

The Honorable Dave Cortese President Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors 70 West Hedding Street San Jose, CA

Dear President Cortese,

The Cupertino Chamber of Commerce has a long history of supporting the on-going operations of Lehigh's Permanente facility in Santa Clara County. By way of background, the Cupertino Chamber of Commerce represents more than 260 businesses in the Cupertino and west San Jose area.

The Lehigh Permanente facility is a benefit to our community relative to providing jobs, supporting non-profits and local businesses, and reducing greenhouse gases rather than having out-of-region, out-of-state or even out-of-country companies provide cement materials to meet our region's needs. As you know, Lehigh provides more than 70% of the cement supply for Santa Clara County and more than 55% of the cement needs for the entire Bay Area.

On February 8, the Board will take action on an important policy step toward final approval of the East Material Storage Area reclamation plan and the overall reclamation plan for the site. The policy action to declare Lehigh's operations as "vested" on the indicated parcels will reaffirm more than 70 years of land use decisions by the County regarding the Company's vested rights to operate.

Mining began at the facility in 1903. In 1939, Henry J. Kaiser's companies acquired the facility and expanded mining operations have continued to today without interruption. We believe the facility is considered "vested" because the Kaiser companies' use began before any permit was required by law.

Thank you for taking our views into account prior to your vote on February 8.

Sincerely,

Paula Davis
Board President

Paula Davis

Cupertino Chamber of Commerce

**CC:** Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors

County Executive Jeffrey Smith
State Senator Joe Simitian
State Senator Sam Blakeslee
Assemblyman Paul Fong
Cupertino Mayor Gilbert Wong
Cupertino City Council
Cupertino City Manager Dave Knapp