

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. C19  
was approved by Minute Item  
No. 17 by the State Lands  
Commission by a vote of 5  
to 0 at its 2/24/86  
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

C19

06/26/86  
W. 40479 PRC 6993  
Pelka

A 61

S 25

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

APPLICANT: Steven Nolan Harwood  
419 North Gerona Avenue  
San Gabriel, California 91775

PROPOSED AUTHORIZATION:  
Approval of a prospecting permit for two years  
to prospect for precious and platinum group  
metals and other valuable minerals, other than  
oil, gas, geothermal resources, sand and gravel  
on 160 acres of land, more or less, located in  
San Bernardino County.

CONSIDERATION: Filing fee of \$25, processing fee of \$250 and  
an acreage deposit of \$160.

TYPE OF LAND AND LOCATION:  
State school land - SE 1/4, Section 36, T13N  
R17E, SBM, San Bernardino County, approximately  
18 miles north of Goffs.

PROPOSED PROJECT  
The applicant proposes to conduct multiphased  
exploration for precious and platinum group  
metals with the execution of each phase  
dependant upon the achievement of success in  
the immediately preceding phase and the  
necessity of additional information. This  
approach allows costs and environmental  
disturbance to be maintained to a minimum while  
attempting to delineate a commercially valuable  
mineral deposit.

(PAGES 117-117.28 ADDED 06/17/86)

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CALENDAR ITEM NO. C 1 9 (CONT'D)

Phase I

The applicant will auger sixteen, one and one-fourth inch diameter holes to a depth of 20 feet with a portable Johnson drill on a grid spacing of 500 feet. A small sample from each hole will be saved and sent to a lab for assay with the remainder of the material returned to the hole. A rubber-tired pickup and portable drill will be the only equipment used and shall remain on existing roads, trails, and washes to the greatest extent possible to minimize surface impacts from vehicle use.

Phase II

The applicant will auger eighty one holes on a grid spacing of 250 feet (other Phase II description same as Phase I).

Phase III

The applicant will auger 361 holes on a grid spacing of 125 feet (other Phase III description same as Phase I).

Surface Disturbance

The estimated maximum surface area disturbance except for vehicle tracks for Phase I through Phase III activities is 4 square feet. The estimated maximum excavated volume for Phase I through Phase III is 78 cubic feet. The portable Johnson drill does not require a drilling medium, therefore no solid or liquid waste disposal is required.

No new roads will be constructed. Existing roads, trails, and washes will be used wherever and whenever possible. The applicant will not injure, remove, or destroy any Joshua Trees.

An amendment has been added to Exhibit "A" of the permit which requires Permittee to notify staff upon completion of each phase of prospecting. Permittee shall only be allowed to proceed to the following phase of activity following staff's field inspection and approval that the terms and conditions of the permit including all mitigation measures have been complied with.

CALENDAR ITEM NO. C 19 (CONT'D)

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.

PREREQUISITE ITEMS:

1. Required statutory filing fee, expense deposit and acreage deposit have been submitted by the applicant.
2. Subject parcel is not known to contain a commercially valuable deposit of minerals.
3. 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.C.: Div. 6, Section 6891.
- B. Cal. Adm. Code: Title 2, Section 2200.

AB 884: 02/20/86.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. 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 review a proposed Negative Declaration identified as EIR ND394, State Clearinghouse 85120203 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 Negative 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)).

2. This activity involves lands identified as possessing significant environmental values pursuant to P.R.C. 6370 et. seq. Based upon the staff's consultation with the persons nominating such lands and through the CEQA review process, it is the staff's opinion that the project, as proposed, is consistent with its use classification.
3. Pursuant to P.R.C. Section 6895, upon establishing to the satisfaction of the Commission 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 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.
4. Permit shall provide for a performance bond of \$2,500 in favor of the State.

CALENDAR ITEM NO. C19 (CONT'D)

APPROVALS OBTAINED:

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.
- D. Amendment to Exhibit "A" of Prospecting Permit.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. CERTIFY THAT NEGATIVE DECLARATION ND394, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE 85120203, WAS PREPARED FOR THIS PROJECT PURSUANT 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 DESCRIBED IN THE PERMIT, WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
3. FIND THAT THIS ACTIVITY IS CONSISTENT WITH THE USE CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATED FOR THE LAND PURSUANT TO P.R.C. 6370, ET SEQ.
4. DETERMINE THAT THE LANDS DESCRIBED IN THE PERMIT ARE NOT PRESENTLY KNOWN TO CONTAIN COMMERCIALY VALUABLE DEPOSITS OF MINERALS.
5. AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF THE PROSPECTING PERMIT TO STEVEN NOLAN HARWOOD FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS, FOR ALL MINERALS OTHER THAN OIL, GAS, GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES, SAND AND GRAVEL ON SE 1/4, SECTION 36, T13N R17E, SBM, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 160 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARD FORM OF PERMIT. ROYALTY PAYABLE UNDER THE PERMIT SHALL BE 20 PERCENT. ROYALTY PAYABLE UNDER ANY PREFERENTIAL LEASE ISSUED UPON THE DISCOVERY OF COMMERCIALY VALUABLE DEPOSITS OF MINERALS 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.

EXHIBIT "A"

LAND DESCRIPTION

W40479

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

SE $\frac{1}{2}$  of Section 36, T13N, R17E, SBM.

END OF DESCRIPTION

PREPARED DECEMBER 19, 1965 BY BOUNDARY SERVICES UNIT, M. L. SHAFER,  
SUPERVISOR.

