Environmental Minor Project Refinement Form

Project Name: West of Devers Upgrade Project Request Prepared By: Sylvia Granados

Date Approval Required: 6/8/2018 Variance Request No.: 15

Date Submitted: 5/31/2018 Location: Poultry Material Yard Access Road and Parking Area Paving

Landowner: SCK Poultry Ranches and John Stein

Current Vegetative Cover/Land Use: Previously Disturbed

Existing Sensitive Resource? ■ NO YES Specify: ________________________________

Modifying (check as many as apply): ■ MITIGATION MEASURE ■ PLAN/PROCEDURE ■ DRAWING ■ PERMIT CONDITION ■ SPECIFICATION

Specify Source (e.g., Mitigation Measure B.5): Modification to NTP #1 for Poultry Material Yard.

Description of Change and Justification (Attach additional sheets if needed.)

Attachments: ■ CONSTRUCTION DRAWING ■ ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS ■ CORRESPONDENCE ■ OTHER: ____________________________

Approximately 46,000 square feet of asphalt pavement will be installed in a 3-inch thick layer along the Poultry Material Yard access road, inside the frontage area of the yard, to mitigate fugitive dust and track-out from entering upon the adjacent, parallel, and public San Timoteo Canyon Road. In addition, approximately 70,000 square feet of asphalt pavement will be installed in a 1.5 to 2-inch thick layer surrounding the Poultry Material Yard trailer complex, to further mitigate fugitive dust and track-out from exiting property boundaries, as shown in Figure 1.

Because San Timoteo Canyon Road is a rural, high-speed, 2-lane highway, the existing rock ingress/egress to the material yard creates an unsafe condition for vehicles turning into the material yard and public travelers on the road. The unsafe condition will also be mitigated with the installation of the temporary paving, eliminating the potential for rock kick-back into the public roadway and sudden vehicle stalls over the boulders.

The asphalt paving will be removed upon completion of the project, when the site is restored to preconstruction conditions, therefore no new temporary or permanent impacts are associated with this minor project refinement.

Biological Resources:

The paragraphs addressing the specific biological resources occurring or potentially occurring at the Poultry Yard were modified from a report documenting a preconstruction survey of the yard and associated well location conducted on February 7, 2018 (FRED Survey Report 000010) in advance of Poultry Material Yard development. Since that survey, the yard has been developed extensively and is currently operating as an active construction material yard. Monitoring spot checks and nesting bird sweeps have been conducted and will continue to be conducted periodically during yard operation. The access road subject to paving has already been developed, graveled. Therefore, the risk to biological resources is minimal.

Burrowing Owl – Burrowing owl habitat in the form of annual and perennial grasslands and scrublands characterized by low growing vegetation is present within the survey buffer, but not along the access road or parking area. Burrowing owls often inhabit the margins along agricultural fields and development. Therefore, burrowing owls have the potential to occur in the vicinity of the Poultry Yard. However, no burrowing owls or sign were observed during the preconstruction survey or subsequent biological sweeps of the area.

Nesting Birds – Suitable substrates for nesting birds, including trees, shrubs, man-made structures, and the ground surface, are located within the yard, trailer complex parking area, and the vicinity. No active nests were observed during the preconstruction survey, and no avian species were observed exhibiting behavior suggestive of breeding activity during subsequent biological sweeps of the access road or trailer complex parking area.
Coastal California Gnatcatcher – No suitable habitat for the species occurs within 500 feet of the access road or trailer complex parking area. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

Golden Eagle – Habitat marginally suitable for golden eagle nesting is located within 2 miles of the work location. Based on protocol surveys conducted in 2016 and 2017, the yard and associated access road are not within 2 miles of any known golden eagle nests. While golden eagles may forage in the vicinity of the work location, no impacts are anticipated.

Stephens’ Kangaroo Rat – Based on habitat assessments and protocol trapping surveys conducted for the project, the access road and parking area are not located within 100 feet of Stephens’ kangaroo rat habitat.

Special-status Plants – No special-status plants were observed during previous special-status plant surveys, therefore, the potential for special-status plant species to occur within the areas currently graveled access road and parking area is low.

Regulated Trees – No regulated trees exist along the access road or in the parking area.

Jurisdictional Waters – A jurisdictional drainage feature is mapped outside the southwest boundary of the yard, which does not intersect the access road or parking area, and will be avoided during paving construction.

Ultimately, no impacts to special-status species or sensitive resources such as jurisdictional waters are anticipated.

Cultural Resources
The material yard, including the access road and parking area, was included in the LSA 2012 Cultural record search and was covered during the Cultural pedestrian survey conducted by LSA for the WOD Material Yards in 2013, meeting SHPO compliance. No cultural resources are recorded within 100 feet of the work area. No archaeological or Native American monitoring are required, per the CRMP (2016).

Resources:

Biological  NO SENSITIVE RESOURCES PRESENT  ■ SENSITIVE RESOURCES PRESENT  □ N/A
New Survey Report Attached:  YES  ■ NO – SITE IS ACTIVE.
If No, Previous Biological Survey Reference:  
FRED Survey Report 000010

Cultural  ■ NO RESOURCES PRESENT  □ RESOURCES PRESENT WITH PROJECT APE:  ■ YES  ■ NO
(PAVED/GRAVEL AREA AND NO GROUND DISTURBANCE)
If in APE, Previous Cultural Survey Reference: The Project specific Cultural Resources Management Plan:
The access road and parking area were included in the LSA 2012 Cultural record search and covered during the Cultural pedestrian survey conducted by LSA for the WOD Material Yards in 2013, meeting SHPO compliance. No cultural resources are recorded within 100 feet of the work area. No archaeological or Native American monitoring are required, per the CRMP (2016).

Other Potential Impacts: (Check any potential changes to permitted impacts and provide details below. Attach additional sheets if needed.)

☐ AIR QUALITY  ☑ LAND USE  ☑ TRAFFIC
☐ BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES  ☐ NOISE  ☐ VISUAL
☐ CONTAMINATED SOILS  ☐ PALEO RESOURCES  ☐ WATER RESOURCES
☐ CULTURAL RESOURCES  ☐ SOCIOECONOMIC  ☐ WETLANDS
☐ HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  ☑ STORM WATER (SWPPP)

NA

CEQA and Permitting: (Provide details for any “Yes” answer and attach additional information if needed.)
1. Will modification involve substantial changes that will require major changes to the CEQA document?  
☐ YES  ■ NO

2. Will modification result in new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified impacts?  
☐ YES  ■ NO

3. Additional agency notifications and/or permit modifications required?  
☐ YES  ■ NO

Conditions of Approval or Reasons for Denial: (Attach additional information if needed.)

___ Required Signatures: (Attached email approvals may be used in lieu of signatures.)

☐ X Chief Construction Inspector or Foreman: □ VARIANCE MODIFICATION IS NEEDED FOR SAFE AND EFFICIENT CONSTRUCTION
Name: Jeff Miller  Signature:  Date: 5/30/2018

☐ X Environmental Inspector:  ☐ FIELD REVIEW COMPLETE
Name: Jordan Hall  Signature:  Date: 5/30/2018

☐ X Land Agent:  ☐ CONSISTENT WITH EXISTING RIGHTS  ☐ NEW RIGHTS OBTAINED
Name: James Spence  Signature:  Date: 5/30/2018

☐ X Environmental Compliance Lead:  □ APPROVED  □ APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS (SEE CONDITIONS ABOVE)  □ DENIED
Name: Sylvia Granados  Signature:  Date: 5/30/2018