

PLANNING DEPARTMENT LAND USE AGENCY

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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the <u>Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the Newman Ridge Project</u> has been received and is now available to the public and interested agencies at the Amador County Planning Department at 810 Court Street, Jackson, CA and the Jackson Branch of the Amador County Library at 530 Sutter Street, Jackson, CA for review. A limited number of copies are available at the Planning Department while supplies last. Once supplies are exhausted, copies may be purchased at 20¢ per page (cost of reproduction). The Draft EIR is also available on the County website at www.co.amador.ca.us.

The project, as proposed by Newman Minerals, LLC, consists of two main components – the Newman Ridge Quarry and the Edwin Center.

Newman Ridge Quarry

The Newman Ridge Quarry is a proposed andesite quarry on approximately 278 acres, with operations occurring on approximately 216 acres. The Quarry site is located on Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 005-080-015, 005-090-012, -016, 005-110-010, -011, 005-120-008, and -010, which are owned in fee by Greenrock Ranch Lands, LLC. The northernmost portion of the proposed Quarry boundary is located on APNs 005-080-017 and -018, which are owned in fee by Edwin Lands, LLC and ISP, respectively. The Newman Ridge Quarry portion of the project would require approval of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). In addition, a Quarry Reclamation Plan would be required, pursuant to the State Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (Pub. Resources Code § 2710 et seq.) and the County surface mining ordinance (County Code Chapter 7.36), in order to authorize and specify reclamation of the Quarry site. Reclamation of disturbed portions of the Newman Ridge Quarry would be phased with mining activities and operations and final reclamation of the Newman Ridge Quarry would occur after all mineral extraction is completed.

Edwin Center

The Edwin Center would host various material processing facilities on approximately 113 acres, including an aggregate plant, AC plant, ready-mix concrete plant, an asphalt and concrete recycling plant, and a rail loadout facility for finished products. The proposed Edwin Center is located on portions of APNs 005-080-017 and -018. Mining would not occur within the Edwin Center, which is geographically separate from the Quarry. For the Edwin Center, the proposed project includes an amendment to the General Plan designation from Mineral Resources Zone (MRZ) and Agricultural – General (A-G) to Industrial (I), as well as a rezone from Single-Family Residential-Agricultural (R1-A) to Manufacturing (M), which, according to the County Zoning Code, allows for the manufacture, assembly, repair, processing, storage, and shipping of mineral products and other industrial-manufacturing uses. In addition, a CUP would be required for the asphalt and concrete recycling plant, as well as various other supporting permits including a grading permit, stockpiling permit, transportation permit, temporary building permit, and an excessive height use permit.

The Draft EIR is being sent to the State Clearinghouse for circulation to all responsible and trustee agencies for their review and comment. This notice is being sent to local agencies and area landowners for the purpose of informing them of this review and comment period. The period for receiving comments will commence on **Tuesday**, **April 24**, **2012** and end on **Thursday**, **June 07**, **2012**.

The Draft EIR concludes that environmental impacts within the following issue areas would be potentially significant: Aesthetics; Air Quality, Biological Resources; Cultural Resources; Geology, Soils, and Seismicity; Greenhouse Gas Emissions; Hazardous Materials and Hazards; Noise and Vibration; Public Services and Utilities; and Transportation and Circulation. It should be noted that the site is not included on any of the lists of sites enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

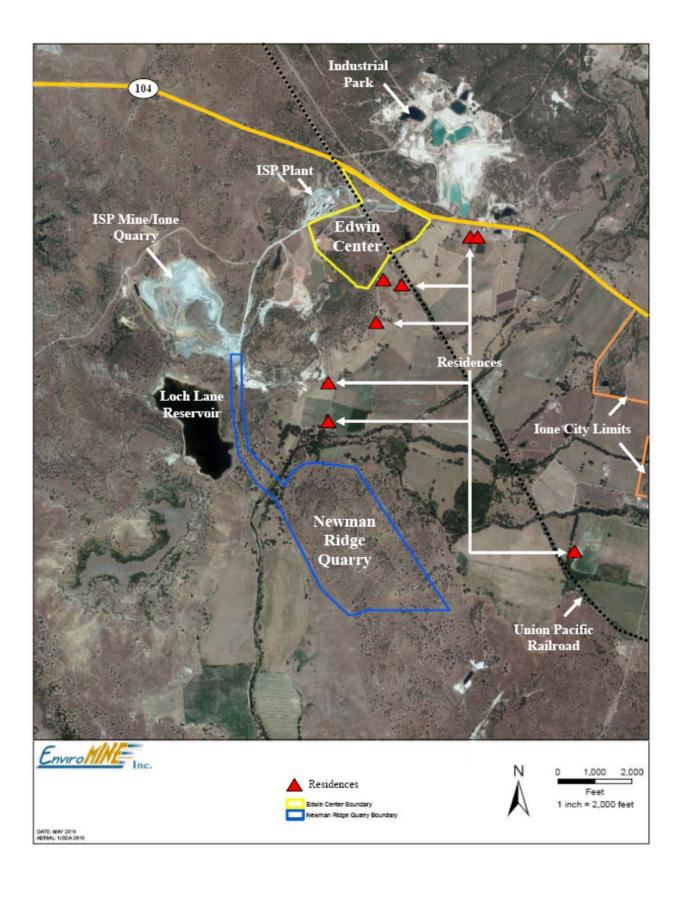
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING: The Amador County Planning Commission will hold a public meeting in the Board Chambers at the County Administration Center, 810 Court Street, Jackson, on **Tuesday, May 22, 2012 at 7:00 PM**. At this meeting an overview of the proposed project to provide information to the Planning Commission and the public that may assist their review and comment on the Draft EIR. Comments on the Draft EIR will be taken at this meeting; however, written comments may be submitted in writing to the Planning Department prior to <u>5:00 p.m. on June 07, 2012</u>. All interested parties are invited to attend this meeting.

