

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3529

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to cancel certain Bureau of Land Management leases that authorize extraction of sand and gravel from the Federal mineral estate in lands in Soledad Canyon adjacent to the City of Santa Clarita, California, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 19, 2003

Mr. McKEON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to cancel certain Bureau of Land Management leases that authorize extraction of sand and gravel from the Federal mineral estate in lands in Soledad Canyon adjacent to the City of Santa Clarita, California, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Soledad Canyon Mine
5 Lease Cancellation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Transit Mixed Concrete Corporation holds
2 two Bureau of Land Management leases for the ex-
3 traction of sand and gravel from the Federal mineral
4 estate in lands in Soledad Canyon adjacent to the
5 City of Santa Clarita, California, numbered CA-
6 20139 and CA-22901. Such lands contain approxi-
7 mately 56,000,000 tons of sand and gravel.

8 (2) Mining 56,000,000 tons of sand and gravel
9 under the terms of the leases would produce harm
10 to the environment and cause major transportation
11 problems for the City of Santa Clarita, surrounding
12 areas, and other users of the transportation systems
13 in the vicinity.

14 (3) It is in the best interest of the citizens of
15 California and the Federal Government to cancel
16 those leases and make available new leases for those
17 resources that reflect the level of mining that has
18 historically occurred in the Soledad Canyon area of
19 California.

20 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

21 In this Act, the term—

22 (1) “Secretary” means the Secretary of the In-
23 terior;

24 (2) “TMC” means the Transit Mixed Concrete
25 Corporation; and

1 (3) “historical mining level” means _____
2 tons per year.

3 **SEC. 4. TMC LEASE CANCELLATIONS.**

4 The Secretary shall cancel Bureau of Land Manage-
5 ment leases CA–20139 and CA–22901, effective on the
6 date of enactment.

7 **SEC. 5. FUTURE LEASES FOR SAND AND GRAVEL IN**
8 **SOLEDAD CANYON AREA OF CALIFORNIA.**

9 (a) RESTRICTION.—The Secretary may not issue any
10 lease or leases for mining sand and gravel in the Soledad
11 Canyon area of California as described on the map titled
12 _____ and dated _____ on file with the Sec-
13 retary, that authorize mining that, in aggregate, exceeds
14 the historical mining level of _____ tons per cal-
15 endar year.

16 (b) CONSULTATIONS AND CONSIDERATION RE-
17 QUIRED.—Before issuing any lease authorizing the mining
18 of sand or gravel in the Soledad Canyon area of California,
19 the Secretary shall—

20 (1) consult with the City of Santa Clarita, Cali-
21 fornia, Los Angeles County, California, and surface
22 owners in that area; and

- 1 (2) take into consideration the environmental
- 2 and transportation impacts of such mining on that
- 3 area.

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