

MINUTE ITEM

Calendar Item No. 28  
approved as Minute Item  
No. 28 by the State Lands  
Commission by a vote of 2  
to 0 at its 8/25/83  
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

28 - 1

8/25/83  
W 40356  
Hart  
PRC 6478

APPROVAL OF A  
PROSPECTING PERMIT FOR  
MINERALS OTHER THAN OIL, GAS,  
GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES, SAND AND GRAVEL,  
IN RIVERSIDE COUNTY

APPLICANT: Charles Price  
2615 Lawrence Avenue  
San Bernardino, California 92404

PROPOSED AUTHORIZATION:  
Approval of a Prospecting Permit for two  
years to prospect for gold and silver and  
other valuable minerals, other than oil,  
gas, geothermal resources, sand and gravel,  
on approximately 160 acres of land located  
in Riverside County.

CONSIDERATION: Filing fee of \$25, expense deposit of \$100  
and an acreage deposit of \$160.

TYPE OF LAND AND LOCATION:  
State school land - NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 16, T7S  
R15E, SBBM, Riverside County, 11 miles  
south of Desert Center in the Chuckwalla  
Mountains.

A 68

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NO. OF PAGES	110
NO. OF LINES	1860

PROPOSED PROJECT:

The applicant will map, sample, survey gamma ray emission levels, and assay the samples for gold, silver, copper and lead. If the assays show mineralization, 12 holes will be drilled in favorable areas. If the drilling results are positive, an inclined shaft will be driven in the most promising area to an estimated length of 70 feet to discover and delineate any possible orebody.

TERM:

The primary term of a Prospecting Permit is two years. The Commission may, in its discretion, extend the term for one additional year.

ROYALTY:

Royalty payable under the permit shall be twenty percent of the gross value of the minerals secured from the permit area and sold or otherwise disposed of or held for sale or other disposition.

PREREQUISITE ITEMS:

1. Required statutory filing fee, expense deposit and acreage deposit have been submitted by the applicant.
2. Subject parcel is not known to contain a commercially valuable deposit of minerals.
3. Royalty payable under any preferential lease issued shall not be less than ten percent of the gross revenue, less specific charges, as approved by the Commission related to transporting and processing as set forth in said lease, or a percentage, to be determined by the Commission, of the net profits derived from mineral extraction operations under the lease.

STATUTORY REFERENCES:

- A. P.R.C.: Div. 6, Section 6891.
- B. Cal. Adm. Code: Title 2, Section 2200.

AB 884: 1/13/84.

OTHER INFORMATION:

1. The Commission, acting as lead agency under CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines has prepared a Negative Declaration (ND 332) for this project. A copy of this environmental document is attached as Exhibit "C".
2. The project is situated on lands not identified as possessing significant environmental values pursuant to P.R.C. 6370.1, and is unclassified. A staff review of available environmental information indicates no reason to identify the subject parcel as having such values at this time.
3. Pursuant to P.R.C. Section 6895, the applicant would have a preferential right to a lease for a maximum of 160 acres embraced within the permit. Said right shall be subject to all necessary environmental approvals. The permit will not affect the discretion of the Commission in granting or denying the lease because of such environmental considerations.
4. Permit shall provide for a performance bond of \$25,000 in favor of the State.

APPROVALS OBTAINED:

Pursuant to P.R.C. Section 6890, the subject permit application has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General as to compliance with applicable provisions of the law.

EXHIBITS:

- A. Land Description.
- B. Site Map.
- C. Negative Declaration.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. CERTIFY THAT NEGATIVE DECLARATION NO. 332 HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CEQA, THE STATE CEQA GUIDE-

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LINES AND THE COMMISSION'S ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS, AND THAT THE COMMISSION HAS REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN PRIOR TO THE APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT. THIS PROJECT SHALL INCLUDE THIS PROSPECTING PERMIT AND ANY EXTENSION THE COMMISSION MAY GRANT IN ITS DISCRETION FOR SAME PROJECT DESCRIBED IN THE PERMIT.

