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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

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For Information Contact:

Joel VanEtta (206) 292-3000

Pete Stoltz (206) 764-3000

DuPont releases Draft Environmental Impact Statement on North Parcel mining proposal

Studies indicate proposed mining would result in no significant unavoidable adverse impacts

DuPont – The City of DuPont today released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) that examines a proposal to sequentially clear, mine and reclaim 142 of 201 acres CalPortland Company owns adjacent to and north of its existing sand and gravel mine.

“Mining the North Parcel is necessary so we can continue meeting local and regional demand for high-quality aggregates,” said Pete Stoltz, permitting and government affairs manager for CalPortland. “This is especially high-quality material that is not available elsewhere.”

The North Parcel is designated as a Mineral Resource area under DuPont’s Land Use Code and Comprehensive Plan and is recognized by the City as a mineral land of long-term commercial significance in accordance with the state Growth Management Act.

“The studies done for this DEIS show that we can mine this area in an environmentally responsible manner,” Stoltz said.

The DEIS indicates that North Parcel mining would result in no significant unavoidable adverse impacts to the environment.

The DEIS describes that aggregates would be mined in the same way as is currently done and processing would occur at the existing plant. About 80 percent of the materials would continue to be transported by barge from the existing dock and loading facility at Tatsolo Point. About 20 percent of

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the materials would continue to be transported by truck to local projects. About 95 percent of water used to process the aggregates would continue to be recycled.

Forty-five acres of bluffs and nearly a mile of Puget Sound shoreline would be preserved as open space, wildlife habitat and visual screening.

The water table beneath the aggregates in the North Parcel is about 190 feet below the ground surface and a buffer of undisturbed ground will be maintained so that no mining occurs in the water table, according to the DEIS. The North Parcel is west of a shallower water table that lies beneath the South Parcel.

The North Parcel DEIS evaluates potential environmental effects from activities that may be authorized if the proposal is approved. It also considers a “no action” alternative and a “separate but similar action” – the potential proposal to mine gravel in the South Parcel. The North Parcel and South Parcel proposals are separate projects. No action is requested nor is a permit application now under review for the 177-acre South Parcel, which is adjacent land leased by CalPortland southeast of the existing mine. Mining of the South Parcel would not occur until the preparation, environmental review and permitting of a Sequatchew Creek restoration plan is complete. The process of developing this restoration plan is underway.

Any new proposal to mine in the South Parcel will also require additional environmental review in conjunction with the study of the restoration plan for Sequatchew Creek.

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