

Forest Service Santa Clara/Mojave Rivers Ranger District 28245 Ave Crocker, Suite 220 Santa Clarita, CA 91355 661-296-9710 Voice 626-447-8992 TTY

File Code: 1950

Date: August 12, 2008

Dear Interest Citizen:

The Angeles National Forest, Santa Clara/Mojave Rivers Ranger District completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) studying a proposal, submitted by North Star Minerals, Inc., to approve a twenty year Plan of Operation that would allow mining on a total of 24 acres at the Acton Clay Quarries.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) addresses the potential environmental effects of implementing the proposed Plan of Operation as submitted by North Star Minerals. Two alternatives are analyzed in detail in this EA: the No-Action Alternative (Alternative 1) and the proposed action (Alternative 2), which is based on North Star's proposed Plan of Operations and Forest-Service-initiated mitigations to reduce impacts to natural resources.

North Star Minerals, Inc. currently operates at the Acton Clay Quarries located about four miles south of the town of Acton, CA. The Legal discription is Sections 24 and 25 of Township 4 North, Range 13 West, SBBM; and Sections 19 and 30 of Township 4 North, Range 12 West, SBBM.

This action is needed in order to make locatable mineral material available in the general Southern California vicinity, as provided by federal mining laws. The action also contributes to the national goal of supporting environmentally sound minerals development and reclamation.

The comment period is now open and intended to provide those interested in or affected by this proposal an opportunity to make their concerns known prior to a decision being made by the Responsible Official. Those who provide comments or otherwise express interest in the proposal by the close of the comment period will be eligible to appeal the decision pursuant to 36 CFR part 215 regulations.

Written, hand-delivered, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days following publication of a legal notice in the Daily News newspaper. The comment period closes on September 11, 2008.

Written comments must be submitted to John F. Capell, District Ranger, Santa Clara/Mojave Rivers Ranger District, 28245 Ave Crocker, Suite 220, Valencia, CA, 91355. The office



business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. excluding holidays.

Submit comments via email to jonathanschwartz@fs.fed.us. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to a comment, a verification of identity will be required for appeal eligibility. If using an electronic message, a scanned signature is one way to provide verification. It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period. Individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible to appeal must meet the information requirements of 36 CFR 215.6.

The EA can be viewed at the district office located at 28245 Ave. Crocker, Suite 220; Valencia, CA, 91355; or on the Angeles National Forest website (www.fs.fed.us/r5/angeles) under "Projects and Plans."

For more information please call Jonathan Schwartz at (661) 296-9710 ext. 226.

Sincerely,

JOHN F. CAPEL

District Ranger