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9	Attorneys for THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA				
10	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STAT	E OF CALIFORNIA			
11	COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO				
12					
13	THE PEOPLE OF STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ex rel	Case No.: 323842			
14	BILL LOCKYER, ATTORNEY GENERAL,	COMPLAINT IN INTERVENTION			
15	Plaintiffs,	Violations of False Claims Act			
16	V.	(Gov't Code § 12650 et seq.)			
17	HANSON BUILDING MATERIALS AMERICA, INC., HANSON AGGREGATES WEST, INC.,	Conversion of Mineral Deposits (Public Resources Code §6224.2)			
18	HANSON AGGREGATES MID-PACIFÍC, INC., HANSON MARINE OPERATIONS, INC., MARINE	Unlawful Business Practices			
19	AGGREGATE SERVICES, INC., MOE SAND COMPANY, TIDEWATER SAND & GRAVEL,	(Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200)			
20	INC., JAMES PETERSON, JOEL PETERSON, ELLEN R. SEABORN, OLIN JONES SAND				
21	COMPANY, JONES SAND COMPANY, OLIN JONES, AND DOES 1-50,				
22 23	Defendants.				
23 24	Plaintiff the People of the State of California ("Sta	te") <i>ex rel</i> Bill Lockver Attornev			
25	General alleges as follows:				
26	INTRODUCTION				
27	1. This action arises under the California Fals				
28	12650 et seq. It was originally filed under seal by qui tam	Kevin Bartoo on or about August 16,			
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	-1-				

2001 pursuant to the *qui tam* provisions of the California False Claims Act. (Gov. Code, section
 12652(c).) This complaint by the Attorney General is filed pursuant to a notice of election to
 intervene and proceed with the action under Government Code section 12652, subdivision
 (c)(6)(A), filed contemporaneously with this complaint.^{1/}

- 5 2. This is an action to recover damages and civil penalties on behalf of the State of 6 California arising from false claims made by defendants Hanson Building Materials America, Inc., 7 Hanson Aggregates West, Inc., Hanson Aggregates Mid-Pacific, Inc., Hanson Marine Operations, 8 Inc., Marine Aggregate Services, Inc., Moe Sand Company, Tidewater Sand and Gravel, Inc., 9 James Peterson, Joel Peterson, Ellen R. Seaborn, Olin Jones Sand Company, Jones Sand 10 Company and Olin Jones, (collectively "Defendants"). Pursuant to certain leases entered into 11 with the California State Lands Commission (the Commission), Defendants were allowed to 12 extract sand and gravel from public lands in return for royalties paid to the Commission based 13 upon the gross sales price and the quantity of material removed and sold by Defendants. By 14 falsely reporting the value and quantity of material extracted, as well as the location of extraction, between 1992 and the present, Defendants violated the California False Claims Act (Gov. Code, § 15 16 12650 et seq.) and the Unfair Business Practices Act (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 17200). 17 PARTIES 18 3. The Attorney General brings this action on behalf of the People of the State of California as plaintiff and the real party in interest in this action. 19 20 4. Kevin Bartoo is the qui tam plaintiff and is a resident of California. 21 5. Defendant Hanson Building Materials America, Inc. is a corporation with its 22 principal place of business in San Ramon, California, and is in the business of manufacturing and 23 selling building supplies in North America, and is licensed to do and does business in California.
- 24 6. Defendant Hanson Aggregates West, Inc., is a Delaware corporation engaged in
 25 the business of manufacturing and selling building supplies in the Western United States, and is a
 26 wholly owned subsidiary of Hanson Building Materials America, Inc., and is licensed to do and
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1. All statutory references are to the California Codes.

1 does business in California.

2 7. Defendant Hanson Aggregates Mid-Pacific, Inc., is a Delaware corporation 3 engaged in the business of manufacturing and selling building supplies in the Western United 4 States, and is licensed to do and does business in California. 5 8. Hanson Marine Operations, Inc., is a California corporation formerly known as Moe Sand Co., Inc., with its principal place of business in California. 6 7 9. Marine Aggregate Services, Inc., is a California corporation formerly known as 8 Olin Jones Sand Co., Inc., with its principal place of business in California. 9 10. Defendants Hanson Aggregates Mid-Pacific, Inc. ("HAMP"), Hanson Marine 10 Operations, Inc. ("Hanson Marine"), and Marine Aggregate Services, Inc. are referred to collectively herein as "Hanson." 11 12 11. Defendant Moe Sand Company (Moe) was a California partnership with its 13 principal place of business in Oakland, California. 14 12. Defendant Tidewater Sand & Gravel, Inc. (Tidewater) was a California 15 corporation with its principal place of business in Oakland, California. 16 13. Defendant James Peterson is an individual who owned interests in Moe and 17 Tidewater until the sale of those companies to Hanson in or about July 1999, and actively 18 participated in the fraudulent schemes described herein. Defendant Joel Peterson is an individual who owned interests in Moe and 19 14. 20 Tidewater until the sale of those companies to Hanson in or about July 1999, and actively 21 participated in the fraudulent schemes described herein. 22 15. Defendant Ellen R. Seaborn is an individual who owned an interest in Moe until 23 the sale of that company to Hanson in or about July 1999, and who previously owned an interest 24 in Tidewater, and actively participated in the fraudulent schemes described herein. 25 16. Defendant Olin Jones Sand Company (Olin Jones Sand) was a California 26 corporation with its principal place of business in Martinez, California. 27 17. Defendant Jones Sand Company (Jones Sand) was a California corporation with its 28 principal place of business in California.

