

County of Santa Clara

California

STAFF REPORT

P/C Meeting: March 7, 1985

Prepared by: Ransom Bratton

Reviewed by: Hugh H. Graham

FILE: 2250-13-66-84P APPLICANT: Kaiser Permanente Corp.

LOCATION: Western end of Permanente Road, approximately 1.5 miles west of City of Cupertino ADDRESS: none

ZONING: HS GP DESIGNATION: Hillside LOT SIZE: Site area: 330⁺Ac. Kaiser prop. 3268Ac⁺

PRESENT LAND USE: Quarry SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT: SD-5

PROPOSAL: Approval of a reclamation plan for an existing surface mining operation

PROJECT DETAILS

The proposed reclamation plan addresses the reclamation needs for the next 25 years for the limestone quarry pit at Kaiser Permanente. This quarry produces approximately 4 million tons of rock annually both for cement manufacture and significant quantities of aggregate. The application by Kaiser Cement Company is in direct response to the State and local regulations that all quarries which have been in operation since January 1, 1976, be required to obtain approval of a reclamation plan from the County Planning Commission. It should be noted by the Commission that this approval is for reclamation aspects of the quarry area and not the operational activity nor does it include the area of the cement plant. Consequently, the plans and recommended conditions of approval are limited to the reclamation aspects of the quarry site as spelled out by the State Mining and Geology Act and County surface mining regulations. State law makes it mandatory for this land use to have a reclamation plan approved by the lead agency. (County of Santa Clara).

ACTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSEMENT & PROJECT

1. Approve the Negative Declaration on the project.
2. Approve the reclamation plan subject to the recommended conditions as contained in Exhibit "A".

FINDINGS SUPPORTING RECOMMENDATION

1. The proposed reclamation plan is in conformance with Section 2772 of the State Mining and Reclamation Act and County Regulations regarding surface mining and land reclamation.
2. The proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment if the recommended conditions of approval are included which will mitigate any potential impacts.

3. The approval of the reclamation plan provides the County an opportunity to apply needed conditions for reclamation of the property following completion of this land use.

BACKGROUND

State records indicate that limestone quarrying along Permanent Creek in the subject area began as early as 1906. Kaiser Corp. acquired the site in 1930's and began quarrying and cement processing in 1939. The quarrying activity has been continuous since that time.

In 1972, Kaiser Cement prepared and implemented landscape plans for the more visible areas of the quarry in order to provide screening and to stabilize the quarried slopes; plantings under the guidance of this plan is presently ongoing. At the same time Kaiser granted a permanent easement to the County of Santa Clara to ensure the protection of the Permanent ridge line view in order to screen the quarrying from view towards the north and northwest. The proposed reclamation plan takes this easement line into consideration. The Plan being proposed at this time focuses on those portions of the 330 site quarry area which need to be addressed under State and Local regulations for the next 25 years. It deals with erosion control and maintenance, including revegetation of the West Material Storage Area, and reclamation and revegetation of the East Materials Storage area which serves as a visual buffer between the quarry and the valley to the east. The ultimate reclamation of the pit area and future quarry operation will be dealt with in a revised reclamation plan which would be submitted around 2005 as this reclamation phase has neared completion. The present mining plan project assumes at least a 25 year period of operation, although limestone reserves are estimated to support the current operations for a period of up to 50 years. Beyond that period, the quarry site could serve as a source for crushed rock for aggregate. The total life of the quarry is only an estimate and subject to changes in market demand for its products.

The Reclamation Plan report for Kaiser Cement Permanent Quarry prepared by Ruth & Going October 1984 provides a much more detailed picture of the quarry environmental setting, operational characteristics of the mining operation along with the reclamation aspects of the project.

AB 884 DEADLINES:

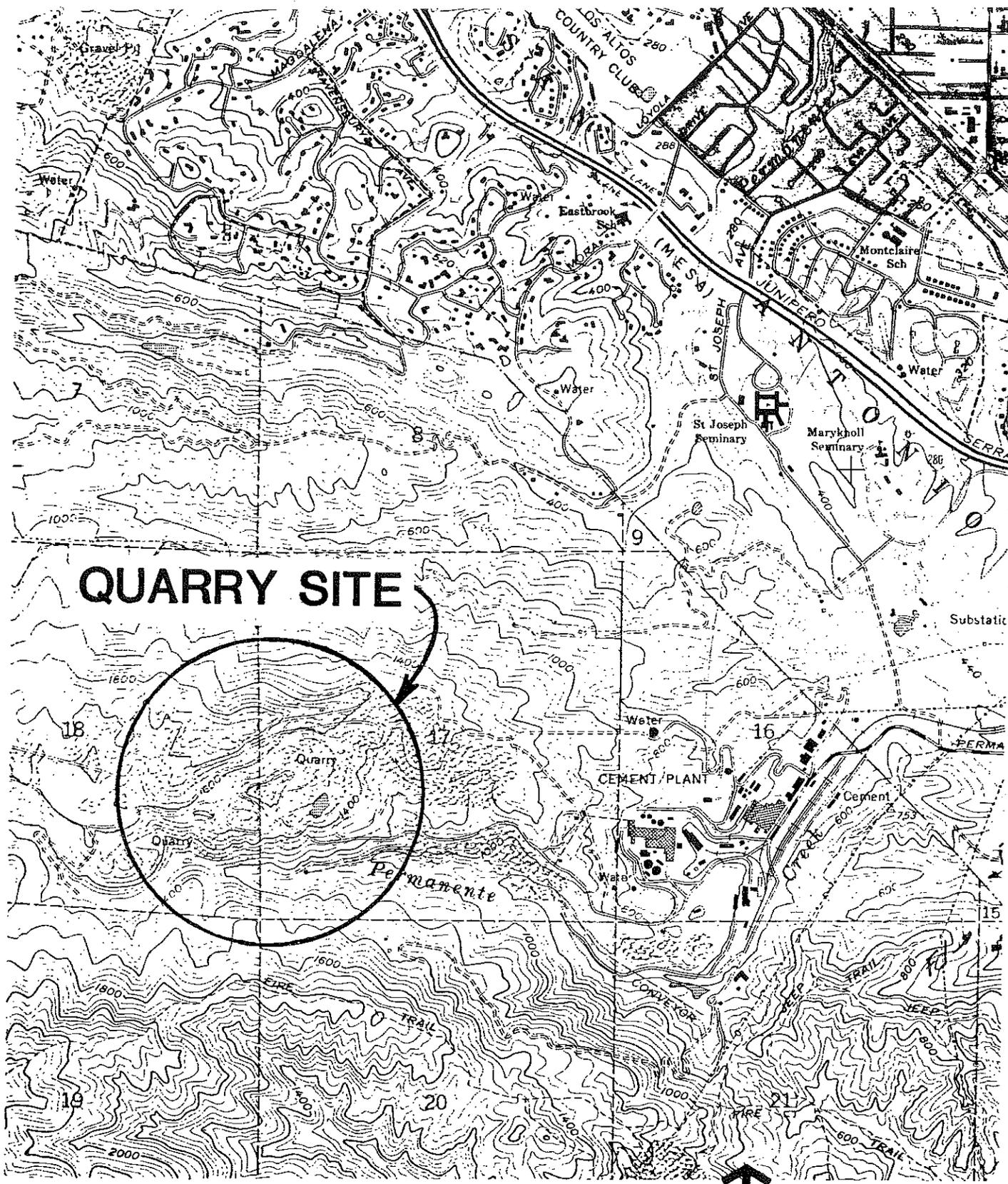
File completion date February 17, 1985, Planning Commission must act on item by August 1985 Commission meeting.

PROCEDURES:

Following approval by the Planning Commission of the reclamation plan, Staff will file the plan and associated documents with the State Mines and Geology office in Sacramento.

RB:ad

ad#LPC/2250StR



SCALE: 1"=2000'

LOCATION MAP: 2250-13-66-84P

KAISER PERMANENTE CORP

5c

EXHIBIT "A"

RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL for Reclamation Plan for
Permanente Quarry, File No. 2250-13-66-84P

The following conditions are based on the environmental assessment for this project, and to comply with County and State requirements governing reclamation plans for surface mines. Those marked with an asterisk are necessary for mitigation of potential adverse impacts.

- *1. The following plans and reports as prepared by Ruth and Going, Inc., are hereby made a part of the conditions of this permit.
 - a. Report entitled, "Reclamation Plan, Kaiser Cement Permanente Quarry by Ruth and Going, Inc., dated October 1984.
 - b. Sheets C-1, C-2, C-3 - Reclamation Plan dated August 13, 1984.
 - c. Sheet L-1, L-2, L-3, L-4 - Revegetation Plan dated August 13, 1984.
- *2. Comply with the conditions by Santa Clara Valley Water District, January 16, 1985. Obtain permit and install outfall structure by Permanente Creek by October 15, 1986.
3. The applicant shall submit a report every two years for the life of the plan, which describes and evaluates compliance with conditions of the reclamation plan. Following the report, the County representative shall inspect the site. The first report shall be submitted no later than April 1, 1987.
4. Submit a copy of plan Sheet C-3 depicting the location of the easement line which was dedicated to the County of Santa Clara in 1972.
5. This reclamation plan is limited to a period of 25 years and shall expire on April 1, 2010, unless extended or renewed by the Planning Commission.
- *6. Final fill slopes in Area "A" (west materials storage area) shall be no closer than 30' distant from the Palo Alto city boundary line.
- *7. Final cut slopes shall not be closer than 25 feet distant from any property line and shall not violate the ridgeline easement granted to the County of Santa Clara from Kaiser Corp.
- *8. The maximum height of deposition in Area "A" shall not exceed the top of the ridgeline bordering to the north.

9. Existing barbed wire fencing shall be maintained along the northerly, and property lines in areas of general proximity to the final cut slopes. Permanent signs warning proximity of extreme slopes shall be posted along these fence lines.
- *10. Reclamation shall be carried out regardless of extent of excavation of quarry areas. Should the quarry not be excavated to the final stage, reclamation shall be still completed to the extent possible in accordance with the plan.
- *11. Revegetation shall be carried out prior to the onset of the winter rainy season (Nov. 1) for each particular phase level which has been completed in that year.
- *12. Provide adequate drainage controls to insure that sediments from deposition areas shall not be washed into the Permanente Creek system.
 - a. Phasing of drainage facility installation shall occur as outlined on plans submitted.
 - b. Sediment basin to be periodically cleaned to insure maintenance of its capacity.
13. Upon completion of Phase II portion of Area "A", an engineering geologist shall review the area and submit a report to the County which evaluates the adequacy from a geologic stability standpoint of the reclamation plan.
14. Top soils in Area "B" of quarry pit area to be retained to the extent possible for use in revegetation process of Area 'C', (East Rock Storage Area").
- *15. Revegetation of excavated areas shall take place as shown on revegetation plans and details sheet. The revegetation, hydro-seeding and placement of container plants to be carried out in full, generally prior to November 1st in order to take advantage of warm days and rains for good germination.
16. Prior to installation, submit plans for irrigation water storage tank to Secretary of Architectural and Site Approval for review and approval. Include in plans proposed screening of tank.

RB:ad

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