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Record of Conversation

Date: September 29, 2008 **Time:** 11:30 am

Call From: Marvin Howell, Director of Land Use Planning and Permitting, Hanson Aggregates (858-577-2770)
Call To: Joe Stenger, TRC (805-528-6868)

Subject: Fenton Sand Mine

Details:
Mr. Howell returned my call this morning pursuant to a voice mail that I left him last week. I had called Mr. Howell to find out whether he was knowledgeable regarding operations at the former Fenton Sand Mine south of SR 76 near the Orange Grove Project and, if so, whether he knew if any buried cultural resources were ever found during excavations conducted at the mine. The mine pits were excavated in Holocene alluvium that is representative of the Holocene alluvium just downstream of the mine where the Orange Grove Project will be digging a trench for construction of the proposed gas pipeline.

Mr. Howell indicated that he was involved with the former Fenton Sand Mine from 1986 until the mine closed in 2006, and that he was very familiar with the operations that occurred there. He indicated that the mine pits extended to a depth of approximately 40 feet below grade, and that materials encountered in the mine pits were sand channel deposits with minor gravel (10 percent or less). He indicated that no substantial fine-grain layers were encountered.

I asked Mr. Howell if any cultural resources were ever encountered during the mining operation. He indicated that to his knowledge no cultural resources were encountered. Mr. Howell volunteered that, if cultural resources would have been found as the mine excavations occurred, he would know of it.

Technical Area: Cultural Resources

DATA REQUEST

Staff requested a 1 inch = 400 foot scale map of the Holocene alluvium geologic/ geomorphic unit in the vicinity of the gas pipeline.

RESPONSE

Attachment 5 provides the requested map in two figures enumerated as Figures 1A and 1B.

DATA REQUEST

Staff requested that the Applicant reevaluate whether there are locations available in the field where the Applicant can further characterize the upper portion of the Holocene alluvium with regard to geoarchaeology without suffering the project delays expressed as a concern by the Applicant's project team during the workshop.

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RESPONSE

The Applicant commissioned a study of the area to determine if there are locations where the upper portion of the Holocene alluvium can be further characterized with regard to geoarchaeology. A California Professional Geologist conducted field reconnaissance of accessible areas of the Holocene alluvium near the project to determine if there are any existing river banks, drainages, excavations or other locations where the upper portion of the Holocene alluvium is exposed. As a result of this work, one location was found where the upper portion of the Holocene alluvium was exposed in an erosion feature. Hand-tools were used to maximize the vertical exposure of the Holocene alluvium to the extent practical. With this work, the geologist was able to obtain good exposure for the uppermost approximately six feet of the Holocene alluvium. The anticipated depth of trenching for the majority of the gas pipeline installation in the alluvium is approximately 4.5 feet. (The exception is where the gas pipeline will be in the Caltrans right-of-way where trenching may be up to approximately 10 feet.) The location of the identified exposure of Holocene alluvium is provided in Attachment 5 (see Figure 1B in Attachment 5). Photographs of the exposure are provided in Attachment 6. The materials encountered in the exposure are alluvial sands and minor gravel, collectively interpreted as channel deposits of the San Luis Rey River. The exposure did not contain significant fine grain beds indicative of overbank deposits, paleosoil horizons, substantial organic matter conducive to radio carbon dating, nor evidence of cultural resources or cultural influence. These results are consistent with the geoarchaeologic characterization of the Holocene alluvium materials provided in the response to Data Request No. 46 and support the assessment in that response that the character of the Holocene alluvium is well understood based on existing information.

Furthermore, the Applicant had their cultural resource consultant re-examine records of cultural resources that have been found in the area and this effort reaffirmed that no cultural resources are recorded to have ever been found in the Holocene alluvium in the project vicinity, as previously described in the response to Data Request No. 46.

Finally, the Applicant's consultants contacted the former owner and operator of the Fenton Sand Mine that occurs just south of SR 76 near the project site. A record of conversation is provided in Attachment 7. TRC's consultant spoke with Mr. Marvin Howell, Director of Land Use, Planning and Permitting for Hanson Aggregates. Mr. Howell was involved with the Fenton Sand Mine for two decades and until the mine closed in 2006. The mine excavated materials from the Holocene alluvium to depths of approximately 40 feet. Mr. Howell indicated that the materials encountered were exclusively river channel deposits consisting primarily of sand with minor gravel and that no buried cultural resources were found. He further volunteered that, if cultural resources would have been found, he would have been notified. The characteristics of the Holocene alluvium in the Fenton Sand Mine as described by Mr. Howell and the absence of buried cultural resources at that facility are consistent

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with the geoarchaeologic characterization of the Holocene alluvium materials provided in the response to Data Request No. 46.

Collectively, the above provides strong additional validation of the geoarchaeologic characterization of the Holocene alluvium previously provided to CEC in the response to Data Request No. 46.