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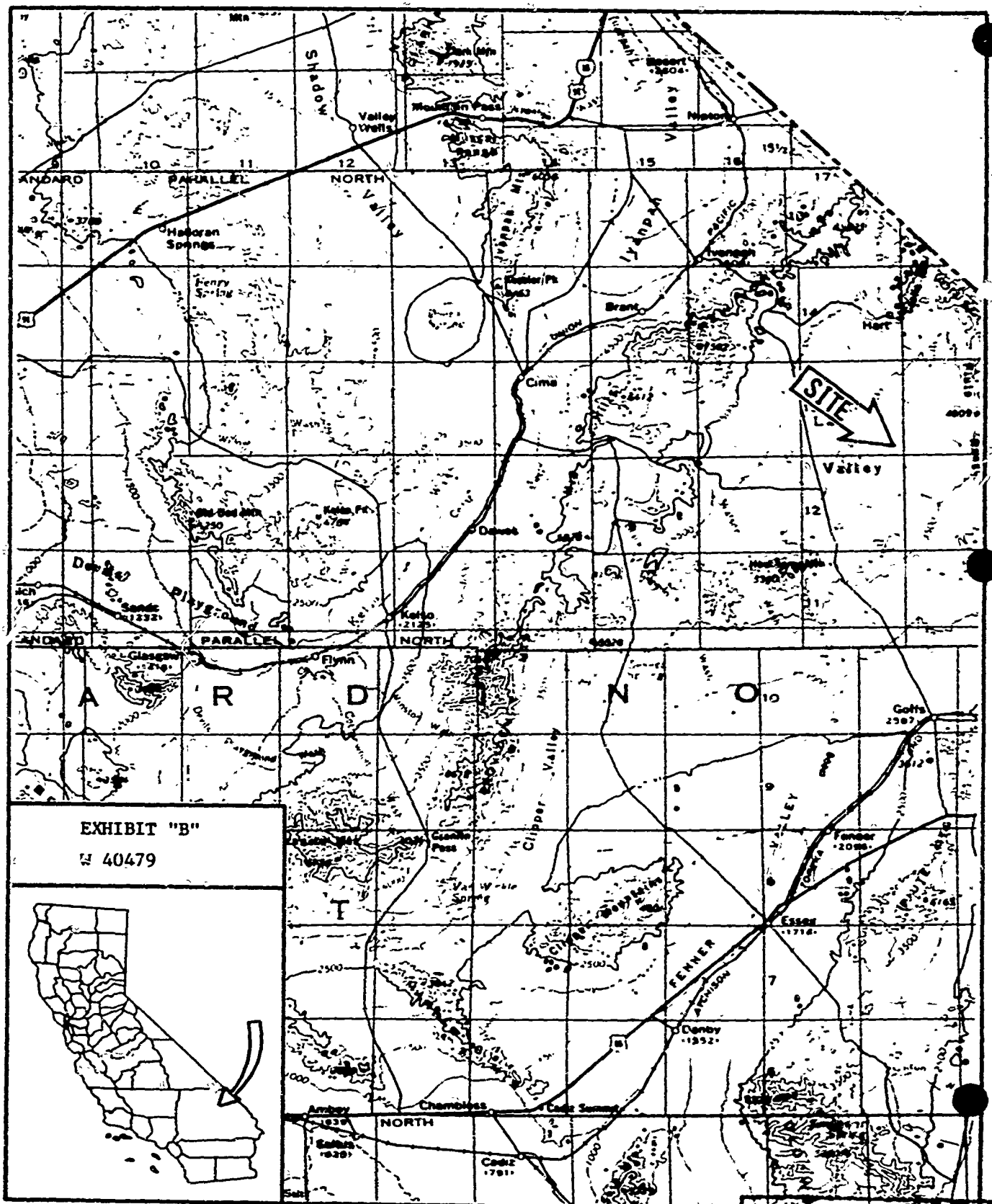


EXHIBIT "B"  
# 40479



EXHIBIT "C"

PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

EIR NO 394

File Ref.: W 40479

SCH#: 85I20203

Project Title: Mineral Prospecting Permit - Lanfair Valley

Project Proponent: Steven K. Harwood

Project Location: Southeast  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 36, T 13 N, R 17 E, approximately  
18 miles north of Goffs, San Bernardino County.

Project Description: The applicant proposes to auger up to 450 holes, up  
to 20 feet deep during three phases of exploration,  
utilizing a 1.25 inch Johnson drill, to explore for  
precious and other valuable minerals. A small sample  
from each hole shall be saved for off-site assaying  
with the remainder of the material returned to the  
hole.

Contact Person: Ted T. Fukushima  
1807-13th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Telephone: (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 Guidelines (Section 15000 et seq., Title 14, California  
Administrative Code), and the State Lands Commission regulations (Section  
2901 et seq., Title 2, California Administrative Code).

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

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

mitigation measures included in the project will void potentially  
significant effects.



File Ref.: W 40479  
SCH# 85120203

#### MITIGATION MEASURES

##### PROPOSED FOR INCORPORATION INTO THE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Existing roads, trails, and washes will be used wherever and whenever possible. Cross-country travel will be kept to the minimum required to conduct the drilling program. Every effort should be made to avoid vegetation while driving cross-country.
2. Injury to, or removal or destruction of Joshua trees (Yucca brevifolia var. jaegeriana) is prohibited.
3. Drill cuttings will be replaced into holes to avoid the visual impact of 458 mounds of cuttings.
4. All trash and garbage must be hauled off site and disposed of according to Federal, State and County regulations.
5. If cultural resources are discovered, the site should be avoided until it can be examined by a qualified archaeologist.
6. If human remains of Native American origin are encountered during the project, the County Coroner's office shall be contacted.

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COMMENTS RECEIVED ON INITIAL STUDY AND RESPONSES TO COMMENTS

1) Bureau of Land Management - Needles Resource Area

Comments:

"The environmental impacts of the above referenced proposal appear to be minimal and, in our opinion, an EIR is not warranted. However, if a permit is issued, we would recommend that the following mitigation measures be attached as stipulations:"

1. "Existing roads, trails, and washes will be used wherever and whenever possible. Cross-country travel will be kept to the minimum required to conduct the drilling program. Every effort should be made to avoid vegetation while driving cross-country (i.e. no straight lines from hole-to-hole)."
2. "Injury to, or removal or destruction of Joshua trees (Yucca brevifolia var. jaegeriana) is prohibited."
3. "Drill cuttings will be replaced into holes or scattered around to avoid the visual impact of 458 mounds of cuttings."
4. "All trash and garbage must be hauled off-site and disposed of according to Federal, State, and County regulations."
5. "If cultural resources are discovered, the site should be avoided until it can be examined by a qualified archaeologist."

Responses:

1. See Mitigation Measure Number 1
2. See Mitigation Measure Number 2
3. See Mitigation Measure Number 3
4. See Mitigation Measure Number 4
5. See Mitigation Measure Number 5

2) Native American Heritage Commission

Comments:

1. "We request that you consult with the local Indian community in this project area in order to mitigate potential impacts to burial sites and other cultural resources of value to their particular tribal customs."
2. "We request that the County Coroner's office be contacted if human remains of Native American origin are encountered during the project."

Responses:

1. The local Serrano and Luiseno Indian Tribes were consulted through the Initial Study mailed to them for review and comment. No comments were received.
2. See Mitigation Measures 5 and 6.

3) Department of Conservation

Comments:

"If more than 1,000 cubic yards or one (1) acre are disturbed, a reclamation plan is required under SMARA.

Responses:

The proposed prospecting activities shall not exceed the excepted limits provided for under PRC 2714. Any permit issued by the Commission requires any applicant to receive and comply with all other laws, regulations, and permit conditions. Any proposed activity not authorized by the permit will not proceed without prior approval of a project amendment processed pursuant to the requirements of CEQA.

4) Department of Transportation

Comments:

"There are no identified impacts to the transportation system in our jurisdiction. A Negative Declaration would be appropriate for our needs."

Response:

None required.

5) Citizens for Mojave National Park

Comments:

1. "This "Initial Study" is grossly inadequate."
2. "We recommend a validity claim be made before any surface disturbance is permitted."
3. "There is no history of gold, silver or platinum mining in Lanfair Valley."
4. "The drilling of 458 twenty foot deep holes is an obvious deathtrap to the many species of wildlife in the East Mojave National Scenic Area."
5. "Lanfair Valley is known and loved for its Joshua Tree Forest Woodland, a rare and diminishing habitat on this planet."

