

LTE - Californian - July 29, 2008

Aggregate supply needed close by

I was disappointed to read state Assembly candidate Grey Frandsen's letter (July 22) opposing Liberty Quarry. Apparently, he has not spent much time driving up and down Interstates 15 and 215 with their endless freight train of rock trucks importing aggregate from Corona, San Bernardino, and other areas. Trying to dodge bouncing rocks is an art, one I have not mastered.

I wonder if Mr. Frandsen is aware of how much aggregate it takes to build a house, a driveway, a street, a shopping center or a bridge. The closer the project is to the source of aggregate, the fewer road miles it takes to make a delivery, and the less pollution and dust is pumped into our air. I wonder if he knows how much it costs to transport aggregate for long distances, as opposed to having a source just a few miles away. He did not address any of these concerns in his letter, so I have to conclude that he's only concerned about some of the citizens of this valley and is just vote mining.

On a recent drive to Norco, I counted 78 rock trucks heading south on I-15, and they run back and forth all day long! How bad does it have to get before we wake up to the reality that we need a close source of supply?

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