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January 3, 2008

VIA E-MAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Sonia R. Carvalho, Esq.
Best Best & Krieger LLP
5 Park Plaza
Suite 1500
Irvine, CA 92614

Re: Vulcan Materials Company's ("Vulcan") Azusa Mining Operations

Dear Sonia:

As you are aware, Vulcan has repeatedly asserted that it has a vested right to mine (without conditions) the western 80 acres of its 270 acre parcel (the "Property") located in the City of Azusa (the "City"). Vulcan has demonstrated the factual and legal basis for this position multiple times over the last several years, both in conversations and by letters. Nonetheless, the City has yet to confirm Vulcan's vested right to mine the western 80 acre site, and in fact appears to contend that Vulcan does not have such vested rights.

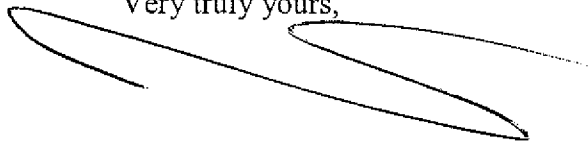
In order to breach the impasse and facilitate the mining of the western 80 acre site, Vulcan has discussed entering into a Development Agreement with the City which would allow mining of the site with certain conditions to be agreed upon by Vulcan and the City. Vulcan's proposed conditions for a Development Agreement include Vulcan voluntarily agreeing to cease mining the eastern 80 acres of the Property in exchange for the City's confirmation of Vulcan's rights to mine the western 80 acre site. Notwithstanding the discussions, the City has failed to negotiate a Development Agreement with Vulcan.

The City's long delay in making any decision concerning Vulcan's vested rights to mine the western 80 acre site is highly prejudicial to Vulcan, which has been unable to proceed with its intended mining activities. Vulcan therefore requests an immediate resolution of this matter by the City. If the City fails to timely reach a decision concerning Vulcan's rights to mine, Vulcan will be forced to bring a legal action seeking, among other things, a judicial declaration of its rights to mine the entirety of the Property including the western 80 acre site without conditions.

Sonia R. Carvalho, Esq.
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Please give me a call at your earliest convenience to discuss these matters.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JOEL D. DEUTSCH". The signature is stylized with long, sweeping horizontal strokes.

JOEL D. DEUTSCH of
Jeffer, Mangels, Butler & Marmaro LLP

JDD:pak
cc: Fran Delach