MEETING MINUTES: Tuesday, November 5, 2019

Location
Otay Water District Headquarters Training Room, Lower Level
2554 Sweetwater Springs Blvd
Spring Valley, CA 91978

Meeting called to Order: 7:00 PM, Wendy Tinsley-Becker, Chair

A. Roll Call
Present: 14 (Baillargeon, Bickley, Burley, Feathers, Gerhart, Hermann, Herron, Johnston, Kossman, Myers, Schuppert, Steele, Tinsley-Becker, Zimmerman)
Absent: 0
Vacant: 1

B. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
• Minutes to Approve: October 1, 2019 VDO CPG Meeting
• Motion to approve: Steele
• Second: Bickley
• Yea: 12 (Baillargeon, Bickley, Burley, Feathers, Gerhart, Hermann, Herron, Johnston, Kossman, Myers, Schuppert, Steele)
• Nay: (None)
• Abstain: (Tinsley-Becker, Zimmerman) [Not present October 1, 2019]
• Absent: 0
• Vacancy: 1
• The CPG adopted the minutes from the October 1, 2019 meeting

C. Public Communication
1. Lori Myers: Art Patoff spoke at October VDO meeting. She went to review the area of concern and wanted to inform VDO that “The fence consists of 3ft tall metal posts, spaced 8ft apart with chain threaded from post to post. It is located along the east side of Damon Lane (private section) demarcating the homeowner’s east most property line. It does not block the entrance to Damon Lane County Park. It does, however, prevent park visitors from parking on the homeowner’s property, thus displacing visitor parking up Damon Lane. It does not appear to impact ingress/egress of any neighbors or emergency vehicles.”
2. Wendy Tinsley-Becker: Grossmont Mount Helix Improvement Association (GMIA) notified her of the San Diego International Airport Noise Advisory Committee is seeking candidates, and thus she was informing the VDOCPG and the public in case and individual was interested.

D. Information Items
None

E. Action Items
Item E1:
• Start Time: 7:13pm
• Item issue Summary: Wieghorst Way Overnight Parking Prohibition
• CPG Presenter: Tinsley-Becker
• Applicant Speakers / Representatives: None
• County Representative: Benjamin Baker
• Abstentions or Disqualifications: (None)
• Public Comment: (None)
• CPG Discussion Points:
  o Myers: Can cars move 50 feet down the street?
Count of San Diego
Valle de Oro Community Planning Group
3755 Avocado Blvd. #187
La Mesa, Ca. 91941

Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, November 5, 2019

Tinsley-Becker: Not a lot of information on the project, including the genesis of the proposal
- Motion: Motion to oppose without further information: Myers
- Second: Bickley
- Yea: 13 (Baillargeon, Bickley, Burley, Feathers, Gerhart, Hermann, Herron, Johnston, Kossman, Myers, Schuppert, Steele, Zimmerman)
- Nay: 1 (Tinsley-Becker)
- Absent: 0
- Vacancy: 1
- Abstain: 0

Item E4:
- Start Time: Not Recorded
- Item issue Summary: Request for Recommendation for a Minor Deviation / Sign Approval Proposed signage at 3735 Avocado Boulevard. APN: 502-150-17-00
- CPG Presenter: Schuppert
- Applicant Speakers / Representatives: Stan Ideker, Neon Signage Consultant
- County Representative: (None)
- Abstentions or Disqualifications: (Kossman)
- Public Comment: (None)
- CPG Discussion Points:
  - Schuppert: Sign doesn’t exceed standards
  - Ideker: Cumulative table- allowed to change property certain ways without having to apply for Major Deviation
- Motion: Recommend approval without redesign: Schuppert
- Second: Myers
- Yea: 13 (Baillargeon, Bickley, Burley, Feathers, Gerhart, Hermann, Herron, Johnston, Kossman, Myers, Schuppert, Steele, Tinsley-Becker, Zimmerman)
- Nay: (None)
- Absent: 0
- Vacancy: 1
- Abstain: 1 (Kossman)

