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COUNTY COUNSEL:
Gregory P Priamos

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**Agenda Item
Regular Meeting of the
Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, March 24, 2026**

Item Number: 1.13

MEETING DATE: 03/24/2026

DEPARTMENT: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

AGENDA ITEM PREPARER: Abraham Prado

DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR: Abraham Prado

SUBJECT:

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY/PLANNING AND BUILDING - A. PRADO

1. Approve retroactive contract with Benchmark Resources in support of application processing, and environmental review of the proposed Graniterock A.R. Wilson Quarry Reclamation Plan and Use Permit Amendment, in an amount not to exceed \$1,416,765.00 for the period of March 10, 2026 through March 31, 2029; and

2. Authorize the Chair, County executive Officer, or designee to sign said contract.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 790

AGENDA SECTION:

CONSENT AGENDA

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

Benchmark Resources is submitting this scope of work and cost estimate to support the County of San Benito (County) with application processing and environmental review of the proposed Graniterock Quarry Use Permit Amendment application, mining project, as detailed in the December 2025 application submitted by Graniterock (applicant). This scope of work and cost estimate includes staff support for application completeness review, peer review of applicant studies, preparation of environmental studies, preparation of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documents, including a draft and final Environmental Impact Report (EIR), and other services associated with CEQA compliance and project review and processing as described herein.

The active Wilson Quarry is located south of Highway 129 and approximately 2 miles northeast of the unincorporated community of Aromas in San Benito County (County), California. The site is currently operated by Graniterock under a 2016 Reclamation Plan pursuant to the Surface Mining and

Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA). Graniterock seeks to amend the 2016 Reclamation Plan and modify the Use Permit to include additional areas for the designed placement of reclamation material (Permit Amendment Project). The approximately 195.4-acre increase to the reclamation area is located entirely within the existing Use Permit Area and immediately adjacent to the existing 2016 Reclamation Plan Area. In addition to allowing the continued design placement of reclamation materials, the Permit Amendment Project would include the construction of five new stormwater detention basins and the redesign of two existing stormwater detention basins within the 195.4-acre area. The Permit Amendment Project would not change the extent of the Wilson Quarry vested aggregate production footprint or the existing Use Permit boundary.

Wilson Quarry produces construction and commercial aggregate materials, including asphalt aggregates, concrete aggregates, baserock, riprap, construction sand, and other construction materials. In accordance with the 2016 Reclamation Plan, Graniterock places overburden and surplus granitic material generated during aggregate production in designated reclamation areas on site. The project involves no new traffic, no new haul routes, no change in the vested aggregate production operations at the Wilson Quarry, and no change in the reclamation area's end use, which is revegetated open space. Graniterock seeks approval within the project area to continue placing native sedimentary material and surplus granitic material, generated during rock crushing operations, as it has been for generations.

The Resource Management Agency solicited responses through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for SMARA compliance support services for San Benito County's (21) active and inactive mines located throughout the County. The RFP was issued July 22, 2019 and the responses were due August 20, 2019. Evaluation was based on experience, organization, size, and structure of respondent's firm, qualifications of staff to be assigned to this contract, respondent's work plan to complete the Scope of Services, value-added the scope of services, value-added service4 beyond the SMARA Compliance Support Services, quality of the response to the RFQ. Two firms submitted responses and were evaluated on technical expertise, knowledge, and related expensive providing SMARA compliance services for similar Counties. It was determined that Benchmark Resources was the most qualified responsive firm to perform the services requested of this contract. The County and Benchmark Resources first entered into contract on September 4, 2019.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The amount not to exceed of \$1,416,765.00 for the period of March 10, 2026 through March 31, 2029 shall be paid completely by the applicant.

SBC Budget Line Item Number: 1265.65.1285.1000.619.222

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve retroactive contract with Benchmark Resources in support of application processing, and environmental review of the proposed Graniterock A.R. Wilson Quarry Reclamation Plan and Use Permit Amendment, in an amount not to exceed \$1,416,765.00 for the period of March 10, 2026 through March 31, 2029; and
2. Authorize the Chair, County executive Officer, or designee to sign said contract.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Agenda Fact Sheet - Contract Benchmark Resources](#)
[Contract Benchmark Resources](#)