Responses:

1. This Initial Study was prepared in strict accordance with the requirements of CEQA Section 15063.7 using the checklist format. All Initial Studies prepared by the State Lands Commission are circulated to responsible public and private agencies identified by the Office of Planning and Research in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act Section 21080.3(b) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15023.
2. Locating of mining claims is not valid on State lands. In order to pursue mining on State property in an area that does not contain a known commercially valuable mineral deposit, an individual must first obtain a mineral prospecting permit. This permit grants the Permittee the exclusive right for a period of two years to prospect the State parcel in accordance with the terms of the permit.
3. The California Division of Mines and Geology under authority of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) has recently completed Open File Report 84-30 entitled, "Mineral Land Classification of the Lanfair Valley, Homer Mountain, and Davis Dam Quadrangles, San Bernardino County, California". In

this report, the subject State parcel is contained within lands classified MRZ-4(h) which by definition are lands where the existing geologic information does not rule out either the presence or absence of mineral resources. Furthermore, the subject State parcel is located two miles north of a broad 70 square mile mineralized belt extending from the western Hackberry Mountains northeast to the Piute Mountains which has been classified MRZ-3(a). Lands classified MRZ-3(a) represent areas in geologic settings which are favorable environments for the occurrence of specific mineral deposits and are considered to have moderate potential for the discovery of economic mineral deposits. Within this belt lie four mining districts which have histories of gold, silver, copper and lead production.

4. The drilling of 458 holes, twenty feet deep, and 1 1/4 inches in diameter will not create a deathtrap to the many species of wildlife in the East Mojave National Scenic Area as you have claimed. After drilling and removal of a small sample for assaying, each hole shall be backfilled and would pose no threat. See Mitigation Measure Number 3.
5. It is quite possible to drill this number of holes with a portable drill without clearing vegetation. The Joshua Trees contained within this area are not designated by the California Department of Fish and Game as a rare or endangered plant. See Mitigation Measure No. 2.

6) County of San Bernardino:

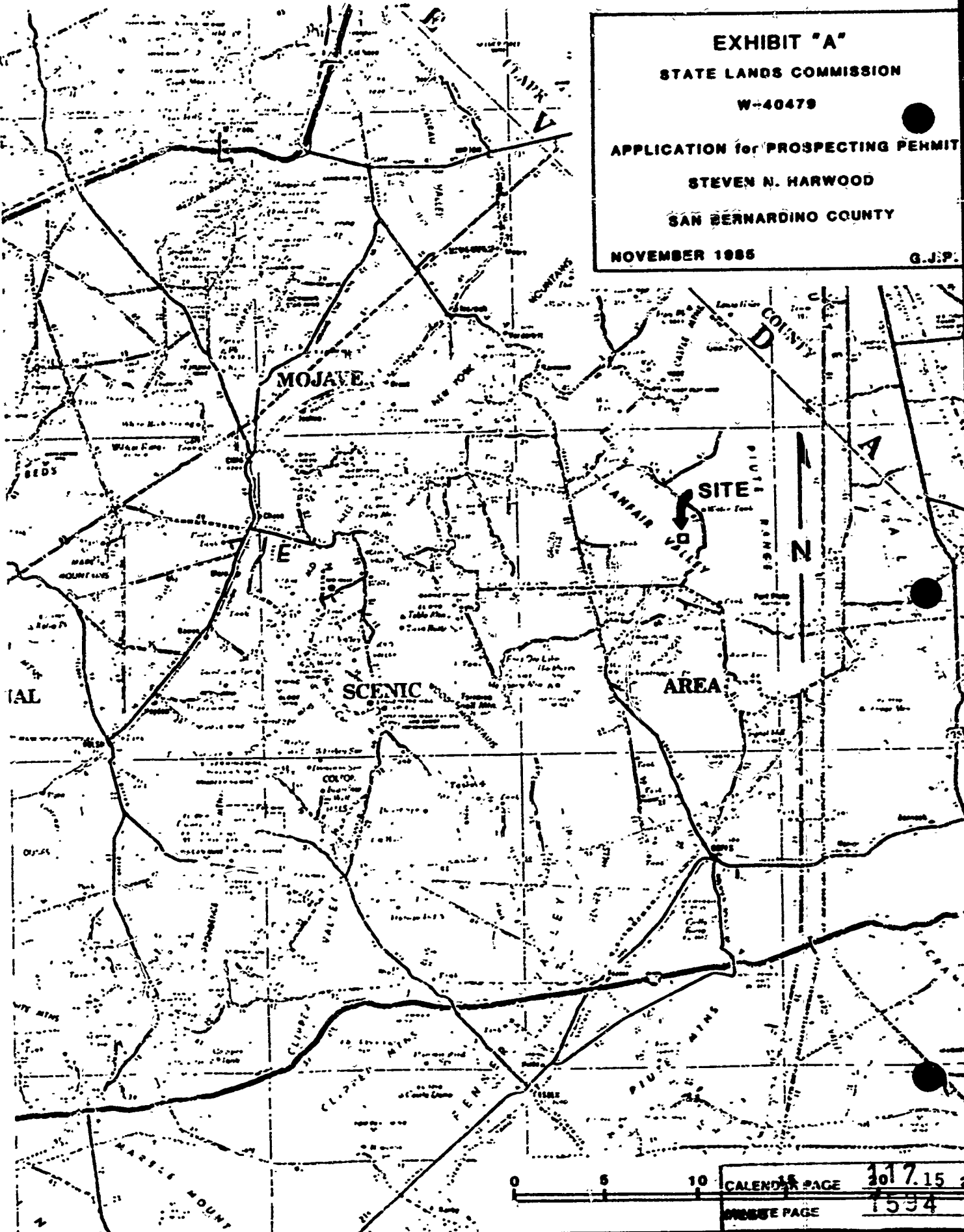
Comments:

"The County of San Bernardino is respectfully requesting that the review and comment period for the above referenced project be continued for at least 15 days."

1. "The distribution list does not identify the BLM."
2. "I have forwarded a copy of the Initial Study to the Citizens for Mojave National Park."
3. "The extended time frame will allow adequate responses from effected agencies."

3. The wildlife biologist of the California Department of Fish and Game who has jurisdiction in Lanfair Valley has stated that he has never observed eagles in Lanfair Valley and has stated that no significant environmental impact would occur to any eagles due to the proposed prospecting activities.
4. The Needles Office of the Bureau of Land Management, by letter dated December 31, 1985 to the State Lands Commission, has clarified their management philosophy regarding the EMNSA and have commented on the subject prospecting activities on the State parcel. Designation of the EMNSA does not preclude mineral exploration or development on public lands, nor does it have any effect on State or private lands. Therefore the staff of the State Lands Commission believes this land use is compatible with the management philosophy of the East Mojave National Scenic Area.
5. See Response Number 3 to Citizens for Mojave National Park. Platinum mining is not known to occur in San Bernardino County, however, the purpose of a prospecting permit is to search for commercial mineral deposits which are not presently known to occur.

