LA COUNTY PLANNING

AMY J. BODEK, AICP
Director,
Regional Planning

DENNIS SLAVIN
Chief Deputy Director,
Regional Planning

12 January 2026

Tyler Montgomery, Principal Planner
Coastal Development Services Section

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FOR PROJECT PRJ2025-001608-(3), MINOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. RPPL2025001770

Minor Conditional Use Permit No. RPPL2025001770 is scheduled for public hearing on 20 January 2026. After reviewing the hearing package for the item, I have the following questions. Please be prepared to answer these questions at the hearing. I ask that you forward this memo to the applicant/owner and ensure this memo is posted on the public website for the item. It is possible that information presented at the hearing may prompt additional questions.

1. The Staff Report states that 16 test holes are proposed. Please provide evidence for the location of these test holes and why 16 are required.
2. The Staff Report states that the proposed test holes will "all [be located] within previously disturbed areas of the Project Site." Please provide evidence for this statement.
3. The Staff Report and Draft Findings 9.C. and 16 state that none of the proposed test holes will encroach into the protected zone of any oak tree. Please provide evidence for these statements.
4. The Staff Report states that drilling apparatus for the test holes will be attached to a truck (Project Description, Section B; Analysis, Section A). While Draft Findings 3, 16, 20, and 21 and Draft Condition 16 state a drilling rig would/shall be attached/mounted to a truck, Draft Finding 21 also includes a statement that, "As proposed, the [P]roject requires, at maximum, one heavy-duty pickup truck with a trailer drilling apparatus." Please clarify.
5. Draft Finding 20 states there are "proposed drilling trench sites." Will the testing require drilling holes or drilling trenches, or both? If trenches, how far will they extend if the "holes" are eight inches in diameter by 10 feet deep (per Staff Report Project Description, Section B)?
6. The hearing package for an exploratory testing application for a site within the Santa Monica Mountains North Area previously reviewed by the Hearing Officer included the environmental assessment prepared for the project. Why wasn't the environmental assessment for this proposal included in the hearing package?

Sincerely,

Gina Natoli, MURP, AICP
Hearing Officer