MINUTE ITÉM

This Calendar Item No. 33 was approved as Minute Item No. 33 by the State Lands Commission by a vote of to 0 at its 1/31/85 meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

6.1

33

01/3/1/85

S 25 W 40419 PRC 6787 Hart

APPROVAL OF A PROSPECTING PERMIT FOR MINERALS OTHER THAN OIL, GAS, GEQTHERMAL RESOURCES, SAND AND GRAVEL, SAN BERNARDING COUNTY

APPLICANT:

James E. Sharp

1:44 West Miracle Mile Tucson, Arizonà 85705

PROPOSED AUTHORIZATION:

Approval of a Prospecting Permit for two years to prospect for gold and silver and other valuable minerals, other than oil, gas, geothermal resources, sand and gravel on 640 acres of land located in San Bernardino County.

CONSIDERATION:

Filing fee of \$25, expense deposit of \$100 and

an acreage deposit of \$640.

TYPE OF LAND AND LOCATION:

State school land - Section 36, T1S, R9E, SBM, Szn Bernardino County, approximately eight miles southeast of Twentynine Paims.

PROPOSED PROJECT:

The applicant proposes to conduct two-phased exploration for valuable minerals with the execution of Phase II. dependent upon the achievement of success in Phase I.

Phase I:

Rock chip sampling will be conducted at selected intervals by a geologist on foot. The samples will be assayed for gold and silver.

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# CALENDAR ITEM NO. 37 (CONT'D)

Phase II:

If the assay results of Phase I are favorable, two holes, five inches in diameter, will be drilled to test the most favorable zones at depth. The depth of each hole will be 500 feet or less. Favorable results from the two drill holes would lead to the drilling of two additional holes with a maximum depth of 500 feet each.

The holes will be drilled with a rotary, air drill rig. Drill mud will not be used. Prior to cementing any drill hole in which ground water is encountered, the applicant will contact the Commission's staff in Long Beach and the Department of Fish and Game.

There will not be any new road construction or repair of existing old roads. Access to drill sites will be by off-road travel. The estimated maximum surface area disturbance of the drill program is two acres.

The applicant will contact the staff of the Commission's Long Beach office and the San Bernardino County cononer if any human remains are uncovered during the project.

Any proposed activity not authorized by this permit will not proceed without prior approval of a project amendment processed pursuant to the requirements of CEQA. If commercial mining operations are proposed, appropriate environmental documentation will be prepared and certified prior to issuing a mineral extraction lease.

TERM:

The primary term of a Prospecting Permit is two years. The Commission may, in its discretion, extend the term for one additional year.

ROYALTY:

Royalty payable under the permit shall be 20 percent of the gross value of the minerals secured from the permit area and sold, or otherwise disposed of or held for sale or other disposition.

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### CALENDAR ITEM NO. 33 (CONT'D)

#### PREREQUISITE ITEMS:

- 1. Required statutory filing fee, expense deposit and acreage deposit have been submitted by the applicant.
- Subject parcel is not known to contain a commercially valuable deposit of minerals,
- Royalty payable under any preferential lease issued shall not be less than ten percent of the gross value of all mineral production from the leased lands. less any charges approved by the Commission made or incurred with respect to transporting or processing the State's royalty share of production. The determination of said royalty and charges shall be at the discretion of the Commission and set forth in said lease.

#### STATUTORY REFERENCES:

A. P.R.G.: Div. 6, Section 6891.

B. Cal. Adm. Code: Title 2, Section 2200.

AB 884:

02/16/85.

### OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

Pursuant to the Commission's delegation of authority and the State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Adm. Code 15025), the staff has prepared and circulated for public heview a proposed Negative Declaration identified as EIR ND 373, State Clearinghouse 84052512 pursuant to the provisions of the CEQA. A copy of this environmental document is attached as Exhibit "C".

Based upon the initial study, the proposed Megative Declaration, and the comments received in response thereto, there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment (14 Cal. Adm. Code 15074(b)).