**EXHIBIT "A"**  
**STATE LANDS COMMISSION**  
**W-40479**  
**APPLICATION for PROSPECTING PERMIT**  
**STEVEN N. HARWOOD**  
**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY**  
**NOVEMBER 1985** G.J.P.



File Ref.: W 40479  
SCH# 85120203

December 10, 1985

INITIAL STUDY  
INTRODUCTION

Steven N. Harwood has applied to the State Lands Commission for one mineral prospecting permit on State Lands located in Lanfair Valley in eastern San Bernardino County, California. The proposed project consists of augering up to 458 holes, up to 20 feet deep during three phases of exploration, utilizing a 1.25 inch Johnson drill, to explore for precious and other valuable minerals.

The permit when issued is for a two year period and may be extended for a maximum of one year.

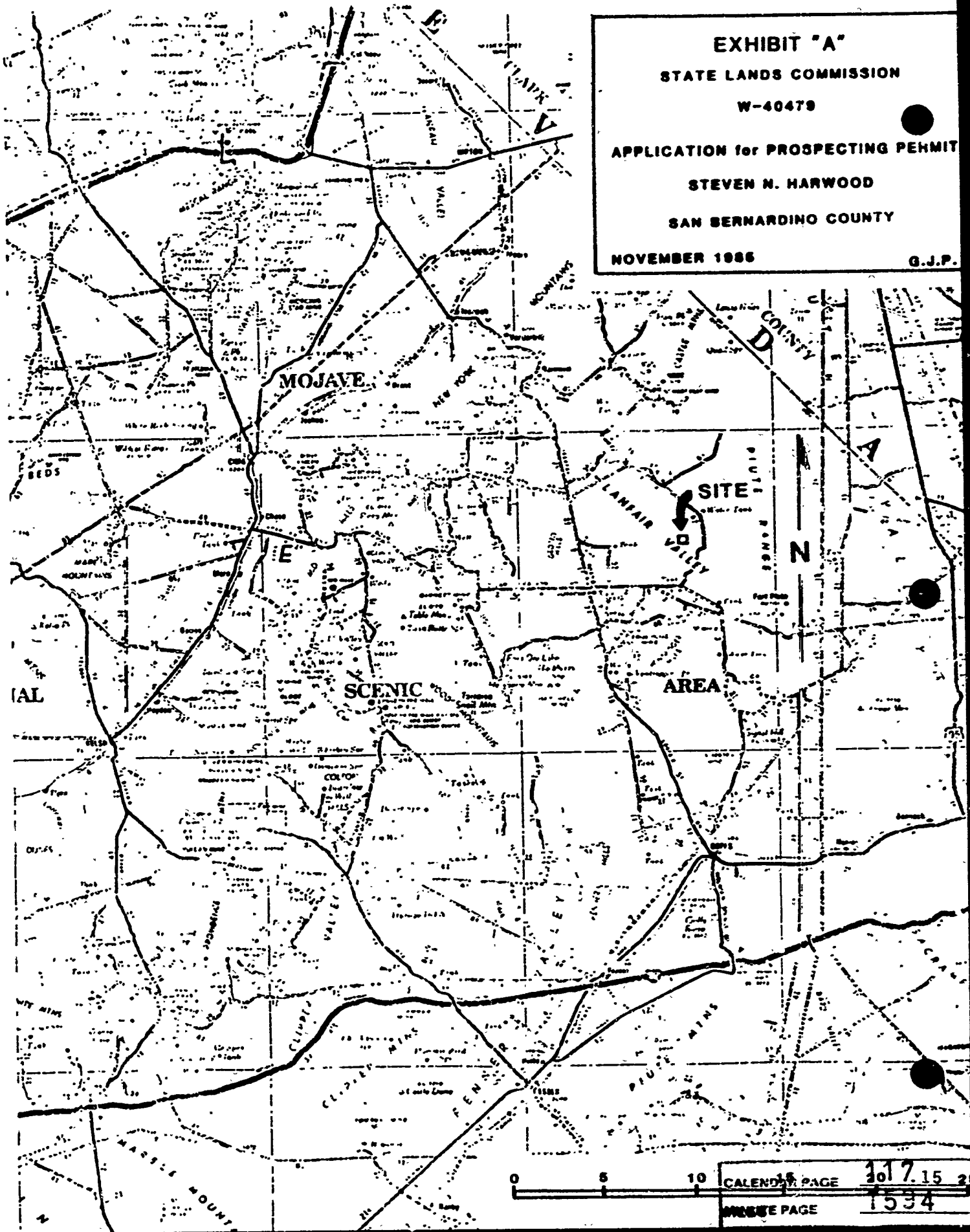
This Initial Study consists of an environmental impact assessment checklist, information form response and maps.

STATE LANDS COMMISSION  
December 1985

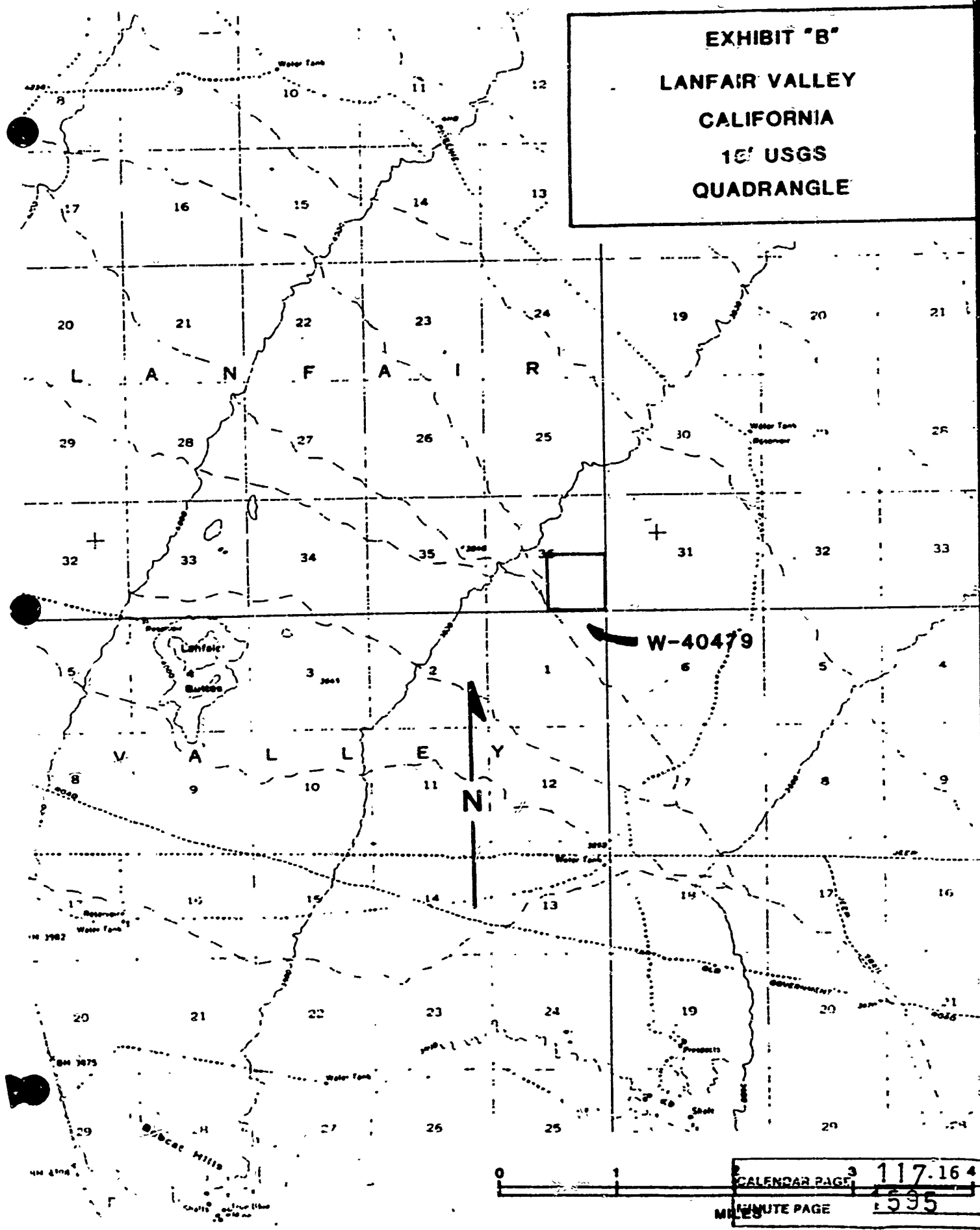
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**EXHIBIT "A"**  
**STATE LANDS COMMISSION**  
**W-40479**  
**APPLICATION for PROSPECTING PERMIT**  
**STEVEN N. HARWOOD**  
**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY**  
**NOVEMBER 1986** **G.J.P.**