Item E5:
- Start Time: Not Recorded
- Item issue Summary: Request for Recommendation for a Minor Deviation / Sign Approval. Proposed signage at 2949 Jamacha Road. APN: 506-130-04-00
- CPG Presenter: Gerhart
- Applicant Speakers / Representatives: Ramiro Fernandez, Signage Consultant
- County Representative: (None)
- Abstentions or Disqualifications: (None)
- Public Comment: (None)
- CPG Discussion Points:
  - Schuppert: How is brightness limited?
  - Fernandez: Standard setting, cannot be dimmer.
  - Feathers: Do they turn off?
  - Fernandez: Yes, KFC closes at either 9 or 10.
- Motion: Recommend Approval without redesign: Gerhart
- Second: Zimmerman
- Yea: 14 (Baillargeon, Bickley, Burley, Feathers, Gerhart, Hermann, Herron, Johnston, Kossman, Myers, Schuppert, Steele, Tinsley-Becker, Zimmerman)
- Nay: (None)
- Absent: 0
• Vacancy: 1
• Abstain: 0

Item E6:
• Start Time: Not recorded
• Item issue Summary: 9714 Campo Road Change in previously approved project description to add two condensers to the building roof. APN: 500-192-29-00
• CPG Presenter: Bickley
• Applicant Speakers / Representatives: Allen Sipes, Tate & Associates
• County Representative: (None)
• Abstentions or Disqualifications: (None)
• Public Comment: (None)
• CPG Discussion Points:
  o Schuppert: What is the 5’4 visual effects model?
  o Allen: That is the height of the eyes, not head
• Motion: Site plan permit exemption recommended: Bickley
  Second: Feathers
  Yea: 14 (Baillargeon, Bickley, Burley, Feathers, Gerhart, Hermann, Herron, Johnston, Kossman, Myers, Schuppert, Steele, Tinsley-Becker, Zimmerman)
  Nay: (None)
  Absent: 0
  Vacancy: 1
  Abstain: 0

Item E2:
• Start Time: 7:50 pm
• Item issue Summary: PDS2019-STP-19-023 (Discretionary Permit) for a proposed two-story single-family dwelling on Wentworth Way near Steele Canyon Golf Course. APN: 519-340-31-00
• CPG Presenter: Johnston/ Steele
• Applicant Speakers / Representatives: Oscar Zazueta (Not present)
• County Representative: (None)
• Abstentions or Disqualifications: (None)
• Public Comment: Would be good to get rid of vacant lot.
• CPG Discussion Points:
  o Calculated total square footage: 4844 square feet footprint, 7824 square feet living space
• Motion: Recommend Approval without conditions: Johnston
  Second: Herron
  Yea: 14 (Baillargeon, Bickley, Burley, Feathers, Gerhart, Hermann, Herron, Johnston, Kossman, Myers, Schuppert, Steele, Tinsley-Becker, Zimmerman)
  Nay: (None)
  Absent: 0
  Vacancy: 1
  Abstain: 0

Item E3:
• Start Time: 7:56 pm
• Item issue Summary: PDS2019-STP-97-043W1 (Discretionary Permit) Proposed addition to an existing single-family home at 3469 Ashley Park Drive near Steele Canyon Golf Course. APN: 519-340-52-00
• CPG Presenter: Johnston/ Steele
• Applicant Speakers / Representatives: Oscar Zazueta (Not present)
• County Representative: (None)
• Abstentions or Disqualifications: (None)
• Public Comment: (None)
• **CPG Discussion Points:**
  o Johnston further clarified that the project is approved by HOA president, within its setbacks. The neighbors weren’t notified of the project.
  o Schuppert: Why are we hearing this project?
  o Johnston: Related to it being a D designator.
• **Motion:** Recommend Approval without conditions: Johnston
• **Second:** Hermann
• **Yea:** 14 (Baillargeon, Bickley, Burley, Feathers, Gerhart, Hermann, Herron, Johnston, Kossman, Myers, Schuppert, Steele, Tinsley-Becker, Zimmerman)
• **Nay:** (None)
• **Absent:** 0
• **Vacancy:** 1
• **Abstain:** 0