1 18. Defendant Olin Jones (Jones) is an individual who owned interests in Olin Jones
 2 Sand Company and Jones Sand Company, until the sale of those companies to Hanson in or about
 3 December 1999, and actively participated in the fraudulent schemes described herein.

- 4 19. Defendant Moe was the alter ego of Defendant Tidewater, and Defendant
 5 Tidewater was the alter ego of Defendant Moe. In about July 1999, Hanson acquired all of
 6 Tidewater's stock as well as the partnership interest in Moe, and is the successor in interest to
 7 Tidewater and Moe.
- 8 20. In about December 1999, Hanson acquired all of the stock in Olin Jones Sand and9 Jones Sand.

In March 2000, Hanson Aggregates Mid-Pacific merged with Tidewater, and in
 September 2000 it merged with Jones Sand. As part of its mergers with Tidewater and Jones
 Sand, Hanson Aggregates Mid-Pacific expressly assumed all assets and liabilities of Tidewater and
 Jones Sand.

22 14 The true names and capacities, whether corporate, associate, individual, partnership or otherwise of defendants Does 1 through 50, inclusive, are unknown to the State 15 16 which therefore sues said defendants by such fictitious names. The State will seek leave of court 17 to amend this complaint to allege their true names and capacities when the same are ascertained. 18 On information and belief, at all relevant times each of the defendants, including Doe defendants, 19 was and is the agent, employee, employer, joint venturer, representative, alter ego, subsidiary, 20 and/or partner of one or more of the other defendants, and was, in performing the acts 21 complained of herein, acting within the scope of such agency, employment, joint venture, or 22 partnership authority, and/or is in some other way responsible for the acts of one or more of the other defendants. 23

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JURISDICTION AND VENUE

25 23. On information and belief, all of the Defendants reside in the State of California.
26 Each Defendant engaged in conduct directed at the State in perpetrating the deceptive schemes
27 described below.

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24. Venue is proper in this Court because the Defendants transact business in San

1 Francisco County and some of the acts alleged herein occurred in this venue.

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THE FRAUDULENT SCHEMES AND UNFAIR PRACTICES

25. By methods as sophisticated as fictitious pricing schemes to as simple as outright
conversion, Defendants have knowingly and systematically cheated California taxpayers out of
tens of millions of dollars in royalties on State-owned sand over the past ten years. From as early
as 1992, Defendants: (1) falsified royalty reports to the State by misstating sand prices used to
calculate royalties; (2) under-reported the amounts of sand they dredged, thereby avoiding
royalties on the unreported sand; and (3) took over two million cubic yards of sand from
submerged state lands where they did not have leases.

10 26. By failing to pay State royalties and converting State sand, Defendants reaped 11 huge economic benefits at the expense of State taxpayers. Defendants became so adept at these 12 practices that one company bragged, just before the company was sold to Defendant Hanson for 13 \$44 million in cash, that "tremendous hikes in profitability" pushed the company into "a new era 14 of performance with gross profit margins in excess of 50% of revenues." Olin Jones, an owner of 15 another sand mining company, boasted to a State environmental agency staffer, after he was fined 16 for excessive sand dredging, that sand mining was so lucrative they couldn't fine sand miners 17 enough to make them stop over-dredging: it was "like mining gold."

18 27. Defendants knew they were taking sand from State property and directed their 19 tugboat captains to prospect for quality sand without regard to lease boundaries and the State's 20 property rights. Moe and Tidewater principals, including Defendants James and Joel Peterson, 21 told tugboat captains to find quality sand and never directed tugboat captains to stay on lease 22 boundaries or to refrain from mining sand on State lands outside of lease boundaries. Similarly, 23 Olin Jones Sand and Jones Sand, through their principal, Defendant Olin Jones, instructed their 24 tugboat captains to go outside the lease areas and "feel around, [and] look around" for quality 25 sand. As a result of Defendants' improper directives, from as early as 1992 until their companies 26 were sold in 1999, Moe, Tidewater, Olin Jones Sand and Jones Sand knowingly dredged and sold 27 millions of cubic yards of sand mined, without authorization, from State lands.

28. Hanson knew about Olin Jones Sand and Moe's prospecting activities when it

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purchased the companies in 1999. During Hanson's due diligence efforts prior to the purchase of 1 2 Olin Jones Sand and Moe, Hanson executives discovered that the sand dredgers were simply 3 searching for quality sand by conducting test dredging and, consequently, that dredging activity 4 had occurred outside the lease boundaries throughout the history of dredging in the area. Hanson 5 also discovered that the sand dredgers' prospecting was specifically designed to ensure best 6 quality cargoes and, thus, the mining was concentrated and occurred outside the lease areas. 7 Despite this knowledge of ongoing and improper dredging activities, Hanson continued dredging 8 outside of its lease boundaries, taking hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of State sand without 9 notifying the State of its activities or paying for the State for the sand it took.