# CALENDAR ITEM NO. 33 (CONT'D)

- 2. Pursuant to P.R.C. Section 6895, upon establishing to the satisfaction of the Gommission that commercially valuable deposits of minerals have been discovered within the limits of the permit, the applicant would have a preferential right to a lease for a maximum of 160 acres embraced within the permit. Said right shall be subject to all necessary environmental approvals. The issuance of the permit shall not affect the discretion of the Commission in granting or denying such lease because of environmental considerations.
- Rermit shall provide for a performance bond of \$2,500 in favor of the State.

# APPROVALS OBTAINED:

Pursuant to P.R.C. Section 6890, the subject Pursuant to P.R.C. Section 6890, the subject permit application and form have been approved by the Office of the Attorney General as to compliance with the applicable provisions of the law.

EXHIBITS:

- A. Land Description.
- B. Site Map.
- C. Negative Declaration.

# IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

- 1. CERTIFY THAT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION ELRIND 373, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE 84062512, WAS PREPARED FOR THIS PROJECT FURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE CEQA AND THAT THE COMMISSION HAS REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN. THE PROJECT SHALL INCLUDE THIS PROSPECTING PERMIT AND ANY EXTENSION THE COMMISSION MAY GRANT IN ITS DISCRETION FOR THE SAME PROJECT DESCRIBED IN THE PERMIT. ANY EXTENSION SHALL NOT EXCEED ONE YEAR.
- 2. DETERMINE THAT THE PROJECT, AS PROPOSED, WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
- DETERMINE THAT THE LANDS DESCRIBED IN THE PERMIT ARE NOT PRESENTLY KNOWN TO CONTAIN COMMERCIALLY VALUABLE DEPOSITS OF MINERALS.

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### CALENDAR ITEM NO. 3/3 (CONT'D)

4. AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF THE PROSPECTING PERMIT TO JAMES E. SHARP FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS, FOR ALL MINERALS OTHER THAN OIL, GAS, GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES, SAND AND GRAVEL ON SECTION 38, TIS, R9E, SBM, SAN BERNARDING COUNTY, CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 640 ACRES; IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDAR. FORM OF PERMIT. ROYALTY PAYABLE UNDER THE PERMIT SHALL BE 20 PERCENT. ROYALTY BAYABLE UNDER ANY PREFERENTIAL LEASE ISSUED UPON THE DISCOURTY OF COMMERCIALLY VALUABLE DEPOSITS OF MINERALS SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN TEN PERCENT OF THE GROSS VALUE OF ALL MINERAL PRODUCTION FROM THE LEASED LAMOS, LESS ANY CHARGES APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION MADE OR INCLUMED WITH RESPECT TO TRANSPORTING OR PROCESSING THE STANDERS ROYALTY SHARE OF PRODUCTION. THE DETERMINATION OF THE GOMMISSION.

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CALENDAR POCE 169
MINUTE PAGE 429

### EXHIBIT "A"

# LAND DESCRIPTION

W 40419

A parcel of California State school lands in San Bernardino County, California, described as follows:

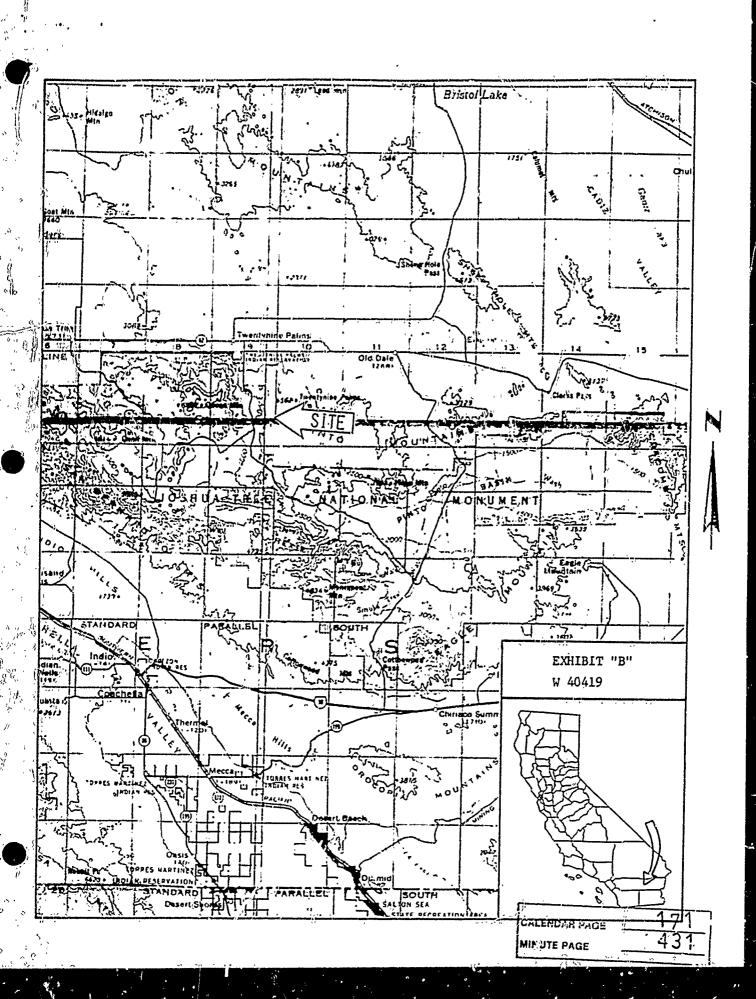
Section 36, TIS, R9E, SBM.