**EXHIBIT "B"**  
**LANFAIR VALLEY**  
**CALIFORNIA**  
**15' USGS**  
**QUADRANGLE**



**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST - PART II**

Form 13.20 (7/82)

File Ref.: W 40479

**I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

A. Applicant: Steven Nolan Harwood  
419 Gerona Ave.  
San Gabriel, California 91775

B. Checklist Date: 11 / 22 / 85

C. Contact Person: Gregory J. Pelka, State Lands Commission  
 Telephone: ( 213 ) 590-5201

D. Purpose: Prospect for gold, silver, platinum.

E. Location: Southeast ¼, Section 36, Township 13 North, Range 17 East,  
SBM, San Bernardino County, 160 acres. See attached maps.

F. Description: Applicant will auger up to 458 holes to a maximum depth of  
20 feet during 3 phases of exploration. A small sample will be saved  
and assayed from each hole. See detailed project description.

G. Persons Contacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS. (Explain all "yes" and "maybe" answers)**

A. Earth. Will the proposal result in:	Yes	Maybe	No
1. Unstable earth conditions or changes in geologic substructures? . . . . .			X
2. Disruptions, displacements, compaction, or overcovering of the soil? . . . . .	X		
3. Change in topography or ground surface relief features? . . . . .			X
4. The destruction, covering, or modification of any unique geologic or physical features? . . . . .			X
5. Any increase in wind or water erosion of soils, either on or off the site? . . . . .		X	
6. Changes in deposition or erosion of beach sands, or changes in siltation, deposition or erosion which may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed of the ocean or any bay, inlet, or lake? . . . . .			X
7. Exposure of all people or property to geologic hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, rockslides, ground failure, or similar hazards? . . . . .			X

	Yes	Maybe	No
<b>B Air</b> Will the proposal result in			
1 Substantial air emissions or deterioration of ambient air quality?			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
<b>C Water</b> 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?			X
3 Alterations to the course or flow of flood waters?			X
4 Change in the amount of surface water in any water body?			X
5 Discharge into surface waters, or in any alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?			X
6 Alteration of the direction or rate of flow of ground waters?			X
7 Change in the quantity of ground waters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations?			X
8 Substantial reduction in the amount of water otherwise available for public water supplies?			X
9 Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding or tidal waves?			X
10 Significant changes in the temperature, flow or chemical content of surface thermal springs?			X
<b>D Plant Life</b> Will the proposal result in			
1 Change in the diversity of species, or number of any species of plants (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)?			X
2 Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of plants?			X
3 Introduction of new species of plants into an area, or in a barrier to the normal replenishment of existing species?			X
4 Reduction in acreage of any agricultural crop?			X
<b>E Animal Life</b> 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
2 Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of animals?			X
3 Introduction of new species of animals into an area, or result in a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?			X
4 Determination to existing fish or wildlife habitat?			X
<b>F Noise</b> Will the proposal result in			
1 Increase in existing noise levels?		X	
2 Exposure of people to severe noise levels?			X
<b>G Light and Glare</b> Will the proposal result in			
1 The production of new light or glare?			X
<b>H Land Use</b> Will the proposal result in			
1 A substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area?			X
<b>I Natural Resources</b> Will the proposal result in			
1 Increase in the rate of use of any natural resources?			X
2 Substantial depletion of any nonrenewable resources?			X

- |  | Yes                      | Maybe                    | No                                  |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>J Risk of Upset</b> Does the proposal result in   |                          |                          |                                     |
| 1 A risk of an explosion or the release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to, oil, pesticides, chemicals, or radiation) in the event of an accident or upset conditions? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Possible interference with emergency response plan or an emergency evacuation plan?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>K Population</b> Will the proposal result in:   |                          |                          |                                     |
| 1 The alteration, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of the area?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>L Housing</b> Will the proposal result in:  |                          |                          |                                     |
| 1 Affecting existing housing, or create a demand for additional housing?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>M. Transportation/Circulation</b> Will the proposal result in:  |                          |                          |                                     |
| 1 Generation of substantial additional vehicular movement?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Affecting existing parking facilities, or create a demand for new parking?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Substantial impact upon existing transportation systems?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Alterations to present patterns of circulation or movement of people and/or goods?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Alterations to waterborne, rail, or air traffic?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 Increase in traffic hazards to motor vehicles, bicyclists, or pedestrians?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>N Public Services</b> Will the proposal have an effect upon, or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas:                                |                          |                          |                                     |
| 1 Fire protection?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Police protection?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Schools?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Parks and other recreational facilities?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 Other governmental services?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>O Energy</b> Will the proposal result in:   |                          |                          |                                     |
| 1 Use of substantial amounts of fuel or energy?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Substantial increase in demand upon existing sources of energy, or require the development of new sources?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>P Utilities</b> Will the proposal result in a need for new systems, or substantial alterations to the following utilities:  |                          |                          |                                     |
| 1 Power or natural gas?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Communication systems?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Water?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Sewer or septic tanks?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Storm water drainage?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 Solid waste and disposal?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Q Human Health</b> Will the proposal result in:   |                          |                          |                                     |
| 1 Creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard (excluding mental health)?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Exposure of people to potential health hazards?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>R Aesthetics</b> 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?                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>S Recreation</b> Will the proposal result in  |                          |                          |                                     |
| 1 An impact upon the quality or quantity of existing recreational opportunities?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