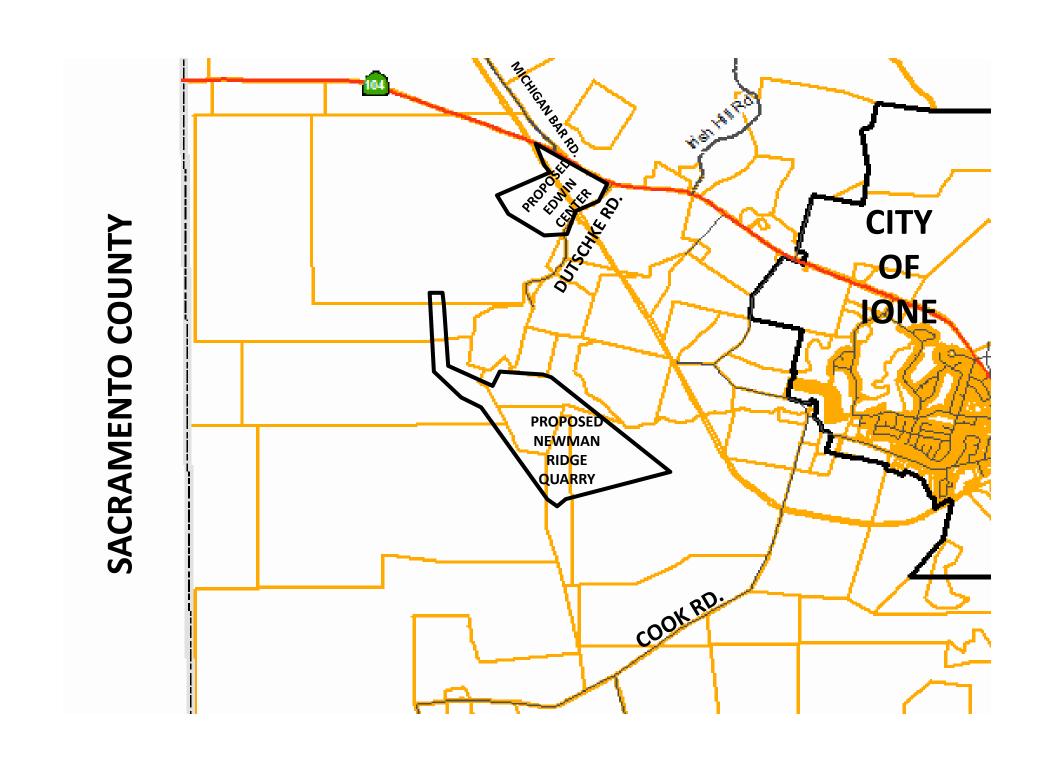
After the Draft EIR comment period is closed, responses to the comments received will be compiled in a Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR). A project decision cannot be considered until the Planning Commission certifies that the EIR adequately addresses the project's identified environmental impacts. Certification of the EIR does not constitute approval or denial of the project. Once the Planning Commission certifies the EIR as adequate, the Commission can then receive public comments and make a decision on the proposed project. **Notice of these subsequent hearings will be sent as they are scheduled.**

If you would like to review a large scale map of the proposed project, have any questions, or desire more information, please contact this office.

AMADOR COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT Date of this notice: **April 24, 2012**

NOTE: If you do not comment at project public hearings or send in written comments on the DEIR before the project is approved, and later decide to challenge the project's CEQA compliance in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised during the administrative process.





ZONING AND GENERAL PLAN INFO.