END OF DESCRIPTION

PREPARED DECEMBER 4, 1984 BY BOUNDARY SERVICES UNIT, W. L. SHAFER, SUPERVISOR

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### EXHIBIT "C"

EXECUTIVE OFFICE 1807 - 13th Stregt Sacramento, California 95614

# PROPOSED/ NEGATIVE DECLARATION

ETR ND 373

File Ref.: w 40419

SCII#: 84062512

Project Title: Mineral Prospecting Permit - Pinto Mountains

Přoject Proponent:

James E. Sharp

Project Location:

Section 36, F.1 St., R.9 E., S.B.M., approximately 8 miles.

southeast of Tyentyning Palms, San Bernardino County.

Broject Beatription: The applicant will thip symple rock outgrops and ansay who sumples for gold and silver. Two holes will be deliled in the area having the most promising assay results. If the assay results of the two holes are invorable, additional Holes may bu drilled to discover and delimente any possible

örebody.

Contact Depson:

Ted T. Fukushima

Te Lephone:

(916) 322-7813

This document is prepared pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act(Section 21000 et seq., Public Resources Code), the State CEQA Greatines (Section 15000 et seq., Fiste 44, California Adugen structive Code), and the State Lands Commission regulations (Section 2004 & seq., Tittle 24, California Administrative Code).

Based upon The attached Initial Study, it has been found that:

TET the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

/// mitigation measures included in the project will avoid potentially significant effects.

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dioam 435417 (8/85)