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The Moe, Tidewater and Peterson Defendants' Liability for Misrepresenting <u>Royalty Obligations to the State</u>

29. Beginning in or about 1957, Moe entered into a series of leases with the
Commission by which Moe was given the rights to dredge sand and gravel from certain sites in
the San Francisco Bay, in return for payment of royalties to the Commission based on the value of
the dredged material. By 1993 Moe held three Commission leases; Presidio Shoals, lease number
709.1, Angel Island, lease number 2036.1, and Alcatraz, lease number 7780. In 1999, Hanson
assumed all of the leases held by Moe at that time.

18 30. Pursuant to the terms of various leases at issue, Defendants were required to pay royalties to the Commission based on a formula whereby a percentage of the weighted average 19 20 gross sales price for sales of sand and gravel extracted from lease lands, including both inside and 21 outside sales, is multiplied by the total amount of extracted sand and gravel. An "Inside Sale" is 22 defined in the leases as the transfer or sale of sand and gravel to companies or business entities 23 owned or controlled by lessee. An "Outside Sale" is defined as the sale of sand and gravel to 24 third parties. The "Gross Sales Price" is defined as the actual sales price for outside sales, and for 25 inside sales, as the fair market value of the same material sold in outside sales by Lessee, but never 26 less than the average retail fair market value of the same material sold by similar companies in 27 Lessee's sales and marketing area.

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31. At all relevant times alleged herein, sales from Moe to Tidewater were inside sales

under the terms of the leases since Tidewater was owned and controlled by the same individuals
 and entities who owned or controlled Moe.

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3 32 At all relevant times alleged herein, Defendants Moe and Ellen Seaborn regularly 4 submitted either monthly or quarterly reports (royalty reports) to the Commission stating the 5 quantities dredged from the lease site, and the royalty amounts owed pursuant to the terms of the 6 leases. According to the leases, the royalty amounts owed to the Commission were calculated 7 based on a weighted average sales price (WASP) which included both wholesale sales (sales from 8 Moe by the barge load) and retail sales (sales from Moe's affiliate (Tidewater) at its facility). 9 Prior to 1993, Moe submitted royalty reports which properly calculated the royalty amounts owed 10 to the Commission: that is those calculations included sales from both Moe and its affiliate, 11 Tidewater. Although the WASP changed from report to report based on the changing market 12 price of sand, the WASPs reported for the pre-1993 reports are consistently higher than the 13 WASPs reported thereafter.

14 33. Beginning in 1993 and continuing until the company was sold to Hanson in July 15 1999, Moe stated on each of its monthly or quarterly reports with respect to leases 709.1, 2036.1, 16 and 7780.1, a false royalty amount owed to the Commission. Moe's reported amount of royalty 17 owed was much less than what was actually owed to the Commission. Moe calculated this false 18 amount by purposefully manipulating the WASP in two ways: first, it calculated the WASP based 19 on only wholesale sales (barge load sales from Moe to Tidewater), and stopped including the 20 retail sales as required by the leases; second, in calculating the WASP, it used arbitrary sales 21 prices that were as low as 1/3 the actual gross sales price of the sand sold in wholesale sales. The 22 WASPs used for post-1993 reports are consistently lower than those in pre-1993 reports.

34. The first royalty manipulation described above, i.e. elimination of the retail sales in
the WASP calculation, was executed when Defendants Moe, Tidewater, Joe Peterson, Jim
Peterson and Ellen Seaborn unilaterally and secretly changed the method by which they calculated
royalties in contradiction to the lease and to the detriment of the State. Beginning with its 1993
reports, and on all reports thereafter, Defendant Ellen Seaborn falsely certified to the Commission
that the WASP was true and correct as calculated under the terms of the leases. In fact,

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Defendants knew that the WASP was not calculated pursuant to the terms of the lease and failed
 to disclose such to the Commission.

3 35 Defendants Moe and Ellen Seaborn executed the second manipulation described 4 above, i.e. relying on arbitrary sales prices instead of the gross wholesale sales price, as follows. 5 Beginning in 1993, for sales from Moe to third parties, Defendants charged third parties prices 6 consisting of two components: a token product charge and a demurrage fee, which theoretically 7 includes a fee for transportation, opportunity cost and other miscellaneous costs. Defendants 8 reported to the Commission the token product price only, despite the fact that the demurrage fee 9 should have been included as a component of the actual sales price and should have been included 10 in the royalty owed to the Commission. Then, beginning in 1998, Defendants further manipulated 11 the royalty calculation by 1) dividing the gross sales price into yet another component called 12 "royalty fee" which was not included in the price for purposes of royalty calculations; and 2) 13 increasing the size of the demurrage component and reducing the token product price. As a result 14 of these manipulations, the actual price to customers and the profits to Defendants increased over 15 time, while royalties actually paid to the State decreased substantially below what was actually owed to the State. 16

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The Moe, Tidewater and Peterson Defendants' Liability for Misrepresenting The Quantities of Sand Dredged on State Lands

19 36. Defendants Moe and Tidewater also falsely reported the quantities of sand and 20 gravel Defendants dredged from the leases. Specifically, Moe consistently charged outside 21 customers for full barge loads of sand consisting of 2,400 cubic yards. However, Moe 22 consistently under-reported the amount of sand it dredged and sold to its affiliate Tidewater, 23 falsely stating in dredge reports that it dredged and delivered 2,300 cubic yard barge loads to 24 Tidewater. In fact, Moe consistently delivered 2,400 cubic yard barge loads of sand to Tidewater, 25 but falsely reported lower cubic yard amounts in its dredge reports and falsely understated its sand 26 dredging totals in royalty reports Moe submitted to the Commission.