- T Cultural Resources**
- |  | Yes | Maybe | No |
|--|-----|-------|----|
| 1 Will the proposal result in the alteration of or the destruction of a prehistoric or historic archeological site?              |     |       | X  |
| 2 Will the proposal result in adverse physical or aesthetic effects to a prehistoric or historic building, structure, or object? |     |       | ●  |
| 3 Does the proposal have the potential to cause a physical change which would affect unique ethnic cultural values?              |     |       | X  |
| 4 Will the proposal restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?                                 |     |       | X  |

**U Mandatory Findings of Significance.**

- |   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| 1 Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? |  |  | X |
| 2 Does the project have the potential to achieve short term, to the disadvantage of long term, environmental goals?   |  |  | X |
| 3 Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?  |  |  | X |
| 4 Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?  |  |  | X |

**III. DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION (See Comments Attached)**

See attached detailed project description, discussion of environmental evaluation, and project environmental data.

**IV. PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION**

On the basis of this initial evaluation

- I find the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on an attached sheet have been added to the project. A NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared
- I find the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required

Date: 01 / 07 / 86

*Murray J. Pelka*  
For the State Mining Commission

CALENDAR PAGE	117.20
MINUTE PAGE	1599

## DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Steven N. Harwood proposes to conduct exploration in the permit area for gold, silver and platinum metals by augering up to 458 holes, up to 20 feet deep during three phases of exploration using a portable 1.25 inch Johnson drill. The holes will be augered to a depth of 20 feet, with a sample saved from each hole for off-site assaying, with the remainder of the material returned to the hole. Phase I will involve the augering of 15 holes on 500 foot centers (See Exhibit 1). The applicant is hopeful that Phase I work will delineate a commercially valuable deposit of minerals. Should this not be so, Phase II and Phase III will be executed. Phase II would involve the augering of 81 holes on 250 foot centers (See Exhibit 2), and Phase III the augering of 361 holes on 125 foot centers (See Exhibit 3). The maximum excavated volume for the total of 458 holes is 78 cubic feet. The maximum surface area disturbance for the augering of the 458 holes is 4 square feet. The 1.25 inch Johnson drill does not require a drilling medium, therefore no solid or liquid waste disposal is required. Accessory equipment will include one pickup truck to transport the applicant and the portable Johnson drill to the auger locations.

No new roads will be constructed. Access to the subject parcel is via existing roads. Section 36 is relatively flat and void of obstructions, therefore it is possible to drive directly to the sites without constructing roads. Any and all ecologically important vegetation that is in the way of the operation will be transplanted. No vegetation will be cleared.