2. DETERMINE THAT THE PROJECT WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
3. DETERMINE THAT THE LANDS DESCRIBED IN THE PERMIT ARE NOT PRESENTLY KNOWN TO CONTAIN COMMERCIALY VALUABLE DEPOSITS OF MINERALS.
4. AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF THE PROSPECTING PERMIT TO CHARLES PRICE FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS, FOR ALL MINERALS, OTHER THAN OIL, GAS, GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES, SAND AND GRAVEL, ON THE NW $\frac{1}{4}$  OF SECTION 16, T7S R15E, SBBM, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 160 ACRES; IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARD FORM OF PERMIT. ROYALTY PAYABLE UNDER THE PERMIT SHALL BE 20 PERCENT. ROYALTY PAYABLE UNDER ANY PREFERENTIAL LEASE ISSUED UPON THE DISCOVERY OF COMMERCIALY VALUABLE DEPOSITS FOR ANY AND ALL MATERIALS EXTRACTED OR REMOVED FROM SAID PREMISES FOR SALE OR STOCKPILING SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN TEN PERCENT OF THE GROSS REVENUE, LESS SPECIFIC CHARGES, AS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION, RELATED TO TRANSPORTING AND PROCESSING, AS SET FORTH IN SAID LEASE, OR A PERCENTAGE, TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION, OF THE NET PROFITS DERIVED FROM MINERAL EXTRACTION OPERATIONS UNDER THE LEASE. THE DETERMINATION OF SAID ROYALTIES SHALL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMISSION.

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EXHIBIT "A"

LAND DESCRIPTION

W 40356

A parcel of California State school lands in Riverside County, California,  
described as follows:

NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 16, T7S, R15E, SBM.

END OF DESCRIPTION

PREPARED JULY 7, 1983 BY BOUNDARY AND TITLE UNIT, LEROY WEED, SUPERVISOR.

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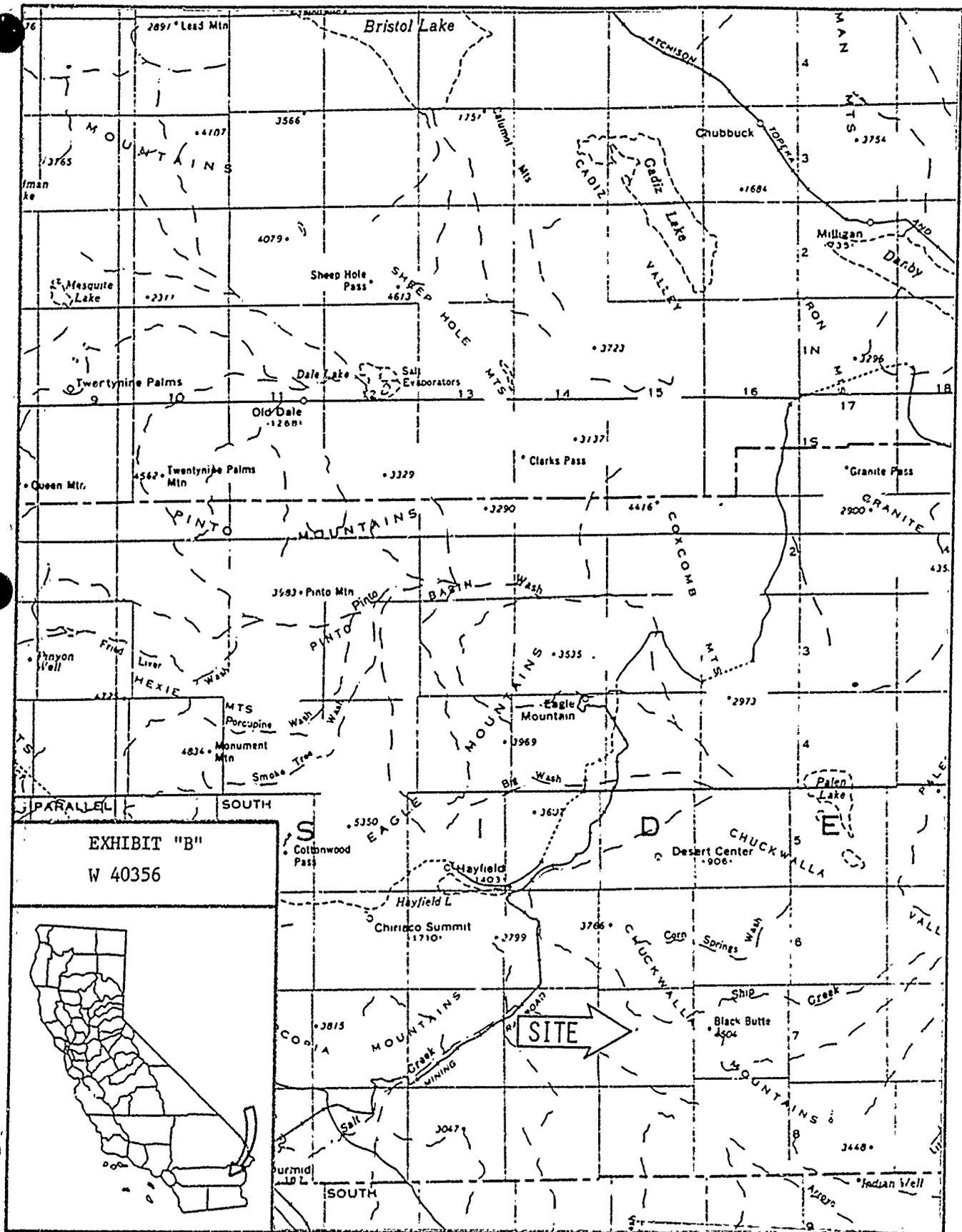