27 37. Defendants Moe and Tidewater, also made false statements to the State and
28 created false records claiming Moe was dredging, and Tidewater was selling, sand from private

tidelands in the Suisun Bay when in fact Moe was dredging, and Tidewater was selling, sand 1 2 mined from State lands in the Suisun Bay.

3 38. Defendant Moe held sand mining leases on private tidelands owned by Luis Grossi 4 near Middleground Island ("Grossi Lease") in the Suisun Bay. Defendants Moe, Tidewater, Joe 5 Peterson, Jim Peterson and Ellen Seaborn created, or assisted in creating, false records, including royalty reports, dredging reports and sales reports, showing that Moe and Tidewater were 6 7 dredging sand and gravel from the Grossi Lease site, when in fact Moe and Tidewater were 8 dredging and selling higher quality sand from State properties for which Moe and Tidewater did 9 not hold leases or permits.

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The Jones Defendants' Liability for Misrepresenting Royalty **Obligations to the State**

12 39. Beginning in about 1980, Olin Jones Sand entered into a series of leases with the 13 Commission by which Olin Jones Sand was given the rights to dredge sand and gravel from 14 certain sites in the San Francisco Bay and Suisun Bay, in return for payment of royalties to the 15 Commission based on the value of the dredged material.

16 40. By the mid 1990s Olin Jones Sand held Commission leases near Angel Island, lease number 7779.1, and in Suisun Bay, lease number 7781. In 1999, Hanson assumed all of the leases 17 held by Jones at that time. 18

19 41. The Angel Island and Suisun Bay leases required Olin Jones Sand to calculate 20 royalties as a percentage of the gross weighted average sales price of sand. The leases also 21 provided that the "gross sales price" used to calculate the WASP should be the actual sales price 22 when Olin Jones Sand sold sand directly to third party purchasers ("outside sales"). However, if 23 Olin Jones Sand first transferred sand to its affiliate Jones ("inside sale"), which then sold sand to 24 third party purchasers, the "gross sales price" would be a calculated number which was not less 25 than the "average retail market value" of the sand.

26 42. At all relevant times alleged herein, sales from Olin Jones Sand to Jones Sand were 27 inside sales under the terms of the leases since Olin Jones Sand was owned and controlled by the 28 same individuals and entities who owned or controlled Jones Sand.

43. At all relevant times alleged herein, Defendants Olin Jones Sand and Olin Jones
 submitted quarterly reports (royalty reports) to the Commission stating the quantities dredged
 from the lease site, and the royalty amounts owed pursuant to the terms of the leases.

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4 44. From the time Olin Jones Sand began dredging sand from State lease number
5 7779.1 in 1995, and lease number 7781.1 in 1997, Olin Jones Sand and Olin Jones submitted
6 royalty reports to the Commission that falsely stated the WASP for sand mined from State lands
7 and sold by Olin Jones Sand and Jones Sand. Instead of reporting a WASP that included
8 consideration of both wholesale and retail sales as directed by the leases, Defendants reported a
9 false and deflated sand price and an improperly calculated royalty payment of \$.65 per cubic yard.

45. Olin Jones Sand and Olin Jones falsely stated the sales price of sand to the State
and avoided royalty obligations by manipulating sand prices in two ways. First, when they "sold"
sand to themselves -- transferring it from Olin Jones Sand to its affiliate Jones Sand Company they
did not use the "average fair retail market price" of sand in calculating royalties for the transferred
sand. Instead, Olin Jones Sand improperly used nominal sand prices charged between Olin Jones
Sand to its affiliate Jones Sand Company when calculating royalties for the transferred sand and
ignored altogether the actual retail price of sand.

17 46. Olin Jones Sand Company also under-reported and under-paid royalties using a 18 second price manipulation by breaking their barge prices for sand into multiple component parts 19 and deducting each component from the gross sales price charged to their direct barge load 20 customers. Olin Jones Sand Company then improperly used the resulting (and significantly 21 reduced) net price of sand to their direct barge load customers in calculating the State's royalties. 22 47. Each of these practices of Defendants Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand and Jones, 23 which persisted from 1995 through 1999 caused significant and unauthorized reductions in

royalties paid by the sand companies to the State and resulted in numerous violations of the FalseClaims Act based upon multiple false royalty reports submitted by Olin Jones Sand to the

26 Commission.

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- The Jones Defendants' Liability for Misrepresenting The Location And Extent of <u>Dredging Activity on State Lands</u>
 - COMPLAINT IN INTERVENTION - 10-

