MINUTE ITEM
This Calendar Item No. C24
was approved as Minute Item
No. 24 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 2
to 0 at its 11-5-91
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

A 34

S 25

C 24

11/05/91
W 6005.38
Nitsche

PRC 7596

APPROVE A GEOLOGICAL SURVEY PERMIT
INYO COUNTY

APPLICANT:
U. S. Geological Survey
Denver Federal Center
Box 25046
Denver, Colorado 80225-0046

AREA, AND TYPE LAND:
State sovereign lands in Owens Lake Bed in Inyo County.

LAND USE:
Drill one 1,000-foot core-hole in Section 15, T18S, R37E M.D.M.

TERMS OF PROPOSED PERMIT:
One year.

PREREQUISITE CONDITIONS, FEES AND EXPENSES:
Filing fee of $25.00 and expense deposit of $1,500.00 due and payable upon Commission authorization of the Geological Survey Permit.

PROPOSED PROJECT:
The U.S. Geological Survey (U.S.G.S.) proposes to drill a 1,000-foot core-hole at Owens Lake, Inyo County, California to obtain scientific information on past climate-controlled variations in the size, depth and salinity of ancestral Owens Lake and study the variations in the sediments, fossils and pore-water chemistry preserved in the stratigraphic section beneath the surface of Owens Lake.

The hole will be drilled with a truck-mounted rotary-type drill rig. The hole will be drilled with water, and no domestic or agricultural water supplies can be affected by the proposed operations. Drilling time is expected to take from four to six weeks.

The site for the project is near the salt crystallization ponds operated by the State's lessee, Lake Minerals Corporation, in Section 15, T18S, R37E MDBM. USGS has an agreement with Lake Minerals to use the existing road and to develop a small off-road area for USGS equipment.

Commission staff will have access to the drill site at all times. All data obtained will be made available to the Commission as soon as it can be compiled. Upon completion, the core hole will be abandoned in accordance with the State Department of Water Resources Bulletin 74-90 entitled Water Well Standards: State of California, dated January, 1990.

STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES:

A. P.R.C.: Div. 6, Parts 1 and 2; Div. 13.

B. Cal. Code Regs.: Title 2, Div. 3; Title 14, Div. 6.

AB 884:

02/05/92

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. Pursuant to the Commission's delegation of authority, and the State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs. 15061), the staff has determined that this activity is exempt from the requirements of the CEQA as a categorically exempt project. The project is exempt under Class 6, Information Collection, the collection of data for information purposes where minimal or no disturbance of State lands is involved, 2 Cal. Code Regs. 2905(e)(3).

   Authority: P.R.C. 21084 and 14 Cal. Code Regs. 15300, and 2 Cal. Code Regs. 2905.

EXHIBITS:

A. Land Description.
B. Site Map.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. FIND THAT THE ACTIVITY IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CEQA PURSUANT TO 14 CAL. CODE REGS. 15061 AS A CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT PROJECT, CLASS 6, INFORMATION COLLECTION, 2 CAL. CODE REGS. 2905(e)(3); AND

2. AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE TO THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY A PERMIT TO CONDUCT GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF ONSHORE STATE LANDS AT OWENS LAKE, INYO COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 6, 1991 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 1992.

EXHIBIT "A"

W 6005.38

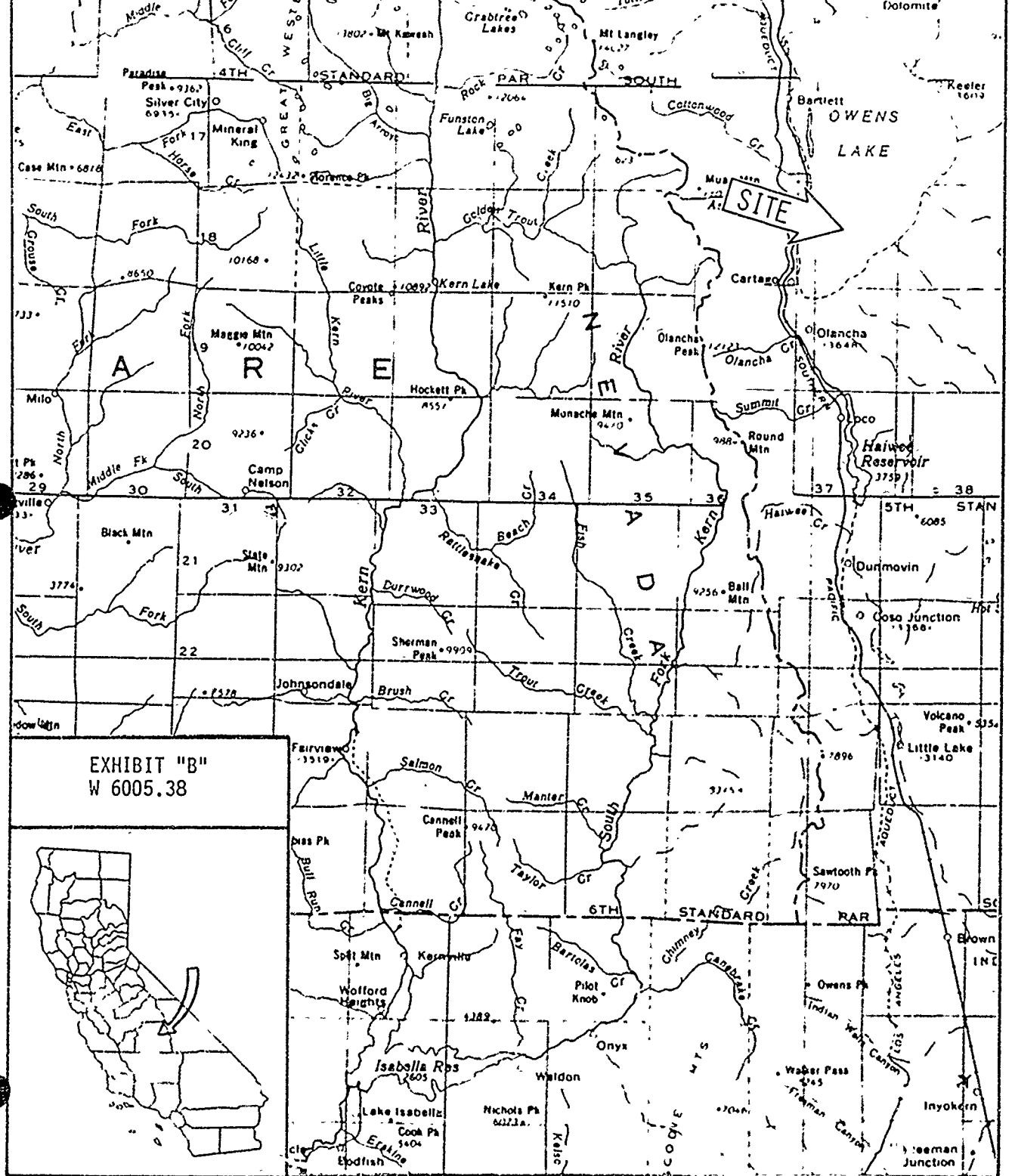
LAND DESCRIPTION

That certain square parcel 100-foot by 100-foot for drill site purposes situated within Owens Lake, Inyo County, California, more particularly described as follows:

Section 15, T 18 S, R 37 E, MDM.

END OF DESCRIPTION

PREPARED SEPTEMBER, 1991 BY LLB



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