EXHIBIT "B"  
W 40356



SITE

115  
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DATE	APR 25 1983
DJE	
CFE	
3 AEG	
RGP	
1. L.P. 10/1	
2. AEG 1/2	
Enc.	
FILE: W 40356	

## EXHIBIT "C"

## PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

EIR ND 332

file Ref.: W 40356

SCH#: 82120604

Project Title: Mineral Prospecting Permit/Chuckwalla Mountains

Project Location: NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 16, T7S, R15E, SB&M, approximately 11 miles southwesterly of Desert Center, Riverside County.

Project Description: Map, sample, survey gamma ray emission levels, and assay the samples for gold, silver, copper and lead. If the assays show mineralization, 12 holes will be drilled in favorable areas. If the drilling results are positive, an inclined shaft will be driven in the most promising area to an estimated length of 70 feet to discover and delineate any possible orebody:

This NEGATIVE DECLARATION is prepared pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Section 21000 et seq. of the Public Resources Code), the State CEQA Guidelines (Section 15000 et seq., Title 14, of the California Administrative Code), and the State Lands Commission regulations (Section 2901 et seq., Title 2, of the California Administrative Code).

Based upon the attached Initial Study, it has been found that:

- the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
- the attached mitigation measures will avoid potentially significant effects.

Contact Person: Ted T. Fukushima  
State Lands Commission  
1807 - 13th Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Telephone: (916) 322-7813

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File Ref.: W 40356  
SCH# 82120604

MITIGATION MEASURE

The applicant shall contact the staff of the State Lands Commission's Long Beach office and Bonnar Blong at (714) 659-2970 or Jesus Garcia at (619) 348-0978 of the Department of Fish and Game prior to the backfilling of any drill hole in which water is encountered.

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File: W 40356

SCH NO.: 82120604

COMMENTS RECEIVED AND RESPONSE TO INITIAL STUDY

1. Department of Fish and Game

Comments:

- A. "We recommend that a Negative Declaration be issued for the prospecting phase of the mining operation. If, however, a commercially valuable mineral deposit is discovered as a result of the prospecting efforts, we recommend an environmental impact report be required."
- B. "In addition, we request that the applicant notify the Department of Fish and Game if water is discovered prior to the backfilling of exploratory drill holes. In this regard, please contact Wildlife Biologist Bonnar Blong at (714) 659-2970 or Jesus Garcia at (619) 348-0978."

Response:

- A. See page 3 of "Detailed Project Description" in the Initial Study.
- B. See Mitigation Measure.

SEARCHED	118
INDEXED	1868

File Ref.: W 40356  
SCH# 82120604

March 8, 1983

INITIAL STUDY  
INTRODUCTION

Charles Price has applied to the State Lands Commission for a prospecting permit on State lands located in the Chuck-walla Mountains in southeastern Riverside County. The proposed phased project consists of mapping, sampling, surveying for gamma ray emission levels, drilling a maximum of twelve holes in favorable areas, if any, and excavating an inclined shaft in the most promising area, if any, to discover and delineate any possible orebody. The permit, when issued, is for a two-year period.

This Initial Study consists of an environmental impact assessment checklist, information form responses, and maps.

