

Encanto Parkway, a primarily residential-serving local street within the City of Azusa. Materials mined are sized (crushed and screened) for placement and transport on the overland conveyor to the Reliance facility.

1.1.3 Brief Project Description

The Proposed Project is described in detail in Chapter 3.0 of this EIR. In summary, the proposed revisions to the existing 1988 CUP and Reclamation Plan, and the approval of a Development Agreement, would allow for:

1. A revised reclamation program to reshape, revegetate, and naturalize the appearance of the benches and terraces of the existing East Side and proposed West Side quarry faces. Reclamation will include one to two-foot horizontal and vertical “micro-benches” instead of the larger 30 to 40-foot horizontal and vertical stair-step benching that has been implemented on the East Side. The micro-benching, recontouring of straight line cuts to more natural lines, and revegetation with native plant species is intended to create finished slopes more closely resembling natural slopes to reduce existing and future visual impacts.
2. The acceleration of reclamation activities for the existing, more-visible East Side (i.e., east of Fish Creek) such that reclamation is to be completed within approximately seven (7) years of project approval (likely in 2017) rather than at the end of the project in 2038.
3. The mining and reclamation of the westernmost approximately 80 acres on the West Side (described in the 1988 Reclamation Plan as a “Future Mining Area”) in lieu of the easternmost approximately 80 acres on the East Side (defined as Phase II in the 1988 Reclamation Plan), which will shift future mining to less visible portions of the Project Site (see Figure 1-4).
4. The inclusion of the approximate 80-acre West Side portion of the Project Site into the Revised Reclamation Plan with its updated reclamation program.
5. An increase in the size of the on-site detention basin from a surface area of approximately 1.1 acres to approximately 1.45 acres (basin depth to remain at its current elevation). The capacity of the detention basin would change from 9.8 acre feet to a minimum of 12 acre feet.

The method of operation and transport of materials would remain as it currently exists. The transport of material would continue to be via the existing overland conveyor in-lieu of on-road haul trucks. Annual production is limited by the operation’s current air quality permits to 10.8 million tons per year, ~~and by the conveyor transport entitlement to 6 million tons per year, plus an additional 1 million tons per year by truck via the on-site haul road.~~ Although not a legal limitation, the current mechanical configuration of the conveyor limits the amount of mined material that can be transported to 6 million tons per year. The Proposed Project does not propose an increase in the total amount of material allowed or an extended mining period. It should be noted that the most-recent 12-month production level that was available for the past year prior to the preparation of technical studies for the Project (i.e., the fourth quarter of 2006 and the first three quarters of 2007) was approximately 1.1 million tons, due to the reduced demand associated with the economic recession.

Chapter 5.0 - Alternatives: Describes a reasonable range of alternatives to the Proposed Project that would feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the Proposed Project but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects identified in the environmental analysis of the Proposed Project.

Chapter 6.0 - Other CEQA-Required Analysis: Evaluates environmental effects of the Proposed Project when considered with the effects of other approved and/or reasonably foreseeable projects that when combined, would be cumulatively significant. Also includes descriptions of: 1) ways in which the Proposed Project may foster economic or population growth and thereby be growth inducing; and 2) any significant irreversible environmental changes which may result with the implementation of the Proposed Project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.2(c)(d)).

Chapter 7.0 - References: Includes a list of lead agency staff members who participated in the preparation of the EIR as well as the consultants who prepared the technical reports to support the environmental analysis. Chapter 7.0 also includes a bibliography of information used to prepare the EIR and lists persons and organizations consulted during report preparation. Also provides a list of commonly used acronyms and a glossary of terms used to describe and evaluate the project.

Chapter 8.0 - Mitigation Monitoring Program: To be provided in the Final EIR; will include a list of all measures, responsible department, timing of implementation and description of whether the measure is time specific or on-going.

1.5 INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

As permitted by Section 15150 of the CEQA Guidelines, this Draft EIR has referenced several technical studies, analyses, and reports, which are included as technical appendices in the EIR. Information from documents incorporated by reference has been summarized in the appropriate sections herein. The following documents are incorporated by reference and are available for review at the City.

- City of Azusa General Plan & EIR (SCH# 2003081144)
- City of Azusa Development Code
- Azusa Rock Conveyor/Haul Road EIR/EISEA, September 1990 (SCH# 89010010)
- Vulcan Materials Company Mining & Reclamation Project EIR (SCH# 2006051107)