit SO2 at the high rate of 12 lb/ton from raw material sources alone (*i.e.*, exclusive of fuel SO2). According to state commenter (60), using the described technology, actual emissions from the Ash Grove Chanute kiln are less than 0.25 lb SO2/ ton." (page 55016)[Note: The reduction at Ash Grove from an unregulated

#### Citizen's Report on Cement Plant Regulation in the San Francisco Bay Area Gary Latshaw, Ph.D. May 20, 2012 Gary Latshaw, Ph.D. production of 12 lb/ton to 0.25 lb/ton represents a 98% removal

efficiency.]

 "According to State commenter (60), the Holcim Siggenthal PH kiln in Switzerland achieves approximately <u>0.05 lb SO2/ton using the</u> <u>POLVITEC</u> coke filter installed in the 1990's. The POLVITEC system is used with various concurrent operational practices to control NH<sub>3</sub> (from an <u>SNCR system</u>), SO2, PM and metals. Among several functions, the coke filter captures the non-fuel SO2 generated in the PH. The coke is subsequently crushed and then burned with fuel in the main kiln burner. The SO2 from the PH then behaves like fuel SO2 and is incorporated into the clinker. Further details are available in an attachment submitted with the comment. The State commenter also states that SO2 emissions would be significantly less than 0.10 lb/ton of clinker. <u>According to the State</u> <u>commenter</u>, the Siggenthal plant emits much less SO2 than the average of <u>Holcim cement plants in Switzerland and clearly less than 0.10</u> lb SO2/ton." (page 55016)

• "State commenter (60) states that good SO2 control will make it possible to employ more aggressive  $NO_X$  control and that the control of  $NO_X$  and SO2 will also minimize the formation of ozone and fine PM in the environment. State commenters (68, 70, 71) stated that State and local experts, who have had long experience with this industry, believe that the proposed <u>NSPS limit for SO2 does not reflect what most plants are capable of achieving." (page 55016)</u> [Note: NSPS refers to an emission ratio of 0.4 lb/ton.]

#### NOx

This analysis reveals that it is reasonable to regulate Lehigh at a NOx production ratio of 0.8 lb/ton (This represents an 80% reduction over 2010). At this production ratio, health benefits of 187.0 million dollars would accrue over 10 years (relative to 2010). The 2010 actuals were 4.0 lb/ton. The WS has suggested 2.3 lb/ton. The EPA level for "New or Modified" Plants is 1.5 lb/ton.

Nox is a major contributor to the formation of ozone, which is an established pollutant causing both ill health and eye irritation. Although the health benefit in reducing Nox is less than that for SO<sub>2</sub>, there are substantial health benefits in regulating it to the maximum feasible level. Reducing the SO<sub>2</sub> emissions will aid in the removal of Nox.

Nox has two distinct sources in the production of clinker:

• Since nitrogen N<sub>2</sub> is a major component of air (80%), the high temperatures reached in the kiln cause N<sub>2</sub> to oxidize and form various nitrous oxides (Nox).

• Nitrogen compounds are frequently found in input materials and therefore contribute to the formation of Nox during the combustion process.

The referenced documents below provide ample evidence that 80% of these emissions (relative to 2010) can be removed. A removal efficiency of 80% relative to 2010 actuals would provide an emissions ratio of 0.8 lb/ton of clinker. Quotes are from the FAR.

- Selection of the fuel can greatly effect the production of Nox.
  - More volatile fuels burn more efficiently at a lower temperature and produce lower Nox during combustion.
  - Nitrogen in the combustion material will contribute to increased emissions.
     "Typically, fuel nitrogen in coals used by PH/PC kilns varies between 1.0 and 2.0 percent. This difference can impact the uncontrolled NOX by as much as 1.5 lb/ ton of clinker." (page 55014)
  - Given the above advantages of a low-volatile, low-nitrogen fuel, consideration should be made of returning to the use of natural gas, whose price has come down recently.
- "The results from the existing Radici Cementeria di Monselice PH kiln where emission reductions to values as low as 0.20 lb NOX/ton were demonstrated by installation of a SCR system. The supplier guaranteed reduction of 90 percent and realized reductions as high as 97 percent." (page 55010)
- "The commenter states that with the improved processes that lower uncontrolled NOX emissions and with the addition of SCR, NOX limits of 0.25–0.5 lb NOX/ton clinker are achievable." (page 55010 and 55011)
- "State commenter 60 states that based on the foregoing, reductions on the order of 75 percent are achieved by well-designed SNCR systems and 90 percent by SCR." (page 55010) [Note: This analysis is recommending only a 80% reduction.]

The high levels of emission removal were achieved by using two complementary technologies: Selective Catalytic Removal (SCR) and Selective Non-Catalytic Removal (SNCR). The WS discusses the two technologies, but requests only the SNCR be implemented. Even more reduction is probably available thorough the use of POLVITEC coke filter installed in the 1990's in Switzerland.

#### <u>Particulates</u>

This analysis adopts a PM emission ratio of 0.01 lb/ton. At this production rate, a 10-year savings in health costs of 90.6 million dollars would accrue. This ratio was adopted from the EPA's recommendation for "New and Modified" Plants. That ratio was based on the use of existing fabric and membrane technologies (page 54995 of the FAR). The 2010 production ratio was 0.014 lb/ton or only 40% greater than this recommendation. The WS

<u>specified a production ratio of 0.04 lb/ton – this is a ratio, which is more relaxed than the 2010 actuals.</u>

The health impact of particulates is primarily due to the fine particulate component – particulates smaller than 2.5 um. There are no known measurements of the PM 2.5 fraction from Lehigh. In doing the calculations, it was assumed that the ratio of PM 2.5/PM was 62% - a figure from the California Air Resource Board that may not reflect the conditions at Lehigh.