EXHIBIT 1  
GRID FOR HOLES ON 500 FOOT CENTERS  
ON ONE-QUARTER SECTION  
SIXTEEN HOLES

SURFACE AREA DISTURBED: 0.14 SQUARE FEET

VOLUME DISTURBED: 2.73 CUBIC FEET

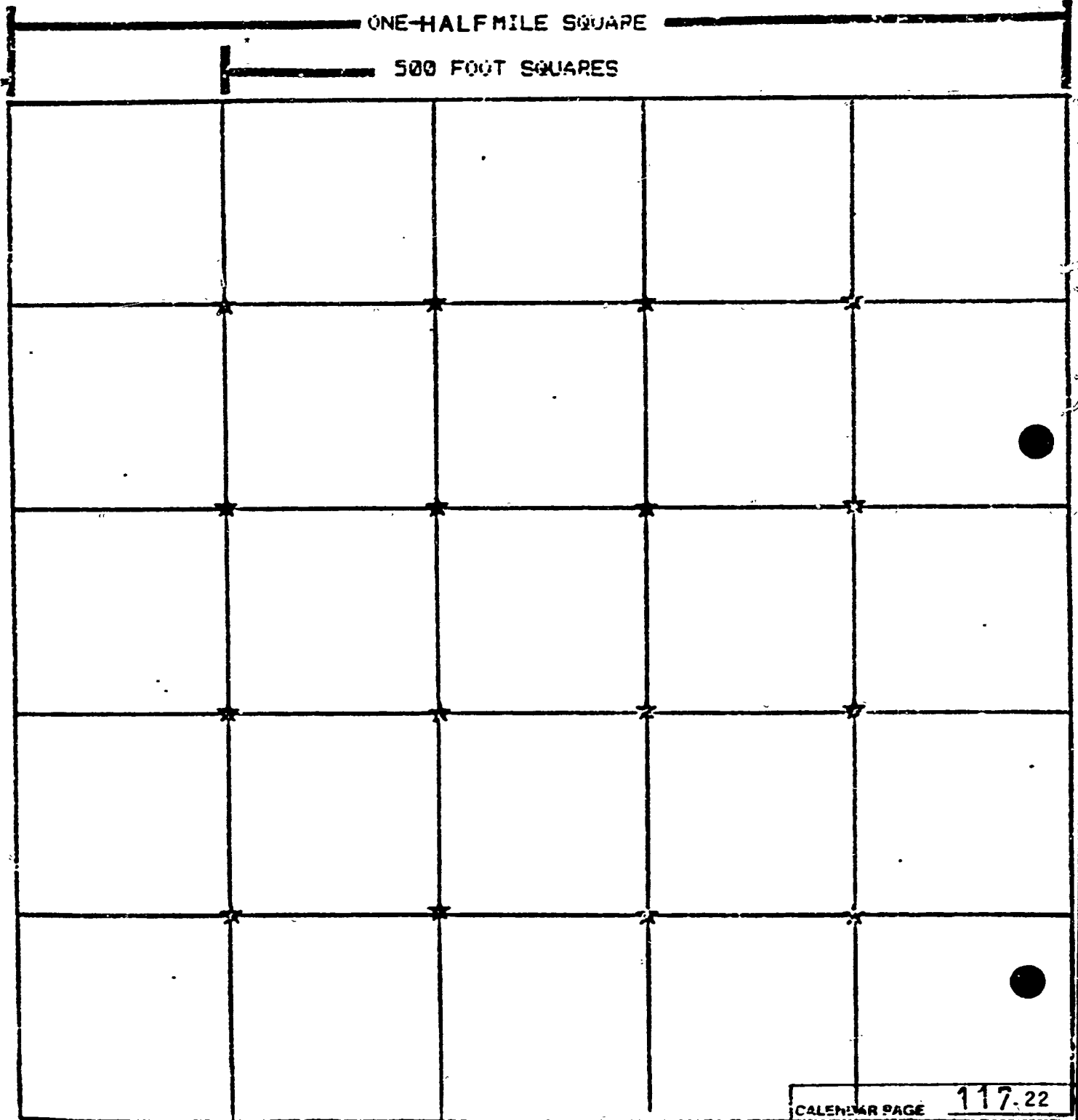




EXHIBIT 2  
GRID FOR HOLES ON 250 FOOT CENTERS

ON ONE-QUARTER SECTION

EIGHTY-ONE HOLES

SURFACE DISTURBED: 0.69 SQUARE FEET

VOLUME DISTURBED: 13.81 CUBIC FEET

ONE-HALF MILE SQUARE

250 FOOT SQUARES

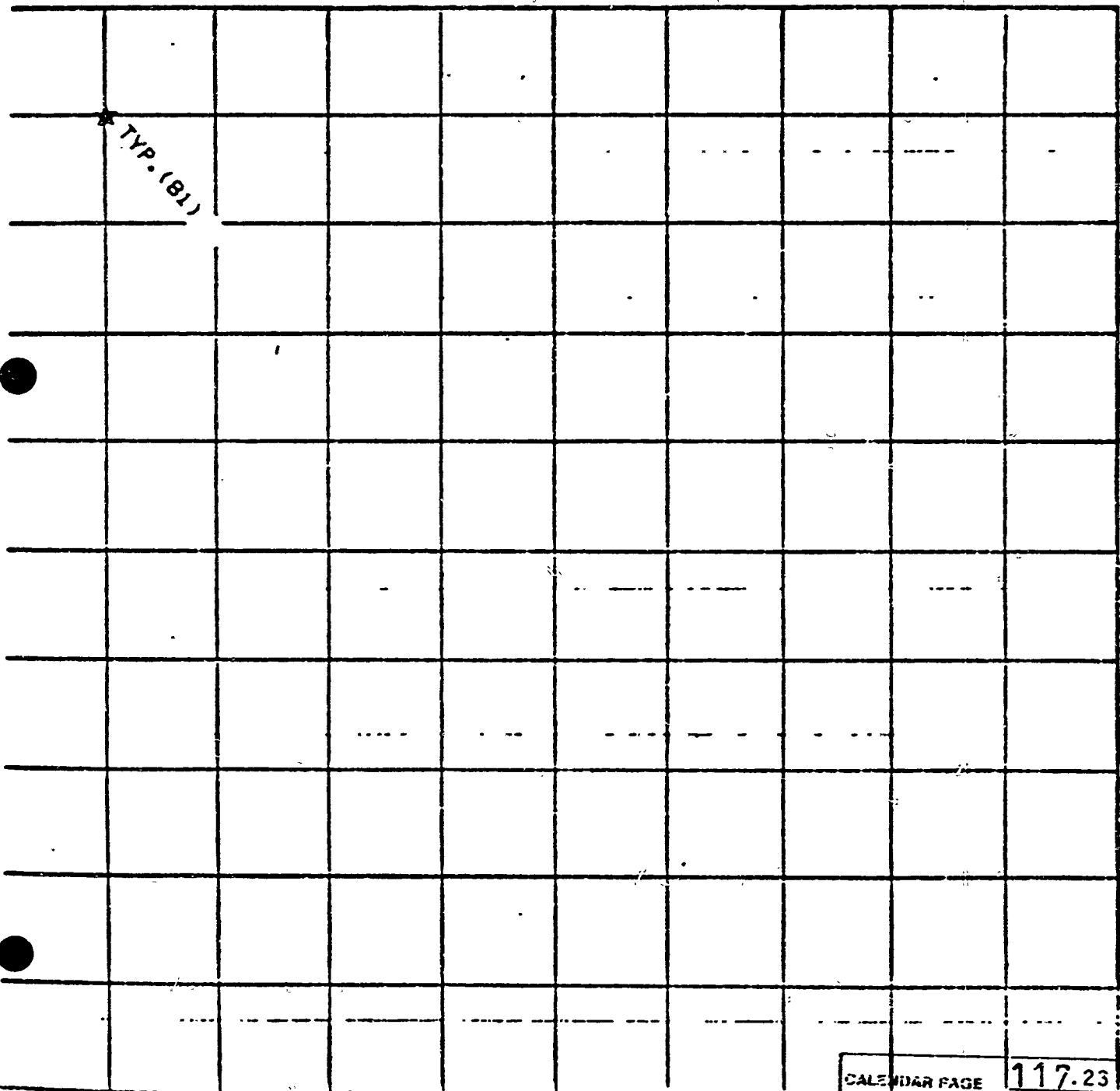


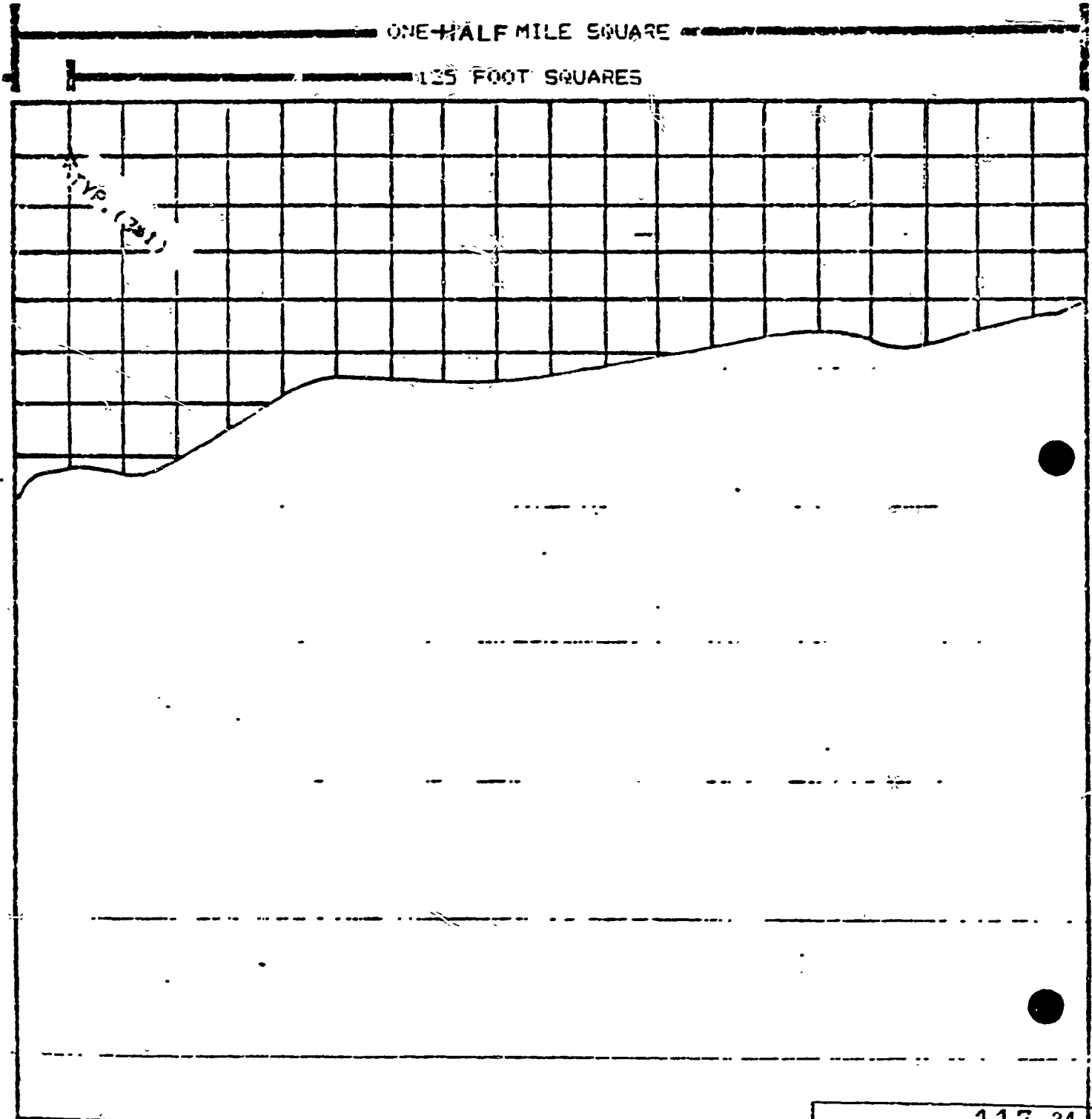
EXHIBIT 3  
GRID FOR HOLES ON 125 FOOT CENTERS