File Ref.: W 40419 SCH# 84062512 August 21, 1984

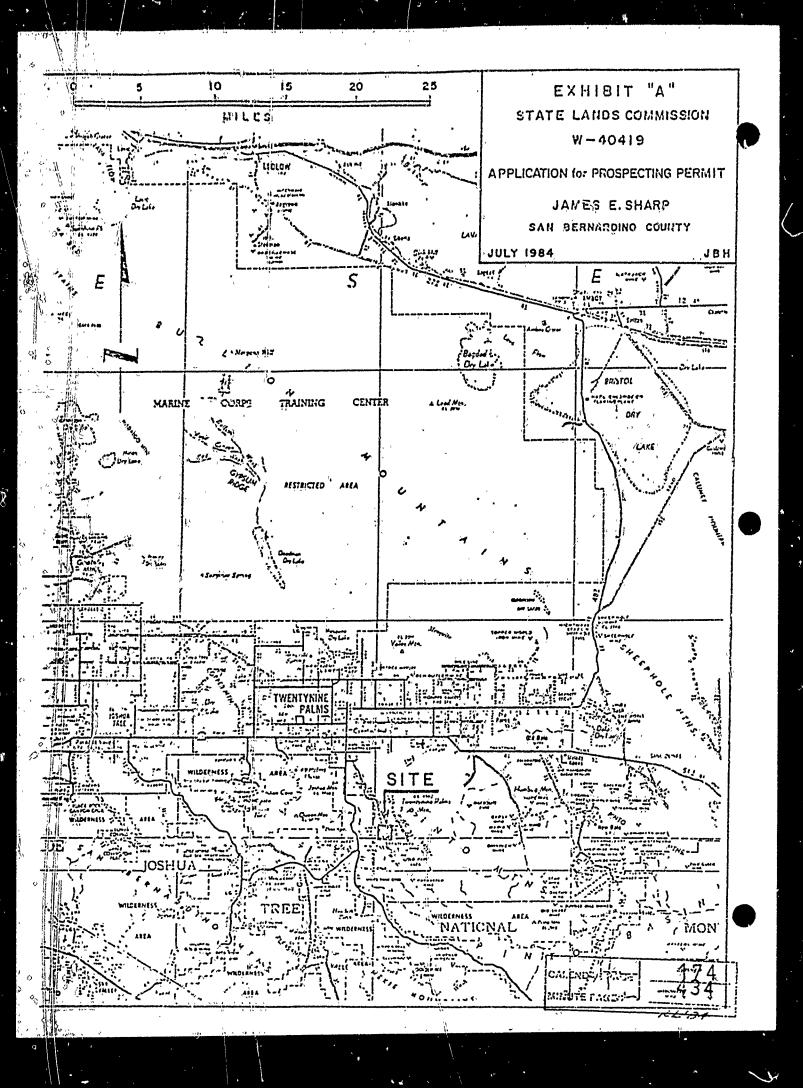
# INITIAL STUDY INTRODUCTION

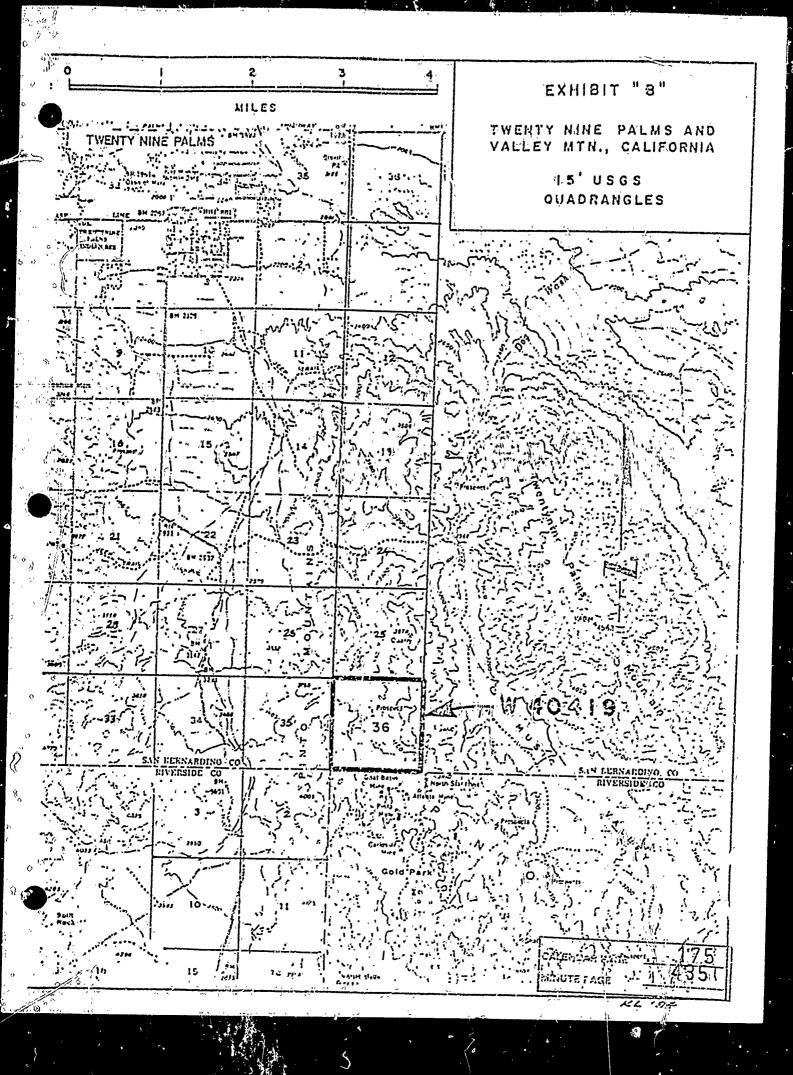
James E. Sharp has applied to the State Lands Commission for a prospecting permit on State lands located in the Pinto Mpuntains in southern San Bernardino County. The proposed project consists of rock chip sampling, and drilling two holes to a maximum depth of 500 feet in favorable areas, if any. If assay results of the two holes are favorable, additional holes may be drilled to discover and delineate any possible orebody. The permit, when issued, is for a two-year period and may be extended for a maximum of one year.

