

Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council

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December 17, 2014

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
455 Golden Gate Av, Suite 10600
San Francisco, CA 94102-7019



Dear Chair Wasserman and Commissioners:

On behalf of the Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council and the thirty trade unions that we represent with over 30,000 Building Trades men and women, I write to express our strong support for the Lehigh Hanson sand harvesting application currently under review by the Commission.

This sand is a critical component for our local economy. It is used in thousands of construction activities/projects throughout the greater San Francisco Bay Area. The list of new or restorative projects that rely on this sand, whether private development, public works or even environmental restoration, is numerous.

To mention just a few benefits, locally harvested sand reduces project costs. It keeps our environment cleaner as it minimizes the need to ship or truck sand from faraway places. These operations sustain a middle class workforce that makes the bay area an affordable area for our members to live and raise a family.

This sand is a critical and very much needed public benefit. The demand for this sand, and the construction products that are created with this sand, will not change. But changing the source of this sand will have a negative impact on jobs, the environment and the local economy.

An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been completed and certified by the California Lands Commission on a 3-0 vote (Lt. Governor Newsom, Controller Chaing, and the Department of Finance Director). The EIR demonstrated that a majority of the potential environmental impacts were less than significant and for those that were significant, they will be fully mitigated.

We respectfully urge that you approve the application from Lehigh Hanson for continued sand harvesting in the Bay.

Sincerely,

Greg Feere
Contra Costa Building and
Construction Trades Council