48. Defendants Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand and Jones also falsely reported on their 1 2 royalty reports the quantities of sand and gravel Defendants dredged from the leases. Defendant 3 Olin Jones Sand held sand mining leases to dredge and sell sand from the Grossi Lease. 4 Defendants Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand and Jones created, or assisted in creating, false records, 5 including royalty reports, dredging reports and sales reports, claiming that Olin Jones Sand was dredging sand and gravel from the Grossi Lease site, when in fact it was dredging and selling 6 7 higher quality sand from State properties for which Defendants Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand and 8 Jones did not hold leases or permits. 9 The Hanson Defendants' Liability for Misrepresenting Royalty **Obligations to the State** 10 49. When the Hanson Defendants acquired Moe, Tidewater, Olin Jones Sand and 11 12 Jones Sand in 1999, Hanson continued the practices of the purchased companies described above, 13 as set forth in paragraphs 25 through 48. 50. 14 The terms of the leases Hanson Marine acquired required Hanson Marine to pay royalties to the Commission based on the formulas contained in the Moe and Olin Jones Sand 15 leases described in detail above. 16 17 51. At all relevant times alleged herein, sales from Hanson Marine to HAMP were 18 inside sales under the terms of the leases since Hanson Marine was owned and controlled by 19 HAMP. 20 52. At all relevant times alleged herein, Hanson Marine submitted either monthly or 21 quarterly reports (royalty reports) to the Commission stating the quantities dredged from the lease 22 sites, and the royalty amounts owed pursuant to the terms of the leases. According to the leases, 23 the royalty amounts owed to the Commission were calculated based on a WASP which included 24 both wholesale sales (sales from Hanson Marine by the barge load) and retail sales (sales from 25 Hanson Marine's affiliate (HAMP) at its facility). 53. 26 From the time the Hanson Defendants acquired Moe, Tidewater, Olin Jones Sand 27 and Jones Sand in 1999, Hanson Marine stated on each of its monthly or quarterly reports with 28 respect to the leases it acquired, a false royalty amount owed to the Commission. Hanson

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Marine's reported amount of royalty owed was much less than what was actually owed to the 1 2 Commission. Hanson Marine simply adopted Moe's and Olin Jones Sand's improper royalty 3 calculation methodology and continued manipulating the WASP in the same way by: (1) 4 calculating the WASP based on only wholesale sales; (2) by excluding retail sales from their 5 WASP calculations; and (3) by using arbitrary sales prices that were as low as 1/3 the actual gross sales price of the sand sold in wholesale sales. 6

- 7 54. Hanson Marine falsely certified to the Commission that the WASP was true and 8 correct as calculated under the terms of the leases. In fact, Hanson Marine knew that the WASP 9 was not calculated pursuant to the terms of the lease and failed to disclose such to the
- 10 Commission

55 11 Hanson Marine also continued its predecessors' practices of manipulating sand prices and reporting a false WASP which was not based on the true gross sales price of sand but 12 13 on a nominal or net price after various charges lumped into a "demurrage fee" were stripped out 14 of the reported WASP. Hanson Marine reported to the Commission the nominal WASP price 15 only, and used the nominal WASP to calculate the State's royalty despite the fact that the gross 16 sales WASP should have been reported and used to calculate the royalties owed to the 17 Commission.

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The Hanson Defendants' Liability for Misrepresenting The Location And Extent of **Dredging Activity on State Lands**

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20 56. Defendant Hanson Marine also falsely stated the quantities of sand and gravel 21 Defendants dredged from the State lands. Specifically, Defendant Hanson Marine acquired the 22 Moe and Olin Jones Sand leases to dredge and sell sand from the Grossi Lease. Defendants 23 Hanson Marine and HAMP created, or assisted in creating, false records, including royalty 24 reports, dredging reports and sales reports, claiming that Hanson Marine was dredging sand and 25 gravel from the Grossi Lease site, when in fact Hanson Marine was dredging and selling higher 26 quality sand from State properties for which Defendants Hanson Marine and HAMP did not hold 27 leases or permits.

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Defendants' False Statements and Submissions of False Records to the State

Misrepresenting The Extent of their Dredging Activity in the Suisun Bay

57. Defendants also submitted false records and made false statements to a number of government regulatory agencies, including, but not limited to the Commission, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (the "BCDC") and California Regional Water Quality Control Board (the "Board"), which misrepresented to the State the true nature and extent of Defendants' dredging activities on State lands.

58. The BCDC is a California state agency which is responsible for carrying out two state laws--the McAteer-Petris Act and the Suisun Marsh Preservation Act--and two plans--the San Francisco Bay Plan and the Suisun Marsh Protection Plan. These laws and plans were adopted to protect the Bay and the Suisun Marsh as natural resources for the benefit of the public and to ensure that development is compatible with this protection. The membership of the BCDC includes representatives of numerous State and local agencies including the State Lands Commission.

59. Within the primary management area of the Suisun Marsh, the BCDC authorizes development that is consistent with the applicable certified local protection program or, in the absence of a certified program, with the provisions of the Suisun Marsh Preservation Act and the policies of the Suisun Marsh Protection Plan. These acts, plans and programs require that existing land and water uses should be managed to enhance the quality and diversity of aquatic and wildlife habitat.

60. It is necessary for every commercial sand miner, including the Defendants in this
case, to obtain BCDC approval prior to extracting sand from the bottom of the San Francisco Bay
or Suisun Bay. To obtain the required BCDC approval, it is necessary to complete an application,
provide the necessary additional information and exhibits, and pay a processing fee. A public
hearing will then be held on an application for a major project. Thereafter, if the BCDC votes to
approve the project, a permit with relevant conditions will be issued. Work on a project needing
BCDC authorization cannot begin until the necessary approval has been secured.