This Initial Study consists of an environmental impact assessment checklist, information form responses, and maps.

STATE LANDS COMMISSION August 1984

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	ONMENTAL :20 (7/82)	IMPACT ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST - PART II  File Ref.: W 40-	<u>419</u>
I, BA	CKGROUND	INFORMATION	
. A.	Applicant:	James E. Sharp	•
E.		1144 W. Miracle Mile Tucson, AZ 85705	
В.	Checklist Da	te: 8 / 15 /84 .	•
c.	Contact Pers	ion: James B. Hart, State Lands Commission	7 
<u>.</u>	Telephon	e: ( 213 ) 590-5201	
≂D.	Purpose: _	Prospect for valuable minerals.	and the same of th
É,	Locatión:	Section 36, T. 1 S., R. 9 E., SBBEM, San Bernardino County. See maps.	attachéd
ĭ	Descriptions	Applicant will rock-chip sample and drill two holes. If assay re	sults
. ′ ',		of the two holes are favorable, additional holes will be drilled	
હ		discover and delineate any possible orebode. See detailed project	
G.	Persons Cont	racted:	*
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. EN	/IRONMENT	AL IMPACTS. (Explain all "yes" and "maybe"(ansivers)	
A.	Earth. Will ti	ne proposal result in:	Yes Maybe No
1:"	1. Unstable e	arth conditions or changes in geológic substructures?	
	2. Disruption	is, displacements, compaction, or overcovering of the soil?	
	3. Change in	topography or ground surface relief features?	
<u> </u>		ection, covering, or modifier tion of any unique geologic or physical features?	០០គ
\$ \$	5, Any increa	ase in wind or water erosion of suits, either on or off the site?	
, k	6. Changes in	deposition or erosion of beach sands, or changes in-siltation, deposition or erosion which may channel of a river or stream or the bed of the ocean or any bay, inlet, or take?	
	7, Exposure	of all people or property to geologic hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, maintailessquorum	176
0	ngmore, Qi	Million Tage	- 43b

•	₿.	Lim. Will the proposal result in:	Yes A	Maybo	No
•		1. Substantial air emmissions or deterioration of ambient air goality?			[X]
		2. The creation of objectionable odors?.			[X]
,		3. Alteration of air movement, moisture or temperature, or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?			[X]
(	3,	Bater. Will the proposal result in:			
		1. Changes in the currents, or the course or direction of water movements, in either marine or fresh waters?			[X]
		2. Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface water runoff?			$[\tilde{\chi}]$
		3. Alterations to the course or flow of flood waters?			[X
42		4. Change in the amount of surface water in any water body?			
		5. Discharge into surface waters, or in way alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved c xygen or turbidity.			
	•	6. Alteration of the direct on or rate of flow of ground waters?		X	
c.	•	7. Change in the quantity of ground waters, either through direct additions of withdrawals, or through inter- ception of an addition by cuts or excavations?			(X,
X+	;	8. Substantial reduction in the amount of water otherwise available for public water supplies?			[X]
	1	Exposure of people or property to water-related hazards such as flooding or tidal waves?			[X
	1	2. Significant changes in the temperature, flow on chemical content of surface thermal springs?			ΧI
Ģ	i J	Plant Life. Will the proposal result in:			
E.	1	Change in the diversity of medies, or number of any species of plants (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and equatic plants)?	_ _ [	<u>.</u>   [	$\overline{\mathbf{x}}$
	7	Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of plants?	i	11	χÌ
	3	Introduction of new species of plants into an area, or in a barrier to the normal replenishment of existing			ΧI
	4	Reduction in acreage of any agricultural crop?	<u>ה</u>		X
É.	ď	nimal Life. Will the proposal result in:			•
	1	Change in the diversity of species, or numbers of any species of animals (birds, land animals including reptiles, fish and shellfish, benthic organisms, or insects)?	) [	) [	X
, ž	2	. 'Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rars or endangered species of animals?	כ	<u>ו</u>	XI
		Introduction of new species of animals into an area, or result in albarrier to the migration or movement of animals?	ם כ		N
	4,	Deterioration to existing fish or wildlife habitat?.	] [		
F.	N	pise. Will the proposal result in:			,,
	ä,	Increase in existing noise levels?	`. ( <u>X</u>	] [	7
	`2 <b>:</b>	Exposure of people to severé noise levels?			d
	LÌ	ght and Glure, Will the proposal result in:			
	1.	The production of new light or glare?		- [x	-
ł.		nd Use. Will the proposal result in:			•
6	1,	A substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area?		Ιx	1
		tural Resources. Will the proposal result in:			-
	1.	Increase in the rate of use of any natural resources?		ĺχ	
	2.	Substantial depletion of any nonrenewable resources?		$\{x\}$	
		, and the second se		** : (	
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MINUTE PAGE

