

APPENDIX J-1

CA Office of Historic Preservation, Historic Properties Comment Letter to
USACOE, dated November 13, 2008

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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November 13, 2008

In Reply Refer To: COE081020A

Kathleen A. Dadey, PhD.
Chief, California South Branch
Department of the Army
U.S. Army Engineer District -
Sacramento Corps of Engineers
1325 J Street
Sacramento, California 95814-2922

Re: Section 404 of the Clean Water Act Authorization for the Madera Ranch Quarry Project, Madera and Fresno Counties, California (SPK-2005-00673).

Dear Dr. Dadey:

Thank you for submitting to our office, your letter and supporting documentation regarding the undertaking noted above. The U.S. Army Engineer District, Sacramento Corps of Engineers, is seeking my concurrence on the effects that the subject undertaking will have on historic properties, pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800 (as amended 8-05-04) regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The proposed undertaking, the Madera Ranch Quarry Project, will affect waters under the jurisdiction of the United States and requires authorization by the COE pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The COE has identified this action as an undertaking pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA.

The project will involve affects to several parcels. The site of the proposed quarry will cover approximately 125 acres and will additionally affect an adjacent 14.7-acre portion of Road 209, which will be upgraded to service the new quarry. Proposed project activities in this area will include the quarry of granite and the construction of infrastructure such as buildings, roads, and utilities. Additionally, a water pipeline 0.5 mile in length will be installed to a well. A 47-acre parcel will be used as off-site mitigation for the loss of wetlands. A temporary conservation easement will also be placed on a 409-acre parcel located north of the quarry site during the development of a permanent 270-acre conservation easement and a 130-acre permanent Madera County easement will be established for faunal and floral species affects. The total Area of Potential Effect for this undertaking is approximately 595 acres.

In addition to your letter of October 16, 2008, you have submitted the following documents as evidence of your efforts to identify and evaluate historic properties in the project APE:

- *Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Report for the Madera Ranch Quarry Project Madera County, California* (Michael Taggart and Amy Kovak, Pacific Legacy, Inc.: June 2008).
- *Supplemental Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation Report for the Madera Ranch Quarry Project* (Amy Kovak, Pacific Legacy, Inc.: September 2008).
- *Supplemental Report for the Madera Quarry Project* (Amy Kovak, Pacific Legacy, Inc.: August 2008).

After reviewing your letter and supporting documentation, I have the following comments:

a) I concur that the Area of Potential Effects (APE) has been properly determined and documented pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4 (a)(1) and that your efforts to identify and evaluate Historic Properties within the APE have been appropriate pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4.

b) I further concur that the following historic properties are *not* eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under any criteria:

- 1) PL-Mad-001 (bedrock milling station with sparse lithic scatter)
- 2) PL-Mad-002 (bedrock milling station with sparse lithic scatter)
- 3) PL-Mad-003 (segment of telephone line)
- 4) PL-Mad-004 (bedrock milling station)
- 5) PL-Mad-005 (historic refuse scatter)
- 6) CA-FRE-3215 (bedrock milling station with sparse lithic scatter and historic refuse scatter)

c) I further concur that your proposed finding of No Historic Properties Affected is appropriate pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4 (d)(1) and that the supporting documentation has been provided pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.11(d).

Be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, the COE may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800. Thank you for seeking my comments and for considering historic properties in planning your project. If you require further information, please contact William Soule, Associate State Archeologist at phone 916-654-4614 or email wsoule@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Susan K Stratton for

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer