



# County of Santa Cruz

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

701 OCEAN STREET, 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060  
(831) 454-2580 FAX: (831) 454-2131

KATHLEEN MOLLOY, PLANNING DIRECTOR

[www.sccoplanning.com](http://www.sccoplanning.com)

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, the following project has been reviewed by the County Environmental Coordinator to determine if it has a potential to create significant impacts to the environment and, if so, how such impacts could be solved. A Negative Declaration is prepared in cases where the project is determined not to have any significant environmental impacts. Either a Mitigated Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is prepared for projects that may result in a significant impact to the environment.

Public review periods are provided for these Environmental Determinations according to the requirements of the County Environmental Review Guidelines. The environmental document is available for review at the County Planning Department located at 701 Ocean Street, in Santa Cruz. You may also view the environmental document on the web at [www.sccoplanning.com](http://www.sccoplanning.com) under the Planning Department menu. If you have questions or comments about this Notice of Intent, please contact Matt Johnston of the Environmental Review staff at (831) 454-5357.

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. If you require special assistance in order to review this information, please contact Bernice Shawver at (831) 454-3137 to make arrangements.

**PROJECT: Felton Quarry**

**APP #: 191104**

**APNs: 062-181-12, 064-201-13, -79, 80, -81, 064-211-67, -68**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The project is an amendment of the Felton Quarry Mining Approval to allow eighty (80) additional off-hours operations, which occur outside of the normal operating hours of the quarry, for a total of one hundred (100) off-hours operations per year. The mining operation includes an asphalt plant that processes heavy oil with aggregate to produce asphaltic concrete used in road and highway construction and maintenance throughout Santa Cruz County and the region. Off-hours operations include operation of the asphalt plant to supply public paving projects at night and on Saturday. The normal operating hours of the quarry are 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Monday through Friday for shipping. The existing Mining Approval allows twenty (20) exceptions to these hours for operation of the asphalt plant and trucking of asphalt to public paving projects at night and on Saturday without prior approval of the Planning Director. One exception is represented by one night operation or one Saturday operation, and one night or Saturday operation may involve varying amounts of truck trips depending on the size of the paving project. The existing Mining Approval also allows the quarry operator to request twenty (20) additional exceptions and the Planning Department has the discretion to approve or deny the request. Approval such a request would allow a total of up to forty (40) off-hours operations per year under the existing Mining Approval. With this application, the quarry operator is seeking to amend the Mining Approval for approval of eighty (80) additional exceptions in addition to the twenty (20) exceptions already allowed by the permit conditions for a total of one hundred (100) exceptions for off-hours operations of the asphalt plant.

The reason for the request is due to a combination of factors. Because of increasing traffic congestion and the impacts on traffic flow, road maintenance projects on major roadways and highways are

increasingly scheduled at night to reduce traffic congestion and improve job safety. In addition, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 (SB 1) is generating significant new funding for road maintenance projects, which is expected to result in an increase in paving projects occurring at night.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The project is located at the end of Felton Quarry Road which extends from San Lorenzo Avenue in the community of Felton in unincorporated Santa Cruz County. Santa Cruz County is located on the central California coast in the northern part of Monterey Bay. The inland boundary of the County follows the crest of the northwest-southeast trending Santa Cruz Mountains. The Felton Quarry is located in an area of granitic rocks in the northern part of the County in a rural area between the town of Felton and the more dispersed community of Bonny Doon.

**APPLICANT/OWNER:** Granite Construction Company / CGK, Sinnot, Kester, et.al.

**PROJECT PLANNER:** David Carlson, (831) 454-3173

**EMAIL:** [David.Carlson@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:David.Carlson@santacruzcounty.us)

**ACTION:** Negative Declaration

**REVIEW PERIOD:** February 3, 2020 through February 24, 2020

**This project will be considered at a public hearing before the Planning Commission. The time, date and location have not been set. When scheduling does occur, these items will be included in all public hearing notices for the project.**



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## NEGATIVE DECLARATION

**Project: Felton Quarry**

**APPLICATION #: 191104**

**APNs: 062-181-12, 064-201-13, -79, 80, -81, 064-211-67, -68**

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**Project Location:** The project is located at the end of Felton Quarry Road which extends from San Lorenzo Avenue in the community of Felton in unincorporated Santa Cruz County. Santa Cruz County is located on the central California coast in the northern part of Monterey Bay. The inland boundary of the County follows the crest of the northwest-southeast trending Santa Cruz Mountains. The Felton Quarry is located in an area of granitic rocks in the northern part of the County in a rural area between the town of Felton and the more dispersed community of Bonny Doon.