**Item E7:**
• **Start Time:** 8:04 pm
• **Item issue Summary:** Cottonwood Sand Mining Project – Notice of Preparation (NOP) Period Provide comments to County on EIR technical needs. APN: 22 parcels including 518-012-14-00 and 518-030-21-00
• **CPG Presenter:** Myers
• **Applicant Speakers / Representatives:** Dennis Franzway, EnviroMine, INC.
  o **Applicant Initial Remarks:** The Major Use Permit (MUP) area is 251 acres, the mine area is 214 acres. They will be producing washed concrete sand and they are expecting 5-7 million tons. There will be 2 years of reclamation after mining is completed. Conveyor belt used to reduce dust and noise versus trucks. Covered with misters. No blasting or rock crushing, which produces the most mining noise. No back up alarms - either muted or flashing lights, approved by MSHA. Reclamation is progressive. Project areas have history of mining. Final use is to be consistent with the San Diego County General Plan. Assumed time 2023 to 2033.
• **County Representative:** (None)
• **Abstentions or Disqualifications:** (None)
• **Public Comment:**
  o **Jantz:** From stopcottonwoodmine.org. Even though deadline is November 22nd, it should be considered that comments may come up at the December meeting. Has a construction background: sand is unique and special, that doesn’t mean it has to be mined from this location. It is a residential and business area. It’s an inappropriate use of the land.
  o **Taylor:** Family counselor, Valhalla graduate, Candidate for 2nd Supervisioral District. Concerned about respiratory issues. Seen clients with illnesses due to airborne toxins who have weakened immune systems. Many of those clients are concerned about the unknowns. Some feel they may die.
  o **Shannon:** All residential, sand mining plant absurd. What happens when belt is loaded? Is there a cover for that area? Does operation shut down during the Santa Ana wind conditions? How much water does it take to produce one truck load? Are the aquifers sufficient? What about dry years? Will they be depleted? Where does water come from? When sand gets washed, what stops pollutants from washing downstream?
  o **Wilks:** Survived 2 sand mines. 2 flooded and almost took out family. 2 granite pits with horrendous traffic on Willow Glen. Acceleration and deceleration lanes? Will there be a bottleneck at Jamacha? Already difficult to turn right on Steele Canyon Road bridge. Lots of traffic between 1 and 3 p.m. Wildlife will be damaged, pollution will affect us all. Not the right place, time, or project. We don’t want to move or see the community destroyed.
  o **Fox:** Candidate for 53rd Congressional district. Granite mine and rifle range in the neighborhood already. Cannot change this because the police use it. Granite mine, pools that attract...
mosquitoes. Notion of this is abhorrent. Too much in this area already. Granite mine was supposed to close approximately 8 years ago. View of golf course in back, granite mine in front. If mine opens, both front and back would be unusable residents cannot open their windows. Valhalla athletes directly affected if silica becomes airborne. Outdoor horse stables would also be affected. Horses will get health issues. There’s a veterinarian for dogs and cats nearby. Cyclists up and down Willow Glen. Walkways already exist. We don’t need new ones. Especially if there is bad air quality. Trucks would be ridiculous. Believes that those who didn’t show up feel this would never happen.

- Weber: Resident of the neighborhood. We do not need the product. Any construction is inappropriate due to the Rancho San Diego specific plan 40 + years ago. Housing complexes in close proximity. Oceanside has been working to clean up a pit from 1994 which has been a financial burden on the city. The land is barren and is years from public use, doesn’t know where 10-year ideal comes in. Oceanside has been working for 25 years to reclaim that land. So barren is the land that it looks like the moon. No nutrients left in the soil. Oceanside has been trying to get it to grow again for 25 years. If they can’t get it to grow why could we? Residents will lose peacefulness of the neighborhood, ambient sound of nature will dissipate. There will be sounds of heavy construction equipment. Where does backfill come from? Asks for permit to be denied.

- Urquhart: Chair of Stop Cottonwood Nonprofit Organization. A sand mine will degrade quality of neighborhood. Violates many standards. Proposed truck traffic will be noisy. SANDAG regional report from 2011 mentions that sand mines shouldn’t be in residential zones. See attached list of concerns.

