

EASTSIDE AGGREGATES PROJECT
FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
(ZA 99-05, UP 99-17 AND 99-01, AND RP 99-01)

SCH No. 2000062079



PREPARED FOR:

SHASTA COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
PLANNING DIVISION
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CONSULTANTS

NOVEMBER 2000

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE EIR PROCESS

This Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) is an informational document prepared for Shasta County (County) to evaluate the environmental impacts of the Eastside Aggregates Project. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) sets forth the EIR process. Under CEQA, the primary objectives of the EIR process are to inform decision makers and the public about a project's potential significant environmental effects, to identify possible ways to minimize the significant effects, and to describe reasonable alternatives to the project. This FEIR has been prepared objectively by Pacific Municipal Consultants, a consultant for the County. It has been independently reviewed by County staff for completeness and adequacy, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15084(e).

1.2 DOCUMENT FORMAT

As prescribed by CEQA Guidelines Section 15088, the Lead Agency, which in this case is Shasta County, is required to evaluate comments on environmental issues received from persons who have reviewed the Draft EIR, and it must prepare written responses to those comments. This document, together with the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), will constitute the Final Environmental Impact Report for this project. The DEIR is incorporated within this document by reference, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15150. Pursuant to the requirements of CEQA, the County must certify the FEIR as complete and adequate prior to final approval of the project.

This FEIR contains individual responses to each written comment received during the public review period for the DEIR, from August 22, 2000 to October 16, 2000. The FEIR also contains a summary of all changes, corrections and additions made to the EIR text between the draft and final stages. Deletions are shown in ~~strike-out~~ and additions in *bold italics*. This summary, or errata, is an important reference tool used to document specific text modifications.

1.3 EIR CERTIFICATION PROCESS AND PROJECT APPROVAL

In accordance with CEQA requirements and the procedures of Shasta County, the County must certify the FEIR as complete and adequate prior to taking action on the project. Certification of the EIR for the Eastside Aggregates Project will take place at a hearing of the Shasta County Planning Commission. After the EIR is certified and all information is considered, the Planning Commission may take action on the project using its independent judgment. It may approve, make changes to, or deny the project. The information in the EIR does not control the ultimate decision of the County on the project. However, the County must respond to each significant effect and mitigation measure identified in the EIR by making findings supporting its decision.