STATE LANDS COMMISSION

March 1983

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EXHIBIT "A"

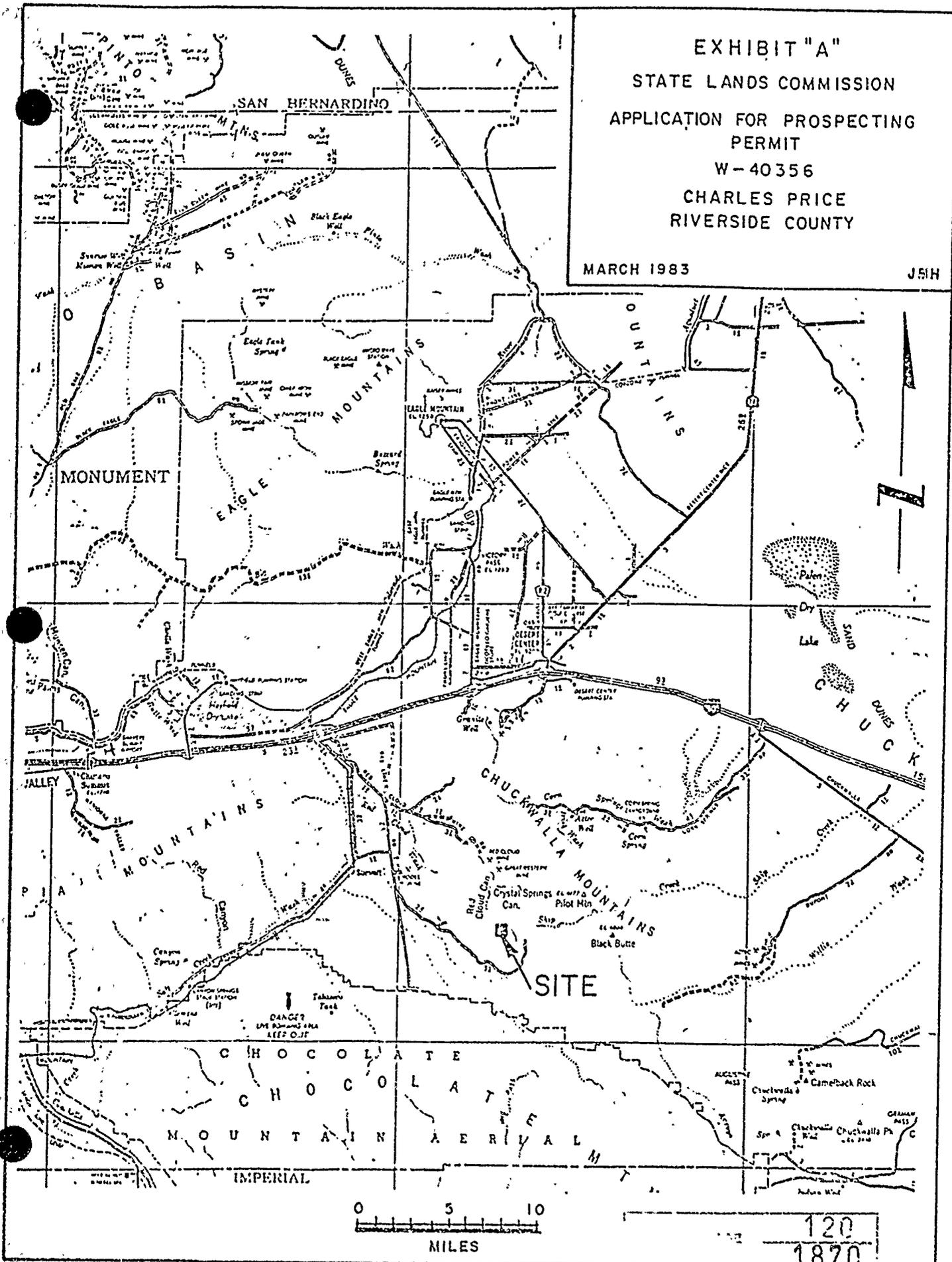
STATE LANDS COMMISSION  
APPLICATION FOR PROSPECTING  
PERMIT

W-40356

CHARLES PRICE  
RIVERSIDE COUNTY

MARCH 1983

JSH



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R-2 '83



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST - PART II

Form 13.20 (7/82)

File Ref.: W 40356

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. Applicant: Mr. Charles Price
2615 Lawrence Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92404

B. Checklist Date: 3 / 4 / 83

C. Contact Person: James B. Hart, State Lands Commission
Telephone: ( 213 ) 590-5276

D. Purpose: Prospect for valuable minerals..

E. Location: NW 1/4, Section 16, T. 7 S., R. 15 E., S.B.B.&M., Riverside
County. See attached maps.

F. Description: Applicant will map, sample, drill maximum of twelve holes
in favorable areas, if any, and excavate an inclined shaft in
most promising area, if any, to discover and delineate any
possible orebody. See detailed project description.