ON ONE-QUARTER SECTION

THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-ONE HOLES

SURFACE AREA DISTURBED: 3.08 SQUARE FEET

VOLUME DISTURBED: 61.53 CUBIC FEET



III Discussion of Environmental Evaluation

- A 2. Disruption, displacement, compaction, and overcovering of the soil will occur in the vicinity of the auger sites.
- A 5. An increase in wind and water erosion of the disturbed soil may take place during wind and rain storms at the auger sites
- F 1. The operating Johnson drill and pickup truck will temporarily increase the existing noise levels.

## SECTION 3: ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The data and degree of specificity required in this section shall correspond with the data and degree of specificity involved in the underlying activity. Typically, larger projects require more data and a greater degree of specificity and smaller projects require less data and a lesser degree of specificity.

1. Describe the project site as it exists before commencement of the project. Include information such as topography, soil stability, plants and animals, and any cultural, historical or scenic aspects. Describe any existing structures on the site, the use of the structures, and whether they will be retained or removed. Include photograph(s) of the site, if available.
  2. Describe the surrounding properties. Include information such as topography, soil stability, plants and animals, and any cultural, historical or scenic aspects. Indicate the type of land use (e.g., residential, commercial, agricultural), intensity of land use (e.g., one-family dwellings, apartment buildings, shops, department stores) and scale of development. Include photograph(s) of the area, if available.
  3. Include a statement of the proposed liquid, solid or gaseous waste disposal methods necessary for the protection and preservation of existing land and water uses.
- 1 & 2. The proposed project site and surrounding properties are flat desert land with a scattering of typical desert flora including chapparal, barrel cacti, and Joshua trees. Any and all ecologically important vegetation that is in the way of the operation will be transplanted.

The soil is typical lakebed sediment layered with sand and caliche and contains boulders from 30 to 300 pounds. The only animals known to be present are a few lizards, ground squirrels, rattlesnakes, and jack rabbits.

Culturally, the Landfair Valley was used by early American Indian Tribes as a passage between the Antelope Valley and the Colorado River. The Indian trail passes two miles south of Section 36 and the only known Indian campgrounds are located in T12N R18E Sec 27, which is six miles SE of Section 36. Various attempts at homesteading have been made in Landfair Valley and some of the homesteads have passed to private parties and descendants but none are currently occupied. Page 12F, Township 17 Section 17 contains an airstrip but no structures have been erected in the vicinity.

Access to the subject section is via existing roads. No new roads will be built for the prospecting process. No building will be constructed, or needed, in this prospecting process. Section 36 is relatively flat and void of obstructions, therefore it is possible to drive directly to the site without constructing roads.

3. The use of the proposed drilling equipment does not require liquid, solid, or gaseous waste disposal. The soil not saved for assay will be returned to the core holes and there will be a minimal disturbance to the environment. No vegetation will be cleared.

All phases of a project, such as planning, acquisition, development and operation, shall be considered when evaluating its impact on the environment. Please answer the following questions by placing a check in the appropriate box. Discuss all items checked "yes" or "maybe" on additional sheet(s).

Will the project involve:

- |   | yes | maybe | no                                  |
|---|-----|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. A change in existing features of any bays, tidelands, beaches, lakes or hills, or substantial alteration of ground contours? | [ ] | [ ]   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. A change in scenic views from existing residential areas or public lands or roads?   | [ ] | [ ]   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. A change in pattern, scale or character of the general area of the project?  | [ ] | [ ]   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Significant effect on plant or animal life?  | [ ] | [ ]   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Significant amounts of solid waste or litter?  | [ ] | [ ]   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. A change in dust, ash, smoke, fumes or odors in the vicinity?  | [ ] | [ ]   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. A change in ocean, bay, lake, stream or ground water quality or quantity, or an altering of existing drainage patterns?      | [ ] | [ ]   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. A change in existing noise or vibration levels in the vicinity?  | [ ] | [ ]   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Construction on filled land or on a slope of 10 percent or more?   | [ ] | [ ]   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Use or disposal of potentially hazardous materials such as toxic or radioactive substances, flammables or explosives?       | [ ] | [ ]   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. A change in demand for municipal services (e.g., police, fire, water, sewage)?  | [ ] | [ ]   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. Increase in fossil fuel consumption (e.g., electricity, oil, natural gas)?  | [ ] | [ ]   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. A larger project or a series of projects?   | [ ] | [ ]   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

PART V

CERTIFICATION

I certify that all information and materials furnished in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I recognize that this application and the project it addresses are subject to all laws of the State of California, and the regulations and discretionary policies of the State Lands Commission.

Applicant: William D. Howard Date: Jan. 18, 1966

Title: NS

Agent: NS Date: Jan. 18, 1966

Title: NS

EXHIBIT "D"

AMENDMENT TO EXHIBIT "A"  
OF PROSPECTING PERMIT PRC \_\_\_\_\_

Immediately upon completion of each phase of prospecting activity permitted under Prospecting Permit PRC \_\_\_\_\_ (described in Detailed Project Description of Negative Declaration ND 394), Permittee shall contact the staff of the State Lands Commission informing them of such completion. Staff shall within 10 working days of receipt of such notice perform a field inspection of the permitted lands to determine that the terms and conditions of the permit including all mitigation measures have been complied with. Only upon staff approval of such compliance, shall Permittee then be allowed to proceed with the following phase of the permitted activity in accordance with the approved project description. Failure to comply with this provision may lead to forfeiture and cancellation of the permit in accordance with paragraph 25 of the permit.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
STATE LANDS COMMISSION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
W. H. THOMPSON, Chief  
Extractive Development Program

PERMITTEE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

By: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City and State

Approved as to form:

JOHN K. VAN DE KAMP  
Attorney General, State of California

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Attorney General  
ROBERT G. COLLINS