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61. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, the BCDC communicated with Defendants in

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writing, in meetings and in telephone conversations explaining BCDC's role in regulating dredgers
in the San Francisco Bay and Suisun Bay. Defendants were told that BCDC was charged with
monitoring the environmental impact of Defendants' dredging activities in the San Francisco Bay
and Suisun Bay. As part of this oversight BCDC restricted the areas in which Defendants could
dredge and the quantities Defendants were authorized to remove from the San Francisco Bay and
Suisun Bay.

62. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Defendants were told by BCDC staff that they
were not to engage in commercial sand mining operations in the San Francisco Bay or Suisun Bay
without valid permits and that BCDC did not issue permits unless sand miners had a valid existing
lease with the State Lands Commission that allowed the dredgers to mine sand from State
property and sell the sand at various unloading and distribution facilities in the Bay Area.

12 63. Throughout the 1990s, the BCDC emphasized to Defendants that the companies 13 must accurately report their dredging activities in the San Francisco Bay and Suisun Bay and that 14 state agencies, including the Commission and BCDC, were relying on Defendants' annual reports 15 to assess the environmental impact of Defendants' dredging activity in the San Francisco Bay and 16 Suisun Bay which serve as migration paths for fish species, like the winter-run chinook salmon, 17 Delta smelt and herring. Defendants were also informed by BCDC of the importance of 18 accurately reporting dredging activities in annual reports and in semi-annual surveys of dredged 19 sand shoals which Defendants were obligated to perform pursuant to the terms of their permits. 20 The BCDC and the Commission emphasized to Defendants that the accuracy of information 21 regarding the location and volume of sand dredged was essential for state agencies, including the 22 Commission and the BCDC, to discern any potential depletion of State sand resources and the 23 environmental effects to the sand shoals in the Bay from Defendants' sand mining operations.

24 64. Defendants submitted applications for various major permits to authorize sand
25 dredging in several locations throughout the Bay in the 1990s. Defendants' permit applications
26 purported to identify the specific location of their proposed dredging projects in the Suisun Bay as
27 well as the proposed quantity of sand Defendants intended to mine from the Suisun Bay.
28 However, in direct violation of their obligation to the State and various State regulating agencies,

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including the Commission and the BCDC, Defendants misrepresented the true extent of their sand 1 2 mining operations in the Suisun Bay. Specifically, although Defendants submitted applications for 3 dredging sand on what they claimed was the Grossi Lease site, the vast majority of Defendants' 4 dredging operations in the Suisun bay were in fact carried out on State lands to the east and west 5 of the Grossi Lease site where Defendants did not have BCDC permits or Commission leases. 6 Defendants' permit applications materially misrepresented the geographic location of their 7 proposed dredging activity and falsely stated that their projected mining activities involved 8 privately owned sand when, in fact their operations involved mining and selling sand owned by the 9 State.

65. 10 Defendants also submitted annual reports to the BCDC throughout the 1990s 11 purportedly identifying the quantities of sand dredged, the location where sand was dredged, the 12 resale location where Defendants sold sand it mined from the Bay, and any changes in the area 13 dredged by Defendants. Numerous of these annual reports falsely stated that Defendants were mining sand on the Grossi Lease site when, in fact, they were taking hundreds of thousands of 14 15 cubic yards of valuable sand annually from State lands in the Suisun Bay to the east and west of 16 the Grossi Lease. Defendants' annual reports to the BCDC materially misrepresented the 17 geographic location of their actual dredging activity, falsely stating that actual mining activities 18 involved privately owned sand when, in fact the Defendants' operations involved mining and 19 selling sand owned by the State. Olin Jones Sand's and Hanson Marine's annual reports also 20 falsely stated the quantities of sand they were mining in the Suisun Bay by failing to account for 21 hundreds of thousands cubic yards of sand Olin Jones Sand and Hanson Marine mined annually 22 and sold at various locations in the Bay Area.

23 66. Defendants also filed false documents with the Board which concealed Defendants'
24 substantial and unauthorized sand mining operations in the Suisun Bay and their obligation to pay
25 the State for State sand Defendants mined. Specifically, because of its sand mining operations in
26 the Suisun Bay, Defendants were required to, and did, submit applications for permits to the
27 Board. These applications required Defendants to disclose: (a) the proposed location of sand
28 mining, including a map and State Lands Commission lease number (if applicable); (b) the

proposed range and depth at which mining will occur; (c) the description of timing of tidal stages
 during operations; (d) the quantity of proposed material to be dredged; and (e) a description of
 the equipment and method of the operation to be used.

67. Defendants' permit applications to the Board falsely stated the location of
Defendants' sand mining operations in the Suisun Bay, and Olin Jones Sand's and Hanson
Marine's permit applications failed to account for hundreds of thousands cubic yards of sand they
mined annually from the Suisun Bay.