G. Persons Contacted:

II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS. (Explain all "yes" and "maybe" answers)

A. Earth. Will the proposal result in:

Yes Maybe No

- 1. Unstable earth conditions or changes in geologic substructures?
2. Disruptions, displacements, compaction, or overcovering of the soil?
3. Change in topography or ground surface relief features?
4. The destruction, covering, or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?
5. Any increase in wind or water erosion of soils, either on or off the site?
6. Changes in deposition or erosion of beach sands, or changes in siltation, deposition or erosion which may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed of the ocean or any bay, inlet, or lake?
7. Exposure of all people or property to geologic hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, mudslides, ground failure, or similar hazards?

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**B. Air.** Will the proposal result in:

Yes Maybe No

- 1. Substantial air emissions or deterioration of ambient air quality?
- 2. The creation of objectionable odors?
- 3. Alteration of air movement, moisture or temperature, or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?

**C. Water.** Will the proposal result in:

- 1. Changes in the currents, or the course or direction of water movements, in either marine or fresh waters?
- 2. Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface water runoff?
- 3. Alterations to the course or flow of flood waters?
- 4. Change in the amount of surface water in any water body?
- 5. Discharge into surface waters, or in any alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?
- 6. Alteration of the direction or rate of flow of ground waters?
- 7. Change in the quantity of ground waters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations?
- 8. Substantial reduction in the amount of water otherwise available for public water supplies?
- 9. Exposure of people or property to water-related hazards such as flooding or tidal waves?
- 10. Significant changes in the temperature, flow or chemical content of surface thermal springs?

**D. Plant Life.** Will the proposal result in:

- 1. Change in the diversity of species, or number of any species of plants (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)?
- 2. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of plants?
- 3. Introduction of new species of plants into an area, or a barrier to the normal replenishment of existing species?
- 4. Reduction in acreage of any agricultural crop?

**E. Animal Life.** Will the proposal result in:

- 1. Change in the diversity of species, or numbers of any species of animals (birds, land animals including reptiles, fish and shellfish, benthic organisms, or insects)?
- 2. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of animals?
- 3. Introduction of new species of animals into an area, or result in a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?
- 4. Deterioration to existing fish or wildlife habitat?

**F. Noise.** Will the proposal result in:

- 1. Increase in existing noise levels?
- 2. Exposure of people to severe noise levels?

**G. Light and Glare.** Will the proposal result in:

- 1. The production of new light or glare?

**H. Land Use.** Will the proposal result in:

- 1. A substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area?

**I. Natural Resources.** Will the proposal result in:

- 1. Increase in the rate of use of any natural resources?
- 2. Substantial depletion of any nonrenewable resources?

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**J Risk of Upset.** Does the proposal result in:

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Yes                      | Maybe                    | No                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. A risk of an explosion or the release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to, oil, pesticides, chemicals, or radiation) in the event of an accident or upset conditions? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Possible interference with emergency response plan or an emergency evacuation plan? .....                                                                                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

**K. Population.** Will the proposal result in:

- |                                                                                                     |                          |                          |                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. The alteration, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of the area? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

**L. Housing.** Will the proposal result in:

- |                                                                                 |                          |                          |                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Affecting existing housing, or create a demand for additional housing? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

**M. Transportation/Circulation.** Will the proposal result in:

- |                                                                                             |                          |                          |                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Generation of substantial additional vehicular movement? .....                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Affecting existing parking facilities, or create a demand for new parking? .....         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Substantial impact upon existing transportation systems? .....                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Alterations to present patterns of circulation or movement of people and/or goods? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Alterations to waterborne, rail, or air traffic? .....                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Increase in traffic hazards to motor vehicles, bicyclists, or pedestrians? .....         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

**N. Public Services.** Will the proposal have an effect upon, or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas:

- |                                                             |                          |                          |                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Fire protection? .....                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Police protection? .....                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Schools? .....                                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Parks and other recreational facilities? .....           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Maintenance of public facilities, including roads? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Other governmental services? .....                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

**O. Energy.** Will the proposal result in:

- |                                                                                                                  |                          |                          |                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Use of substantial amounts of fuel or energy? .....                                                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Substantial increase in demand upon existing sources of energy, or require the development of new sources? .. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

**P. Utilities.** Will the proposal result in a need for new systems, or substantial alterations to the following utilities:

- |                                    |                          |                          |                                     |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Power or natural gas? .....     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Communication systems? .....    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Water? .....                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Sewer or septic tanks? .....    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Storm water drainage? .....     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Solid waste and disposal? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

**Q. Human Health.** Will the proposal result in:

- |                                                                                              |                          |                          |                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard (excluding mental health)? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Exposure of people to potential health hazards? .....                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