J	Risk of Upset. Does the proposal result in:	Yes Mayb	No.
13	1. A risk of an explosion or the inlease of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to, oil, pasticides, chemicals, or radiation) in the event of an accident or upset conditions?		X •
	2. Possible interference with emergency response plan or an emergency evacuation plan?	لــا الـا	حت
ĸ.	Population. Will the proposal result in:		X
4)	1. The alteration, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of the area?		A)
Li,	Housing. Vill the proposal result in:		X
	1. Affecting existing housing, or create a demand for additional housing?		لکا
м.	Transportation/Circulation: Will the proposal result in:	$\dot{\Box}$	X
	Generation of substantial additional vehicular movement?		
	2. Affecting existing parking facilities, or create a demand for new parking?		N N
	3. Substantial impact upon existing transportation systems?		
	Attenations to present patterns of circulation or movement of people and/or goods?		
	5. Alterations to waterborne, rail, or air-traffic?		$\overline{\mathbb{X}}$
	.g. Increase in straffic hazards to motor-vehicles, bicyclists, or pedestrians?	لا لا	<u>(A.)</u>
N.	Public Services. Will the proposal have an effect upon, or result in a need for new or altered governmental		
13	services in any of the following areas:  1. Fire protection?		X
	1. Fire protection?		X
	.2. Police protection?		X
``\	3. Schools?	$\overline{\cap}$	X
	4. Parks and other recreational facilities?	ĀĀ	X
	5. Maintenance of public facilities; including roads?	$\overline{\cap}$	X
	6. Other governmental services?		12
o.	Energy. Will the proposal result in:		$\mathbf{x}$
,	1. Use of substantial amounts of fuel or energy?		$\overline{\mathbf{x}}$
	2. Substantial increase in demand upon existing sources of energy, or require the development of new sources?		52 2ml
P.	Unlities. Will the proposal result in a need for new systems; or substantial alterations to the following utilities:		$\mathbf{x}$
	1. Power or natural gas?		Ŕ
	Z. Communication systems?		
	3. Water?:		$\mathbf{x}$
	4. Sewer or septic tanks?		
:	5. Storm water drainage?	一声节	
٠,	6. Solid waste and disposal?	L L	ليكا، ا
Q.	Human Health. Will the proposal result in:	ا ب	区
	1. Creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard (excluding mental health)?		
	2. Exposure of people to potential health hazards?	سا نیا	ا لبائيا
R,	Aesthetics. Will the proposal result in:	•	
	1. The obstruction of any scenic vista or view open to the public, or will the proposal result in the creation of an aesthetically offensive site open to public view?		
S.	Recreation. Will the proposal result in:	<u></u>	ि रही
	1. An impact upon the quality or quantity of existing recreational opportunities?	 	178
• •	MINUTE PAGE		438 j
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•	13		•														
*	, <b>T</b>	N. Culi	ural/Resou	irces.					*						Ye	Maybo	₂∙No
_		1. V	Vill the pro	posal result	in the afte	ration of	or the d	estructio	រភ ភក្ ភ្	prehisto	ric or h	istoric	archeol	ogical sit	e?. [		$\overline{X}$ :
ļ	) ,	2. V	Vill the p tructure, a	roposal resu r object?	yt in adve	rse phys	ical or	aasthetid	elleci	s to a	prehist	oric or	histor	ic :buildi	r.g,		[XI
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		2, D	oes the propais?	oject have	the potënti	al to achi	eve shor	rt-term,	to, the c	lisadvan	tage of	long-ter	rm, env	irolimen	tại È		íxî
	1	" 3. D	oes the pro	oject have in	npacts which	ch are ind	ividually	r limited	, but.ci	ımulatık	ely cor	siderab	le?		<u>П</u>	Ī	X
Q		4. De	oes the pr ther direct	oject have e ly or indired	environmen stly?	tal effect	s which	will câu	sé subs	tántíal ,	dvėrse	effects	on hun	nan beind			(X)
Ħ	i. Di	iścnsz	ION OF E	ŅŸIROŅM	ENTAL EV	/ALUAT	ON Se	e Comm	ents Ai	tached)	,	,	•	, ,	نسا	,	دست
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# DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

