MERCED COUNTY

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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Equal Opportunity Employer

Surface Mining and Reclamation Plans

Surface mining is all, or any part of, the process involved in the mining (removal) of minerals (sand, aggregate, etc.) by removing overburden and removal of mineral deposits, open-pit mining of naturally exposed minerals, auger method mining, dredging and quarrying, or surface work incident to an underground mine. Surface mining operations shall include, but are not limited to: in place distillation or retorting or leaching; the production and disposal of mining waste; and/or prospecting and exploratory activities.

A mining project requires submission of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) as well as a Reclamation Plan. Mine applications are also likely to require environmental study under CEQA.

Applicants are encouraged to review Chapter 18.43 of the Merced County Zoning Code, Resolution 97-2, and to meet with staff to discuss your application prior to submission of application materials.

- Operational Statement - indicate type of material, maximum and average depth of mining, duration, annual tons/cubic yards removed, hours of operations, number of employees (peak and average), number of daily truck trips,
- Proposed start date
- Proposed end date
- Phasing of operations
- Plot plan – indicate equipment storage areas, topsoil stockpile areas, material stockpile areas, locations of processing facilities, existing contours, proposed final contours, water bodies, utilities, easements, wells, parking areas, existing structures/buildings, proposed structures/buildings, property lines, roads, rights-of-way, setbacks, large trees, known wetlands/endangered species,
- Cross-sections showing existing and proposed elevations across the site
- Reclamation Plan pursuant to the requirements of SMARA
- Map of truck routes, including percentages of trucks via each route