**Owner: CGK, Sinnot, Kester, et.al.**

**Applicant: Granite Construction Company**

**Staff Planner: David Carlson, (831) 454-3173**

**Email: [David.Carlson@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:David.Carlson@santacruzcounty.us)**

**This project will be** considered at a public hearing before the Planning Commission. The time, date and location have not been set. When scheduling does occur, these items will be included in all public hearing notices for the project

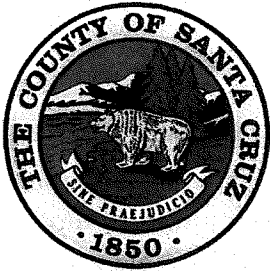
California Environmental Quality Act Negative Declaration Findings:

Find, that this Negative Declaration reflects the decision-making body's independent judgment and analysis, and; that the decision-making body has reviewed and considered the information contained in this Negative Declaration and the comments received during the public review period, and; on the basis of the whole record before the decision-making body (including this Negative Declaration) that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment. The expected environmental impacts of the project are documented in the attached Initial Study on file with the County of Santa Cruz Clerk of the Board located at 701 Ocean Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Santa Cruz, California.

Review Period Ends: February 24, 2020

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
MATT JOHNSTON, Environmental Coordinator  
(831) 454-5357



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## CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) INITIAL STUDY/ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

**Date:** Thursday January 16, 2020

**Application Number:** 191104

**Project Name:** Felton Quarry

**Staff Planner:** David Carlson

### I. OVERVIEW AND ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

**APPLICANT:** Granite Construction Company

**APN(s):** 062-181-12, 064-201-13, -79, -80, -81, 064-211-67, -68

**OWNER:** CGK, Sinnot, Kester, etal.

**SUPERVISORAL DISTRICT:** 3 and 5

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The project is located at the end of Felton Quarry Road which extends from San Lorenzo Avenue in the community of Felton in unincorporated Santa Cruz County (Figure 1). Santa Cruz County is located on the central California coast in the northern part of Monterey Bay. The inland boundary of the County follows the crest of the northwest-southeast trending Santa Cruz Mountains. The Felton Quarry is located in an area of granitic rocks in the northern part of the County in a rural area between the town of Felton and the more dispersed community of Bonny Doon.

#### SUMMARY PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

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hours operations per year under the existing Mining Approval. With this application, the quarry operator is seeking to amend the Mining Approval for approval of eighty (80) additional exceptions in addition to the twenty (20) exceptions already allowed by the permit conditions for a total of one hundred (100) exceptions for off-hours operations of the asphalt plant.

The reason for the request is due to a combination of factors. Because of increasing traffic congestion and the impacts on traffic flow, road maintenance projects on major roadways and highways are increasingly scheduled at night to reduce traffic congestion and improve job safety. In addition, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 (SB 1) is generating significant new funding for road maintenance projects, which is expected to result in an increase in paving projects occurring at night.

**ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:** *All of the following potential environmental impacts are evaluated in this Initial Study. Categories that are marked have been analyzed in greater detail based on project specific information.*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics and Visual Resources      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality               | <input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology and Soils                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions  | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities and Service Systems      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards and Hazardous Materials      | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Supply/Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Planning     |   |

**DISCRETIONARY APPROVAL(S) BEING CONSIDERED:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Amendment  | <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Development Permit                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Division           | <input type="checkbox"/> Grading Permit                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rezoning                | <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Exception                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Development Permit      | <input type="checkbox"/> LAFCO Annexation                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Connection Permit | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Mining Approval Amendment |

**OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES WHOSE APPROVAL IS REQUIRED (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):**

<u>Permit Type/Action</u>	<u>Agency</u>
None	None

**CONSULTATION WITH NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES:** *Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?*

No California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the area of Santa Cruz County have requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1.

**DETERMINATION:**

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that 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 revisions in the project have been made or agreed to by the project proponent. A **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.
- I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or **NEGATIVE DECLARATION**, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MATT JOHNSTON, Environmental Coordinator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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