Notice of Exemption

To: ☒ Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: San Bernardino County
Land Use Services Department
Planning Division
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, First Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0187

☒ Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of San Bernardino
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, Second Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0130

DATE FILED & POSTED
Posted On: 10-6-2025
Removed On: 11-12-2025
Receipt No: 36-10062025-730

Project Description

PROJECT TITLE:	Mountain Pass Mine Operations LLC
APN:	0572-101-17 et al.
APPLICANT:	John Espinoza
PROPOSAL:	Increase the West Overburden Stockpile height from 5,100 feet above sea level (amsl) to 5,150 feet amsl, an increase of 50 feet.
PROJECT #:	MRAA-2024-00001
COMMUNITY:	Mountain Pass
LOCATION:	34° 8' 28.8204" N, 115° 41' 48.2382" W

Applicant

John Espinoza
Name

67750 Bailey Road
Address

Mountain Pass, CA 92366

NA
Phone

Representative

Martin Derus
Name

1905 Business Center Dr. Suite 100
Address

San Bernardino, CA 92408

Derek Newland
Lead Agency Contact Person

(909) 387-8311
Area Code/Telephone Number

(909) 890-1818
Phone

Exempt Status: *(check one)*

- ☐ Ministerial [Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268];
- ☐ Declared Emergency [Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a)];
- ☐ Emergency Project [Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)];
- ☐ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: _____
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____
- ☒ Other Exemption: 15061 (b)(3) "Common Sense" Exemption

CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY CALIFORNIA
2025 OCT -6 PM 2:33

Reasons why project is exempt:
The increase in height of the West Overburden Stockpile by 50 feet would not create a new or exacerbate a significant environmental impact during mining operations. There are no substantial increases in area or height of operations, processing facilities, water usage, wastewater production, air emissions, surface disturbance, and/or hours of operation. The mining operation and Reclamation Plan were environmentally assessed by an EIR in 2004 with mitigation to Aesthetics proposed and adopted through Conditions of Approval, an MMRP and Mining Reclamation Plan.

Derek Newland — Planner II — August 29, 2025
Signature — *Title* — *Date*

☒ Signed by Lead Agency ☐ Signed by Applicant
Date received for filing at OPR: _____