CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION

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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

File Ref: Lease 8039: A3463

Item: 81

Title: Issuance of Mineral Extraction Lease No. 8039 for minerals, other than oil, gas, or geothermal resources

Location: Approximately 657.87 acres of State fee-owned school land located in Lots 1-10, inclusive, of Section 5 and Lots 1-10, inclusive, of Section 6, all in Township 13 South, Range 19 East, San Bernardino Base & Meridian, Imperial County, and situated about 6 miles northeast of the unincorporated community of Glamis

Description: Authorize issuance of a Mineral Extraction Lease for the extraction of precious metals, sand, gravel, clay and any other minerals and mineral deposits on the fee-owned school lands.

Name of Approving Public Agency: California State Lands Commission

Name of Proponent (Person or Agency): Western Mesquite Mines, Inc.

Exempt Status:

[√] Categorical Exemption:

CLASS 1, EXISTING FACILITIES (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15301)

Reasons for exemption:

Issuance of a 10-year General Lease – Mineral Extraction Lease for the above-mentioned activity will not change existing activities in the area. There is no reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances. Therefore, the project will not have a significant effect on the environment and the above categorical exemption(s) apply(ies).

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING AND POSTING BY THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH

ERIC GILLIES, Assistant Chief

Environmental Planning and Management Division

Contact Person: Afifa Awan (916) 574-1900