**R. Aesthetics.** Will the proposal result in:

- |                                                                                                                                                                              |                          |                          |                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. The obstruction of any scenic vista or view open to the public, or will the proposal result in the creation of an aesthetically offensive site open to public view? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

**S. Recreation.** Will the proposal result in:

- |                                                                                         |                          |                          |                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. An impact upon the quality or quantity of existing recreational opportunities? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

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PROJECT NO.	1874

T. Cultural Resources

Yes Maybe No

- 1. Will the proposal result in the alteration of or the destruction of a prehistoric or historic archeological site?
- 2. Will the proposal result in adverse physical or aesthetic effects to a prehistoric or historic building, structure, or object?
- 3. Does the proposal have the potential to cause a physical change which would affect unique ethnic cultural values?
- 4. Will the proposal restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?

U. Mandatory Findings of Significance.

- 1. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?
- 2. Does the project have the potential to achieve short term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals?
- 3. Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?
- 4. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

III. DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION (See Comments Attached)

See attached Detailed Project Description, Discussion of Environmental Evaluation, and Form 69.3.

IV. PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on an attached sheet have been added to the project. A NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

Date: 3 / 4 / 83

James B. Hart  
For the State Lands Commission

FILE NO	125
DATE	1875
Form 13, PC 7/82	

## DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION.

Charles Price proposes to conduct multiphased exploration in the permit area with the execution of each phase dependent upon the achievement of success in the prior phase. The project consists of phases of increasing magnitude and expense. This permits an orderly compilation of information and holds expenses and surface disturbance to a minimum if the results do not justify proceeding further.

The western Chuckwalla Mountains have a long history of gold and silver production. The Great Western and Red Cloud Mines, three miles north of State Section 16, are in pre-Cambrian rocks and apparently traversed by the same north-northwest fault system. Both mines produced gold, silver, copper, and lead. These are the primary minerals that will be prospected for within the project area. Scans will be conducted for other minerals as well. An exploration program to evaluate the mineral potential of this area is proposed as follows:

Phase I:

Conduct surface geologic mapping and sampling of the permit area. Collect an estimated seventy samples with hand tools between the surface and a depth of one foot. Each sample will be roughly one-fifth cubic foot. Samples will be analyzed for the above listed minerals.

The sample sites are accessible by walking and vehicles will not be used. The project site is not served by a road and one will not be constructed during the prospecting permit term.

Phase II:

If mineralization or positive indications of its presence are found, a survey of gamma ray emission levels with hand held meters will be conducted.

Phase III:

This phase will be commenced after Phase II is completed and will consist of drilling a maximum of twelve holes in areas that gave positive results in Phases I and II. The exploratory holes will be drilled with a McLaughlin Model McL-16 Boring System in horizontal to vertical directions to a maximum depth (length) of 150 feet and to a maximum diameter of nine inches.

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The McLaughlin drill will be broken down to 160 pound components and transported to the site with other drilling equipment and supplies by foot and wheelbarrow.

Each drillsite will require a cleared area about 15 feet by 20 feet to stabilize the drill and provide drill tool access. A maximum of one cubic yard of soil and rock will be excavated for any single drillsite preparation.

It is highly unlikely that any drill hole will penetrate water bearing rock. If any water is encountered, the hole, upon abandonment, will be sealed in accordance with Department of Water Resources Water Well Standards, Bulletin No. 74. All other drill holes will be backfilled upon abandonment. Drilling mud, if any is used, will be bentonite clay without additives and will be disposed of off the State parcel.

The drill samples will be analyzed for the above referenced minerals.

Phase IV:

If the drilling assay results are favorable, an inclined shaft will be driven in the most promising area to an estimated length of seventy feet. The shaft will be excavated with jack hammers, an hydraulic splitting cylinder, and thermal shock. Explosives will not be used.

The estimated maximum excavated volume will be 500 cubic yards. The tailings will be placed where there is a minimum of interference with vertebrate life and will not be permitted to block natural drainage courses. Since the shaft tailings will be composed of the same material as the talus slopes that have an inclination of 31 degrees, the face of the tailings will also be at an inclination of about 31 degrees.

The inclined shaft will be backfilled upon abandonment.

Surface Disturbance:

The estimated maximum surface area disturbance for surface sampling is 0.01 acre. The estimated maximum excavated sample volume for Phase I surface samples is 0.52 cubic yards.