James E. Sharp proposes to conduct multiphased exploration in the permit area with the execution of each phase dependent upon the achievement of success in the immediately preceding phase. The project consists of phases of increasing magnitude and expense. This permits an orderly compilation of information and holds expenses and surface disturbance to a monimum of the results do not justify proceeding further.

Several old prospect pits and a dirt acress road exist in the subject area. This parcel is within the old Gold Park Mining District. An exploration program to evaluate the mineral potential of this area is proposed as follows:

#### Phase I:

Rock chip sampling will be conducted at selected intervals by a geologist on foot. The samples will be assayed for gold and silver.

#### Phase II:

If the assay results of the previous work are favorable, two holes, five inches in diameter, will be drilled to test the most favorable zones at depth (Map C). The depth of each hole will be 500 feet or less. Favorable results from the two drill holes would lead to the drilling of additional holes with a maximum depth of 500 feet each.

The holes will be drilled with a rotary, air drill rig. Drill mud will not be used. Prior to abandonment, any drill holes penetrating water-bearing rock will be cemented with quick setting cement from the level of water intersection to the top of the drill hole.

# Surface Disturbance:

There will not be any new road construction and/or repair of existing old roads. Access to drill sites will be by off-road travel. The estimated maximum surface area disturbance of the two hole drill program is two acres.

If a commencially valuable mineral deposit is discovered through prospecting efforts under authorization of a prospecting permit, a comprehensive environmental impact report will be required on the future impacts of mining the deposit.

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State of California Section MAP C Existing Adit Fortal >
Existing Prospect Pits >
Proposed Drill Hole O pale: I inch = 500 feet CALENDAS SACE

# III. Discussion of Environmental Evaluation

0

A 2. Disruption, displacement, compaction and overcovering of the rocky soil will occur in the immediate vicinity of the drill sites if phase II is executed. All drill sites will be restored to the natural ground contour, as nearly as possible, if Phase II prospecting is unsuccessful.

If Phase II is executed, a minimal amount of disruption and compaction of the soil will occur when the drilling equipment is moved on and off a site.

- A 5. An increase in wind and water erosion of the disturbed soil at the drill sites will take place during wind and rain storms. Erosion will be minimal if Phase II is not executed.
- C 6. Drilling may penetrate one or more aquifers with a subsequent flow path through the drill hole; however, it is anticipated that no water bearing formations will be penetrated. If ground water is encountered, the drill hole will be plugged with cement upon abandonment.
- F 1. The operating drill rig and accessory activities will temporarily increase the existing noise levels.