8 68. Defendants also submitted quarterly reports to the Board that purported to set 9 forth Defendants' quarterly dredging activity in the San Francisco Bay and Suisun Bay by 10 identifying the location of dredging activity and the quantities of mined sand. Each of these 11 reports falsely stated the geographic location of Defendants' sand mining activities in the Suisun 12 Bay. None of these reports disclosed that Defendants were, in fact, mining substantial quantities 13 sand to the east and west of the Grossi Lease in the Suisun Bay. Each of these reports, submitted 14 by Olin Jones Sand and Hanson Marine also falsely stated the quantity of sand they mined by 15 failing to disclose hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of sand Olin Jones Sand and Hanson Marine mined in the Suisun Bay to the west of the Grossi Lease. 16

17 69. The State is informed and believes that Defendants were aware of the falsity of
18 their statements, applications, and submissions or acted in deliberate ignorance or with reckless
19 disregard of the truth. To the extent that Defendants claim that they did not know their
20 statements, applications, and submissions were false at the time they were made, they failed to
21 notify the State once they learned of their falsity.

- 70. As a result of Defendants' creation of false records, submission of false records to
 the State, and use of false statements regarding their dredging activities as alleged above, the
 State suffered damages from the conversion of State property and loss of royalty payments in a
- 25 specific amount to be shown at trial.
- 26

The Moe/Tidewater Conspiracy

27 71. Defendants Moe, Tidewater, Ellen Seaborn, James Peterson and Joel Peterson
28 have, through their agents, subsidiaries, and/or associated companies, participated in the

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conspiracy in violation of Government Code section 12651, subdivision (a)(3), by, among other 1 2 things, creating and maintaining an artificial billing system whereby Moe and Tidewater broke the 3 gross price of sand charged to their customers into multiple component "fees" for transportation, 4 unloading, standby time, and royalty. Moe, Tidewater, Ellen Seaborn, James Peterson and Joel 5 Peterson agreed among themselves that Tidewater would bill sand purchasers for every component of the price of sand with the exception of the royalty fee and a nominal sand charge 6 7 remaining after all other fees were removed from the sand price. Defendants Moe, Tidewater, 8 Ellen Seaborn, James Peterson and Joel Peterson further agreed that, in direct violation of Moe's 9 leases with the Commission, Moe would use the nominal sand price rather than the gross price 10 charged to sand purchasers in calculating the State's royalty. Through this component pricing 11 scheme, Moe, Tidewater, Ellen Seaborn, James Peterson and Joel Peterson acted to further their 12 conspiracy to avoid obligations to the State by creating artificial and falsely deflated sales prices 13 for sand which Moe used to calculate the State's royalty and to create false royalty reports which Moe submitted to the State. Defendants Moe, Tidewater, Ellen Seaborn, James Peterson and Joel 14 15 Peterson thereby conspired to, and did, create and use false statements and records to conceal, 16 avoid and decrease an obligation to pay the State in violation of Government Code section 12651, 17 subdivision (a)(3).

18 72. Defendants Moe, Tidewater, Ellen Seaborn, James Peterson and Joel Peterson 19 have, through their agents, subsidiaries, and/or associated companies, also participated in a 20 conspiracy by agreeing among themselves to prospect for sand on State lands and to create and 21 use false statements and records with the intent to avoid their obligation to pay the State for the 22 sand they mined from State lands. Defendants Moe, Tidewater, Ellen Seaborn, James Peterson 23 and Joel Peterson intended to defraud the state, and acted in furtherance of their conspiracy to 24 defraud the State, by participating in schemes to falsely report to the State the location where 25 Defendants mined sand in the Suisun Bay. Specifically, from 1992 through 1999, Defendants 26 Moe, Tidewater, Ellen Seaborn, James Peterson and Joel Peterson agreed to and did use the 27 facilities, equipment, employees, and business assets of Moe and Tidewater to mine, market and 28 sell substantial quantities of State-owned Suisun Bay sand and created false dredge logs, sales

reports, royalty reports, and annual reports and permit applications to the BCDC and the Board
 misrepresenting that the State sand they took was mined from the private Grossi Lease site.
 Defendants Moe, Tidewater, Ellen Seaborn, James Peterson and Joel Peterson thereby conspired
 to, and did, create and use false statements and records to conceal, avoid and decrease an
 obligation to pay the State in violation of Government Code section 12651, subdivision (a)(3).

6

The Olin Jones Sand/Jones Sand Conspiracy

7 73. Defendants Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand and Jones have, through their agents, 8 subsidiaries, and/or associated companies, participated in a conspiracy in violation of Government 9 Code section 12651, subdivision (a)(3), by, among other things, creating and maintaining an 10 artificial billing system whereby Olin Jones Sand and Jones Sand broke the gross price of sand charged to their customers into multiple component "fees" for transportation, unloading, standby 11 12 time, and royalty. Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand and Jones agreed among themselves that Jones 13 Sand would bill sand purchasers for every component of the price of sand with the exception of 14 the royalty fee and a nominal sand charge which Olin Jones separately billed customers after all 15 other fees were removed from the sand price. Defendants Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand and Jones further agreed that, in direct violation of Olin Jones Sand's leases with the Commission, Olin 16 17 Jones Sand would use a nominal sand price rather than the gross price charged to sand purchasers 18 in calculating the State's royalty. Through this component pricing scheme, Olin Jones Sand, Jones 19 Sand and Jones acted to further their conspiracy to avoid obligations to the State by creating 20 artificial and falsely deflated sales prices for sand which Olin Jones Sand used to calculate the 21 State's royalty and to create false royalty reports which Olin Jones Sand submitted to the State. 22 Defendants Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand and Jones thereby conspired to, and did, create and use 23 false statements and records to conceal, avoid and decrease an obligation to pay the State in 24 violation of Government Code section 12651, subdivision (a)(3).