The estimated maximum surface area disturbance of drillsite preparation for the twelve holes is 0.08 acre. The estimated maximum excavated volume for drillsite preparation for the twelve holes is 12 cubic yards. The estimated maximum drilled sample volume for the twelve holes is 30 cubic yards.

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The estimated maximum surface area disturbance for the inclined shaft excavation is 0.08 acre. The estimated maximum excavated volume for the shaft is 500 cubic yards.

If a commercially valuable mineral deposit is discovered through prospecting efforts under authorization of a prospecting permit, a comprehensive environmental report will be required on the future impacts of mining the deposit.

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## III. Discussion of Environmental Evaluation

- A 2. Disruption, displacement, compaction, and overcovering of the rocky soil will occur in the immediate vicinity of the sampling sites that have soil if Phases I, III, and IV are executed. All new excavations will be restored to the natural ground contour, as nearly as possible, if Phases I, III and IV prospecting is unsuccessful.

If Phases III and IV are executed, a minimal amount of disruption and compaction of the soil will occur at sites that have soil when the sampling equipment is moved on and off a site.

- A 3. The Phase III drilling and Phase IV shaft excavation might involve constructing some level sites in hilly terrain.
- A 5. An increase in wind and water erosion of the disturbed soil at sampling sites with soil will take place during wind and rain storms. An increase in wind and water erosion of the soil at newly constructed drillsites and one shaft site, especially in sloped terrain, will occur during rain and wind storms. Erosion will be minimal if there is no surface excavation for drillsites and a shaft site.
- C 6. Drilling may penetrate one or more aquifers with a subsequent flow path through the drill hole; however, it is anticipated that no water bearing formations will be penetrated. If ground water is encountered, the drill hole will be plugged as specified in Department of Water Resources Water Well Standards, Bulletin No. 74.
- C 7. Excavating the shaft may intercept an aquifer with a subsequent flow into or out of the shaft; however, ground water is not expected to be encountered at the proposed shaft depth (length) in a desert environment.
- F 1. The operating boring rig, air compressor, jack hammer, and accessory activities will temporarily increase the existing noise levels.
- F 2. If the inclined shaft is excavated with a jack hammer, the operator and adjacent helpers may be exposed to severe noise levels.

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ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FORM  
(To be completed by applicant)

GENERAL INFORMATION

- 1. Name and address of developer or project sponsor: Charles E. Price, 2615 Lawrence Ave.  
San Bernardino, CA 92404
- 2. Address of project: NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 16, T. 7 S., R. 15 E., S.B.B.&M., Riverside  
County  
Assessor's Block and Lot number: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Name, address, and telephone number of person to be contacted concerning this project. Charles Price,  
2615 Lawrence Ave., San Bernardino, CA 92404 714/882-2768
- 4. Indicate number of the permit application for the project to which this form pertains: W 40356
- 5. List and describe any other related permits and other public approvals required for this project, including those required by City, regional, state and federal agencies: None, to the best of my knowledge.
- 6. Existing zoning district: Unnominated  
Present use of site: None
- 7. Proposed use of site (Project for which this form is filed): Prospecting

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

- 8. Site size.
- 9. Square footage.
- 10. Number of floors of construction.
- 11. Amount of off-street parking provided.
- 12. Attach plans.
- 13. Proposed scheduling.
- 14. Associated projects.
- 15. Anticipated incremental development.
- 16. If residential, include the number of units, schedule of unit sizes, range of sale prices or rents, and type of household and household size expected.
- 17. If commercial, indicate the type, whether neighborhood or city oriented, square footage of sales area, and loading facilities.
- 18. If industrial, indicate type, estimated employment per shift, and loading facilities.
- 19. If institutional, indicate the major function, estimated employment per shift, estimated occupancy, loading facilities, and community benefits to be derived from the project.

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FORM 05-01 (1987)

20. If the project involves a variance, conditional use or rezoning application, state this and indicate clearly why the application is required. N.A.

Are the following items applicable to the project or its effects? Discuss below all items checked yes. (attach additional sheets as necessary)

YES NO

21. Change in existing features of any bays, tidelands, beaches, lakes or hills, or substantial alteration of ground contours.
22. Change in scenic views or vistas from existing residential areas or public lands or roads.
23. Change in pattern, scale or character of general area of project.
24. Significant effect on plant or animal life.
25. Significant amounts of solid waste or litter.
26. Change in dust, ash, smoke, fumes or odors in vicinity.
27. Change in ocean, bay, lake, stream or ground water quality or quantity, or alteration of existing drainage patterns.
28. Change in existing noise or vibration levels in the vicinity.
29. Site on filled land or on slope of 10 percent or more.
30. Use of disposal of potentially hazardous materials, such as toxic substances, flammables or explosives.
31. Change in demand for municipal services (police, fire, water, sewage, etc.)
32. Increased fossil fuel consumption (electricity, oil, natural, gas, etc.)
33. Relationship to a larger project or series of projects.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

