

I-131 Walid Farrukh (2)

I-131-1 The comment asks if 19 tons of TNT daily for the next 10 years is safe for people and the environment. The County acknowledges the comment and refers the commenter to Section 2.10, Noise, subsection 2.10.6.2 which identifies the required mitigation measure for potential impacts related to blasting. These measures include the preparation of a blast drilling and monitoring plan (M-N-5) as well as a vibration monitoring plan (M-N-8).

The County also clarifies that, as stated in the Draft EIR, the maximum amount of explosive used per day was estimated at between 17 and 19 tons. (Draft EIR, Appendix G, Air Quality Technical Report, Section 3.1.2, Blasting Emissions Methodology, p. 59-60.) All heavy construction activities (which include the blasting referenced in the comment) “are anticipated to be completed by the end of 2022.” Thus, all heavy construction activities, including blasting, are anticipated to be completed within the first five years (2018 through 2022). (Draft EIR, p. 1-20.) Further, “[i]ndividual blasting or rock-crushing activities during Phases 1 and 2 would occur sequentially and would not overlap.” (*Ibid.*) The County will include the comment as part of the Final EIR for review and consideration by the decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project.

I-131-2 The comment states that 8 million rocks will be moved and this would break the roads. The comment asks if the project can be conditioned to upgrade pavement to carry heavy trucks before the heavy trucks use the road. Road improvements and the timing of those improvements are identified in Section 2.13 Transportation and Traffic of the Draft EIR. The comment does not raise any specific issue regarding that analysis and, therefore, no more specific response can be provided or is required. The County will include the comment as part of the Final EIR for review and consideration by the decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project.

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