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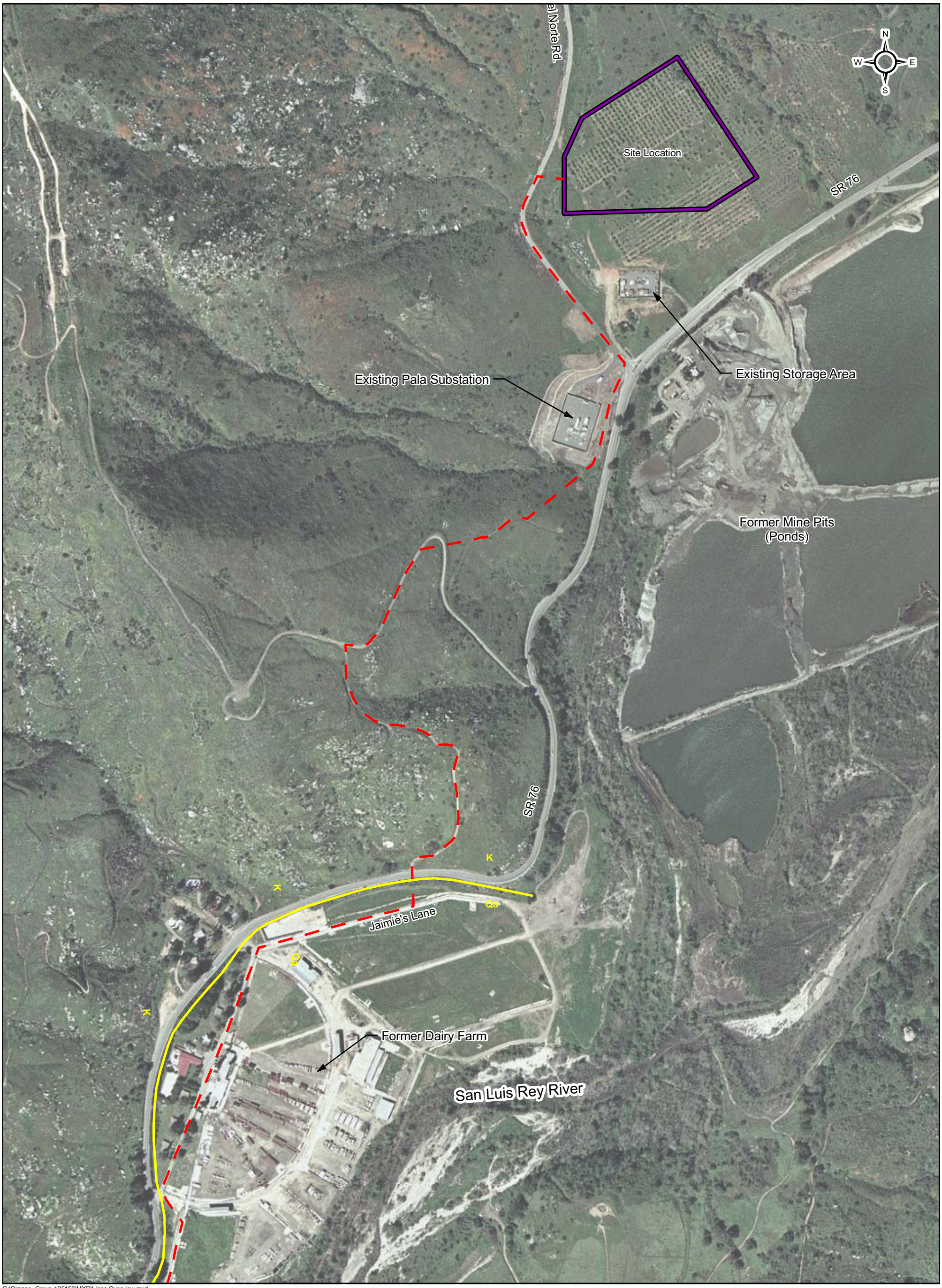

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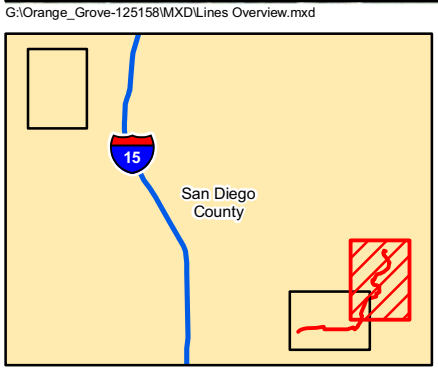

Proposed Gas Line

Site Boundary

Artificial Fill

Qa K Geologic Contact Between Cretaceous Basement Rock (K) and Holocene Aluvium (Qa)

*Surveyed by observation from public roads

Source: Aerial Photography from ESRI_Imagery_World_2D

Figure 1 A

Orange Grove Project

Location of Holocene Alluvium and Holocene Alluvium Outcrop

1" = 400'

400 200 0 400 800

Feet

TRC

K
Qa
K
Qa
K
Qa
K
K
Qa
K
Qa
Qa
K
K
SR 76
6' Outcrop
Photographed
& Described
San Luis Rey River
Couser Canyon Rd
Rice Canyon Rd
N
E
S
W

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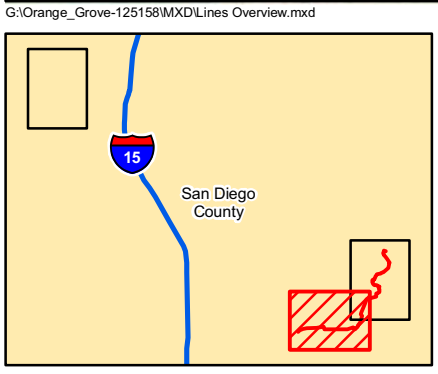

Proposed Gas Line
Site Boundary
Artificial Fill
K/Qa Geologic Contact Between Cretaceous Basement Rock (K) and Holocene Aluvium (Qa)

*Surveyed by observation from public roads

Source:
Aerial Photography from ESRI_Imagery_World_2D

1" = 400'
400 200 0 400 800
Feet

Figure 1 B
Orange Grove Project
Location of Holocene Alluvium and Holocene Alluvium Outcrop

TRC


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1F 6
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1F .9
2F

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1F

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4
Lufkin
5
MADE IN U.S.A.
6
NON
7
METALLIC