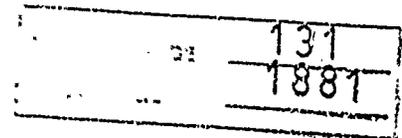
34. Describe the *project site* as it exists before the project, including information on topography, soil stability, plants and animals, and any cultural, historical or scenic aspects. Describe any existing structures on the site, and the use of the structures. Attach *photographs* of the site. Snapshots or polaroid photos will be accepted.
35. Describe the *surrounding properties*, including information on plants and animals and any cultural, historical or scenic aspects. Indicate the type of land use (residential, commercial, etc.), intensity of land use (one-family, apartment houses, shops, department stores, etc.), and scale of development (height, frontage, set-back, rear yard, etc.). Attach *photographs* of the vicinity. Snapshots or polaroid photos will be accepted.

#### CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this initial evaluation to the best of my ability, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date November 23, 1982

Charles E. Price  
For \_\_\_\_\_



ADDENDUM TO  
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FORM (Form 69.3)

Item 28: The area has a great deal of air traffic, both low flying military fighters and higher commercial air liners. The noise from these is audible through much of the daylight hours. Bomb blasts in the Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range are commonly heard on the site. Phases III and IV of the prospecting activity will generate noise from air, and perhaps other power equipment. The noise produced by these should not be audible off of the permit area. People are unlikely to hear it because in several visits I have seen no one within two miles of the site. These visits included one on a Saturday.

Item 29: Much of the slope in the permit area is in excess of 10 percent. Bedrock is within two feet of the surface nearly everywhere. The prospecting activity will not adversely effect the slope stability. None of the drainages will be restricted.

Items 34 and 35: The site is a wind-swept ridge area. Bedrock is within two feet of the surface nearly everywhere. Because of the wind and topographic setting, there is no soil development in any real sense. Talus slopes are at an inclination of 31 degrees. This angle corresponds to the residual angle of internal friction of the broken rock. Neither landslide debris nor scars have been observed on the property. Because of the low potential for positive pore pressures and because the rock cohesion is high, as well as the angle of internal friction, landslides with rupture surfaces are highly unlikely.

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The sparse plant life is dominated by cholla, ocotillo, yucca, a barrel cactus, and a round stem cactus similar to cholla. Shrubs are also prominent. No trees have been seen on the land but some grow nearby.

A gregarious cheery song bird dominates the animal life. Small lizards are common. Curious twisted balls of mud tubes are seen near the base of a few plants. Apparently these are made by an insect, possibly a wasp. Tarantulas, rabbits, and coyotes are also in the area.

The property was used in training General Patton's troops for their North African campaign in World War II. Several small cannon shell casings up to 20 mm in size have been found on the land.

A pack animal trail extends through the northeast portion of the property. The easiest access to the land is by this trail. It has been walked from the road end one mile north-northwest of the 3,300-foot peak on the property to another road end 1 1/8-mile east south-east of that peak. It is poorly visible in some areas.

No structures have been found on the property, nor were any remains seen. A one-room prospector's shack, about five feet in height and eight feet long is situated about 1 1/2 miles south of the property.

Abandoned mine and mill workings may be found throughout the hills. One of these, the Red Head Incline Shaft produced 850 ounces of gold in a three year period from 1934 through 1936. Mining activity started in about 1885 in the Chuckwalla Mountains.

Fighter-bombers make low passes through a flight corridor about three miles south of the property. They bomb targets in the Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range with the resulting explosions heard sometimes on the property. Plumes of smoke hundreds of feet in height

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are an occasional sight.

The view of the Chocolate Mountains has a water-color like aspect, particularly late in the day. The Salton Sea may be seen through two low breaks in the Chocolate Mountains. A micro-wave relay station is on a 3,700-foot high peak situated six miles north of the land. The nearest residents live in Desert Center, 11 miles north of the site, so far as I know.

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Anthony Drennon, Chairman  
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Colorado River Basin Region (7)  
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Department of Parks & Recreation  
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Department of Transportation  
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Attn: Jim Cheshire  
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Department of Conservation  
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Attorney General's Office  
Robert Collins, Deputy Attorney General  
3580 Wilshire Boulevard, 6th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90010

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