- Bailey: Resident of 32 years. 1961 to 1962, there was Jamacha sand mine. Replaced by Cottonwood golf course. Community built around Cottonwood golf course. Recalls the previously mentioned flood. It released because the southern bank gave way. Whole course is made of sand. What about the trees? There are approximately 200. Car accidents onto course already are a huge problem. What if there are 20 to 40 foot pits? When they moved in they dug a well 30 feet and hit water. Where is the 20-40 ft being measured from? What if there is another flood or rainy year? How would street sweepers even drive down Willow Glen? It wouldn’t be able to stay clean. Seems like a real problem. It will have an adverse effect on groundwater. What will happen to the lake, and other water sources when they start digging? Worried about the quality of life for his grandchildren and himself at 77 years old.

- Sinan: Resident of Steele Canyon / Jamul Drive. He is a hardware engineer. Resident for 16+ years. What kind of materials will be used to backfill? How are we going to mitigate erosion? What kind of vegetation will be replanted? Trees are 40 years old. How will those be replaced? Heat will be produced from the operations. How will this affect the neighborhood? Santa Anas can knock over fences and chairs. How will neighbors be protected from downwind toxins? This will affect housing prices if neighbors trying to move. Once laws to protect neighbors of such big projects. Franzway mentioned noise not reaching one and a half miles but what about houses at 100 ft? Would like VDO to consider all matters before we decide.

- El Cajon Valley Board Member: Hillsdale Middle School is in that radius. What about asthma, cancer? Will there be a fund for students, parents, faculty who are adversely affected? Magnolia School shut down for environmental reasons. Is there a contingency fund? Or traffic reports done during school hours? Is there a legal complaint process?

- Additional CPG Discussion / Questions and Answer Session with Applicant and Public
  - Tinsley-Becker: Would like open communication between applicants and all interested neighbors.

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Kossman: Covered trucks?
Franzway: Yes.
Feathers: Dewatering generators?
Franzway: No. All electric. No generator noise. Heavy equipment diesel much quieter now.
Bailey: Water table one foot approximately.
Franzway: Channel approximately 30-foot drop.
Jantz: County should be notifying all parties
Franzway: No other projects intended
Schuppert: Request to have backup noise included in noise study.
Urquhart: Noise study cumulative? Ivanhoe ranch included.
Baillargeon: See Notice of Preparation for detailed map.
Tinsley-Becker: Hard copies of documentation available at Rancho San Diego and Casa de Oro library.
Schuppert: Will project be open for public use?
Franzway: No. It won’t be a v-ditch. Trails will be required.
Baillargeon: Reclamation plan for sub area or phase area?
Franzway: Subphase.
Tinsley-Becker: What is the Public Benefit of the proposed project?
Franzway: Concrete.
Schuppert: Full time employees?
Franzway: 9
Tinsley-Becker: Dust storm protection?
Franzway: Dampered
Hermann: It would be good to meet with administrators of local schools in small groups.
Kenya: Protection around property?
Franzway: No. No surface water, always moving.
Cliff Clifford: Two casinos, already causing deplorable traffic. This will drive down real estate values.
Fox: People have sympathy for guy who invested 6 million dollars for permit. That’s the value of a few homes. The homeowners have invested so much more. No one would want to buy no one would want to stay.
Shannon: Millions of gallons of water that would be used.
Franzway: Water use is 1/3 of golf course, water is recycled. The golf course uses 702 acre-feet per year the mine would use only 282 acre-feet per year. Impact of wells same or less. Wells will be addressed. Water use is approximately 250 gallons per truck. There are 8 groundwater wells that will be used, closed and abandoned. There are two Sweetwater Authority wells that will be used for monitoring. Muck pond will use impermeable bases. Not importing backfill material. Aware of other backfill areas on the property. The channel will be widened. Rest of property will be at same grade. Railcar Bridges will be used to cross the river.
Tinsley-Becker: There will be a secondary traffic impact. The 125/94 interchange specifically.
Franzway: In reference to the Specific Plan zone of the property, it is not worth a General Plan Amendment.
Tinsley-Becker: Is a Landscape Plan available?
Franzway: Landscaping maintained. Cottonwoods on course already reaching end of life.
Tinsley-Becker: Is there a faster method to replant / revegetate?
o **Baillargeon**: 20% of plants grow back in 5 years. Municipality ends up having to take care of plants for 20 to 40 years. Two years is not realistic.
o **Tinsley-Becker**: School districts, homeowner associations, team should be reaching out to stakeholders. Would like successful examples.
o **Cloud**: 100% regrowth on properties from past projects at Cottonwood.

- No motion was put forth for this discussion item. Speaker slips for this item and meeting sign-in sheet are attached to these minutes.

### F. GROUP BUSINESS:

**Start Time: 8:20 p.m.**

- **F1**: Administrative – (a) Member Assignments & Attendance Discussion (b) Resignation of Dan Hyatt (c) Protocol for filling vacant seat
  - Announced resignation of Dan Hyatt, there is now an open seat available for application
  - Gerhart announced she will be resigning in the next few months.

- **F2**: Administrative- Officer elections for 2020.

- **F3**: Subcommittee Update – Short-Term Rentals Subcommittee Update; Kossman (No update)

- **F4**: Subcommittee Update – Skyline Church Project Subcommittee Update; Feathers (No update)

- **F5**: Subcommittee Update – Estrella Park Project Subcommittee Update; Myers (No Update)
  - Herron- Bidder for project found, $900,000.

- **F6**: Subcommittee Update – Casa de Oro Business Corridor; Herron, Tinsley-Becker
  - Standstill due to contract disagreements.

- **F8**: Subcommittee Update – Literacy First Charter High School; Bickley
  - Heard from the applicant. They sent revisions and will come back in November.

- **F9**: VDO CPG Liaison Update – Fire Safe Council; Hermann/ Feathers
  - Officers met recently, caught up after a few months. Hedberg went to Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Meeting. The group intends to write a CWPP and subsequently apply for grants.

- **F10**: Subcommittee Update - Parklands Dedication Ordinance (PLDO); Feathers/ Myers (No Update)

- **Additional Administrative Comments**: $42 reimbursement for Skyline Planning Commission announcement posters. Motion to approve: Tinsley-Becker. Second: Myers. Unanimously approved.

- **G. ADJOURNMENT**: 10:41 p.m. Wendy Tinsley-Becker, Chair

Submitted by: Kyle Hermann
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VOLUNTARY SPEAKER CARD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
County of San Diego

Valle de Oro Community Planning Group

Please complete and submit this card to the Group Secretary if you wish to speak on any agenda item. Please keep your comments brief while still communicating your concerns. As a general guideline, it is suggested that you please limit your comments to two (2) minutes if you are speaking as an individual, and five (5) minutes if you are speaking for an organized group. Please provide the following information for the purposes of recognizing your comments.

Name: BARRY JANTZ

Agenda Item No.: EG

Comment Summary: Speaking for Stop Cottonwood Sand Mine

The Group Chair will recognize speakers in the order in which the speaker cards were submitted. All comments shall be directed to the Chair. The Chair reserves the right to close public comment if comments have become repetitive or non-productive. Speakers may cede their time to another speaking as part of an organized presentation / response to an agenda item.
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Name: Kenya Taylor

Agenda Item No.: E7

Comment Summary: Public Health Concerns.

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Name: MARLENE SHANNON

Agenda Item No.: COTTONWOOD SAND MINING

Comment Summary:

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Name: Linda Wilks

Agenda Item No.: E7

Comment Summary: Oppose Cottonwood Island Mine

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Name: Deborah Fox

Agenda Item No.: Cottonwood Sand Mines

Comment Summary: Air quality, Valhallas track, field, team, the path through the reserve, Horses boarding outside, false equipment

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Name: D A N  W E B E R

Agenda Item No.: E 7

Comment Summary: A G A I N S T T H E O P E N P I T M I N I N G

The Group Chair will recognize speakers in the order in which the speaker cards were submitted. All comments shall be directed to the Chair. The Chair reserves the right to close public comment if comments have become repetitive or non-productive. Speakers may cede their time to another speaking as part of an organized presentation / response to an agenda item.
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Name: Elizabeth Urquhart

Agenda Item No.: E7

Comment Summary:

The Group Chair will recognize speakers in the order in which the speaker cards were submitted. All comments shall be directed to the Chair. The Chair reserves the right to close public comment if comments have become repetitive or non-productive. Speakers may cede their time to another speaking as part of an organized presentation / response to an agenda item.