#### Monitoring

The monitoring of the emissions from the plant must be upgraded as follows:

- All emissions should be released from a single stack.
- Continuous Monitoring of the gases must be adopted to quickly detect faulty equipment. Also, ammonia emissions must be monitored. The removal mechanisms for NOx can result in an inadvertent release of ammonia, which is not a problem at this time, so monitoring is essential in the future.
- Continuous Monitoring of particulate emissions must be adopted to quickly detect faulty equipment in particular rips in the filter bags

### Citizen's Report on Cement Plant Regulation in the San Francisco Bay Area Gary Latshaw, Ph.D. May 20, 2012 Appendix A – Color Coding and Abbreviation of References

(CAP) Clean Air Plan Voume 1, BAAQMD, Adopted Sept 15, 2010 by ABAG, MTC, BCDC

Hp://www.baaqmd.gev/~/media/Files/Planning%20and%20Research/Plans/2010 520Clean%20A.c%20Plan/CAP%20Volume%20I%20%20Appendices.ashx

ntp://www.baaqmd.gov/-/media/Files/Planning%20and%20Research/Plans/2010 %20Clean%20Afr%20Plan/CAP%20Volume%20II\_Sections%20A-F.ashx

AMEC Report: "Revised AB 2588 Health Risk Assessment 2005, Average 2008/2009, and 2013 Production Scenarios" (Lehigh/ AMEC Report) prepared by AMEC Geomatrix

Note: This report was provided on a DVD by BAAQMD

(WS) Workshop Report by Robert Cave," BAAQMD Reg 9, Rule 13:...", November 2011" Bay Area Clean Air Plan Stationary Source Control Measure SSM-9 – Workshop Report November 2011"

http://www.baaqmd.gov/~/media/Files/Planning%20and%20Research/Rules%20a nd%20Regs/Workshops/2011/0913 WR 111511.ashx?la=en

Emission Calculation based on AMEC Report, and WS Clinker Production, Table ES-2.

(FAR) Federal Register Vol 75, No. 174, Thursday, September 9, 2010, Rules and Regulations

http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2010-09-09/pdf/2010-21102.pdf

(FLTE) The Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Air Resources Management, Bureau of Air Regulation produced a report "Technical Evaluation Preliminary Determinations Draft BACT Determinations, CEMEX CEMENT COMPANY, BROOKSVILLE HERNANDO COUNTY" dated July 17, 2007.

http://www.dep.state.fl.us/air/emission/construction/cemex/TEPD384A.pdf

### Pollutant Reduction Equipment Appendix B

#### Input Materials

Aside from the equipment itself, the emissions will be dependent on the input materials used in the processing. The source of heating fuel and carbon material for the processing can be coke, coal, or natural gas. In general, natural gas will have fewer impurities such as sulfur or mercury. Various purities of coke and coal are available.

#### Injection of Absorbent Materials

Activated Charcoal or lime can be injected into the process to remove toxics such as mercury and control SO2. The type, amount and rate of injection will all effect the efficiency removal.

#### Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction (SNCR)

This technique involves the injection of an nitrogen rich chemical such as ammonia or urea into the exhaust streams. It is employed to remove NOx and is recommended in the WS.

#### Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR)

This technique is similar to SNCR, but a catalyst is present. It operates at a lower temperature (570-700 F). SCR is a less tested technique and does require removal of dust. As pointed out in the WS, some plants do have both SNCR and SCR. Both of these techniques use the introduction of a nitrogen rich chemical and thus care must be taken that only minimal amounts of ammonia are emitted. This concern is called "ammonia slip."

#### Coke Filter

The entire exhaust stream can be filtered coke. The coke acts as an absorbent and removes pollutants. The highly efficient Swiss Plant Holcim Siggenthal PH has a POLVITEC coke filter.

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#### Relative Value of Emission Reductions Based on MPEM

The MPEM can be used to compare the benefit of reducing the various air pollutants, as shown in Table 1-2. For this exercise, the MPEM was used to calculate the value of reducing one ton of each pollutant or precursor that is included in the methodology. The relative weight for each pollutant was then determined, using ROG as the unit of comparison. Since studies show that PM is the predominant cause of air pollution-related mortality, as discussed below, and mortality has by far the highest value (\$6.9 million) among the health endpoints used in the MPEM, it is not surprising that the MPEM-derived weighting factor for PM reductions is much higher than for the other pollutants analyzed. These weighting factors are instructive for purposes of comparing the value of reducing the various pollutants. They can also be used to calculate the weighted tons of emissions reduced by various control measures for purposes of comparing their overall air quality and climate protection benefit.

Pollutant	\$\$ Benefit: Reducing One Ton Per Year	Weighting Factor *
ROG	\$4,800	1.0
NOx	\$7,300	1.5
Diesel PM2.5	\$459,300	96.1
Direct PM2.5 (no diesel)	\$456,400	95.5
SO2	\$37,900	7.9
Ammonia	\$53,500	11.2
Acetaldehyde	\$5,300 (\$500 plus \$4,800 as ROG)	1.1
Benzene	\$ 12,000 (\$7,200 plus \$4,800 as ROG)	2.5
. ,	\$30,200 (\$25,400 plus \$4,800 as	6.3
1,3-Butadiene	ROG)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Formaldehyde	\$ 6,000 (\$1,100 plus \$4,800 as ROG)	1.2
CO2 equivalent	\$28	0.03

Table 1-2. Dollar value of reducing one ton per year of each pollutant using MPEM.