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STATE	** ** * * *	 	 

Date Filed:	<del>, 1</del>	<u></u>
File Rel.:	140:19	

· ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM - Partil (To:be completed by applicant): FORM 69.3(11/82)

A <sub>C</sub>	GE	NERAL INFORMATION						
1.	Nan	ne, address, and telephone number:						
٠	a.	Applicant	b. Contact person if other than applicant:					
		James E. Sharp	Lee Ann Morrell					
ti	~	6800 N. Cascade Spring	1144 W. Miracle Mile					
4,		Tucson, Arizona 85718	Tucson, Arizona 85705					
11		1 602.) 299-0983	(602 ) 293-6870					
<b>2.</b>	å.	Project location: (Please reference to nearest town or community and include county)  10 inities south of Twenty Nine Palms, California - San Bernardino County						
	,							
	b.	Assessor's parcel number: Unknown						
3.	Exis	iting zoning of project site: Unknown						
4.	Exis	ting land use of project site:Unknown						
5.		oosed use of site: Mining	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,					
6.	Oth-	permits required: BLM, California Water O	Quality Control					
i	<u> </u>							
	pnc.	SECT DESCRIPTION						

1. For building construction-projects, complete-"ATTACHMENT A".

2. For non-building construction projects: Describe fully, the proposed activity, its purpose and intended use, e.g. for proposed mineral prospecting permits, include the number of test holes, size of holes, amount of eigerial to be excavated, maximum surface area of disturbance, hole locations, depth of holes, etc. Attach plant or other drawings as necessary,

> CALENDAR PAGE MINUTE PAGE

### Envilonmental setting

- Describe the project site as it exists before the project, including information on topographs, soil stability, plants and animals, and any cultural, historical, or scenic aspects. Describe any existing structures on the site, and the use of the structures.
- 2. Describe the surrounding properties, including information on plants and animals and any cultural, historical, or scenic aspects. indicate the type of land use (residential, commercial, etc.), intensity of land use (one-family, apartment houses, shops, department stores, etc.), and scale of development (height, frontage, set-back, rear yard, etc.).

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ACSESSMENT

, , ,	Answer the following questions by placing a check in the appropriate box. Discuss all items checked "yes" (Attach additional sheets as necessary)	or "m	iybe".
٧	Will the project involve:	MAYB	E NO
<b>3</b> .	a change in existing features of any bays, tidelands, beaches, lakes, or hills, or substantial alteration		Ø
2.	🎎 🚜 change în scenic views or vistas "rom existing residential areas or public János or roads?"	, <b></b>	凶
3.	a change in pattern, scale, or character of the general area of project?		$\boxtimes$
, <b>4</b> ;	significant effect on plant or an mail life?	· 🗀	X
5.	significant amounts of solid waste or litter?	·[]	
6.	a change in dust, ash, smake, fumas, or odors in the vicinity?	EJ.	
7.	of existing drainage patterns?		図
8.	a change in existing noise or vibration levels in the vicinity?		Ŏ
9.	construction on filled land or on liope of 10 percent or more?		
<b>o.</b>	use or disposal of potentially hazardous materials, much as toxic or radioactive		
1.	a change in demand for municipal services (police, fire, water, sewage, etc.)?		X
Š	an increase in follis fuel consumption (electricity, oil, natural gas, etc.)?		2
3.	a large project on a series of projects?	· 🔲 ·	
•	CERTIFICATION	•	
•	inhereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information for this initial evaluation to the best of my ability, and that the facts, statements, and information presented and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.	nation d are t	re- rue
·	Date: 2/20/194 Signed: James Siftan	<u> </u>	- <u> </u>

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### Form 69.3 (Attached)

- B. Project Description
- 2) These questions cannot be answered until the Initial geologic investigation has been completed for which this application is being made.
- C. Environmental Setting
- 1) Topography broad sandy washes with low lying hills rising to elevations approximately 1000 feet above the washes. Soil profiles are poorly developed in the Precambrian gneiss, granite and schist basement rocks. Flash floods have stripped and gullied the low lying hills. Plants consist of scrub brush, prickly-pear, cholla, and occassional joshua tree. Animals consist of chipmunks, rock squirrels and rabbits. No cultural or historical sites are present on Section 36. Scenic aspects are a matter of personal judgement.
- 2) Surrounding properties contain old mine sites and cabin foundations of post 1950 restoration ventage. One weekend cabin site exists over a mile south of Section 36. Scenic and visual values are diminished by a large red and white microwave tower visable from any location within the project perimeter. The paved road and the excavation scares from construction of this road have been engineered on the side of the mountain lacing the project, so as to minimize the visual impact to Joshua Tree National

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