Secretary Note: Talking Points Attached
TALKING POINTS

A Sand Mine located in the center of a developed residential community will degrade the quality of the environment by creating traffic safety hazards, harming air quality, adding significant greenhouse gas emissions, eliminating plants & wildlife, destroying cultural resources, and changing the beautiful, peaceful environment we now live in to one that is noisy and dangerous. SANDAG’s 2011 San Diego Region Aggregate Supply Study, of which the Sand Mine developer (EnviroMINE, Inc.) was part of the expert panel review, indicates that sand mines should be located on areas not developed and have not been conserved for environmental reasons. This is simply an inappropriate location for a Sand Mine!

1. Project must be consistent with San Diego County General Plan, Valle De Oro Community Plan, and Rancho San Diego Specific Plan – the proposed Sand Mine project is not consistent with all plan policies.

2. Traffic Safety Hazard – cumulative impact to traffic, safety and emergency evacuation routes must be considered; in addition to proposed Sand Mine, the Enclave at Ivanhoe Ranch is planning 119 residences adjacent to the site. Already congested use of Jamul Drive, Steele Canyon Road, and Willow Glen Road cannot handle additional heavy use.

3. Land Use & Community Character – the character of the area is developed and consists of residential, recreational, civic and open space uses. The RSD Specific Plan identifies the Cottonwood Golf Course serving as a buffer area and providing a larger setback to sensitive habitat areas. A Sand Mine will destroy sensitive habitat areas.

4. Major Use Permit Findings – proposed use requires that location, size, design and operating characteristics be compatible with adjacent uses – residences and nearby buildings. The proposed Sand Mine will have a harmful effect upon RSD’s desirable neighborhood character; the generation of traffic; the capacity and physical character of surrounding streets; and, the suitability of the site for the type and intensity of use or development which is proposed.

5. Biological Resources – the area contains jurisdictional waters of the State of California and the United States, including protected wetlands, requiring approval from State and Federal resource agencies. Several federally endangered and threatened species have been identified on or in the vicinity of the proposed project site (site is adjacent to the National Wildlife Refuge). The site is also within the South County and Metro-Lakeside-Jamul segments of the County’s Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) designated preserve areas.

6. Visual Resources – Willow Glen Drive is designated as a County Scenic Road. Impacts to travelers using this road, persons walking and bicycling the road, and residences along the ridges that view this road must be considered.

7. Air/Noise/Altered Hydrogeologic Conditions – proposed Sand Mine would significantly impact the environment potentially harming residents, plant and animal species, water and the land. Such harm to human beings and our environment must take priority over temporary private financial gain.

8. Sweetwater River – the Sweetwater Authority documented that the Sand Mine proposes a variety of activities that could significantly increase pollution of the Sweetwater Reservoir. This source of drinking water must be protected.

9. Cultural Resources – numerous archaeological resources have been identified within a one-mile radius of the proposed Sand Mine site. Significant impact to tribal cultural resources is likely.

10. Sensitive Populations At-Risk – sensitive populations include schools, resident care facilities, and facilities and residences that house individuals with health conditions (children & elderly) would be adversely impacted by changes in air quality. Proposed Sand Mine identified residences and nearby Jamacha Elementary school as at-risk however they must also study impact to Adeona, an 80-bed residential treatment facility for adolescents which is adjacent to the Sand Mine site on Steele Canyon Road, the YMCA within a quarter mile of the property site, and La Vida Real, a senior living residence, which is about a half mile from the site.
VOLUNTARY SPEAKER CARD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
County of San Diego

Valle de Oro Community Planning Group

Please complete and submit this card to the Group Secretary if you wish to speak on any agenda item. Please keep your comments brief while still communicating your concerns. As a general guideline, it is suggested that you please limit your comments to two (2) minutes if you are speaking as an individual, and five (5) minutes if you are speaking for an organized group. Please provide the following information for the purposes of recognizing your comments.

Name:  
Pete Bailey

Agenda Item No.:  

Comment Summary:  Sand Mine

The Group Chair will recognize speakers in the order in which the speaker cards were submitted. All comments shall be directed to the Chair. The Chair reserves the right to close public comment if comments have become repetitive or non-productive. Speakers may cede their time to another speaking as part of an organized presentation / response to an agenda item.
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Name: Sinan Shathaya  

Agenda Item No.: __________________________  

Comment Summary: 1- excavation depth 2- what materials to refill 3- erosion 4- heat 5- noise  

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