74. Defendants Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand and Jones have, through their agents,
subsidiaries, and/or associated companies, also participated in a conspiracy by agreeing among
themselves to prospect for sand on State lands and to create and use false statements and records
with the intent to avoid their obligation to pay the State for the sand they mined from State lands.

Defendants Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand and Jones intended to defraud the State, and acted in
furtherance of their conspiracy to defraud the State, by participating in schemes to falsely report
to the State the location where Defendants mined sand in the Suisun Bay. Specifically, from 1995
through 1999, Defendants Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand and Jones agreed to and did use the
facilities, equipment, employees, and business assets of Olin Jones Sand and Jones Sand to mine,
market and sell substantial quantities of state-owned Suisun Bay sand which they mined and sold
without authorization from, or knowledge of, the State.

8 75. Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand and Jones furthered their conspiracy by making and 9 using false statements and creating false dredge logs, sales reports, royalty reports, and annual 10 reports and permit applications to the BCDC and Board misrepresenting that the State sand they 11 mined came from areas within the Suisun Bay, including the Grossi Lease site, where Olin Jones 12 Sand had valid sand mining leases and permits from the Commission and the Board. In fact Olin 13 Jones Sand, Jones Sand and Jones mined substantial quantities of sand in areas to the east and 14 west of the Grossi Lease site where Olin Jones Sand did not have leases or permits. Defendants 15 Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand and Jones thereby conspired to, and did, create and use false 16 statements and records to conceal, avoid and decrease an obligation to pay the State in violation 17 of Government Code section 12651, subdivision (a)(3).

18

The Hanson Marine/HAMP Conspiracy

19 76. Defendants HAMP and Hanson Marine have, through their agents, subsidiaries, 20 and/or associated companies, participated in the conspiracy described above by, among other 21 things, creating and maintaining an artificial billing system whereby HAMP and Hanson Marine 22 broke the gross price of sand charged to their customers into multiple component "fees" for 23 transportation, unloading, standby time, and royalty. HAMP and Hanson Marine agreed among 24 themselves that HAMP would bill sand purchasers for every component of the price of sand with 25 the exception of the royalty fee and a nominal sand charge which Hanson Marine separately billed 26 customers after all other fees were removed from the sand price. Defendants HAMP and Hanson 27 Marine further agreed that, in direct violation of Hanson Marine's leases with the Commission, 28 Hanson Marine would use a nominal sand price rather than the gross price charged to sand

purchasers in calculating the State's royalty. Through this component pricing scheme, HAMP and
Hanson Marine acted to further their conspiracy to avoid obligations to the State by creating
artificial and falsely deflated sales prices for sand which Hanson Marine used to calculate the
State's royalty and to create false royalty reports which Hanson Marine submitted to the State.
Defendants HAMP and Hanson Marine thereby conspired to, and did, create and use false
statements and records to conceal, avoid and decrease an obligation to pay the State in violation
of Government Code section 12651, subdivision (a)(3).

8 77. Defendants HAMP and Hanson Marine have, through their agents, subsidiaries, 9 and/or associated companies, also participated in a conspiracy by agreeing among themselves to 10 prospect for sand on State lands and to create and use false statements and records with the intent 11 to avoid their obligation to pay the State for the sand they mined from State lands. Defendants 12 HAMP and Hanson Marine acted in furtherance of their conspiracy by participating in schemes to 13 falsely report to the State the location where Defendants mined sand in the Suisun Bay. 14 Specifically, from 1999 through 2002, Defendants HAMP and Hanson Marine agreed to and did 15 use the facilities, equipment, employees, and business assets of HAMP and Hanson Marine to 16 mine, market and sell substantial quantities state-owned Suisun Bay sand which they mined and 17 sold without authorization from, or knowledge by, the State.

18 78. HAMP and Hanson Marine furthered their conspiracy by making and using false 19 statements and creating false dredge logs, sales reports, royalty reports, and annual reports and 20 permit applications to the BCDC and Board misrepresenting that the State sand they mined came 21 from areas within the Suisun Bay, including the Grossi Lease site, where Hanson Marine had valid 22 sand mining leases as well as permits from the Commission and the Board. In fact HAMP and 23 Hanson Marine mined substantial quantities of sand in areas to the to the east and west of the 24 Grossi Lease site where Hanson Marine did not have leases or permits. Defendants HAMP and 25 Hanson Marine thereby conspired to, and did, create and use false statements and records to 26 conceal, avoid and decrease an obligation to pay the State in violation of Government Code 27 section 12651, subdivision (a)(3).

28

79. The Attorney General, the official of the State charged with the responsibility to

1	prosecute false claims actions in these circumstances discovered the false claims alleged herein		
2	after the Attorney General's Office received the qui tam complaint on August 16, 2001, and		
3	during the Attorney General's subsequent investigation.		
4 5	FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION False Claims Act - Gov. Code, § 12651(a)(7) (Against All Defendants)		
6	80. Plaintiff incorporates here by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 79		
7	of this complaint.		
8	81. This is a claim for treble damages and penalties under the California False Claims		
9	Act, Government Code section 12650 et seq.		
10	82. Defendants knowingly made, used, and caused to be made or used false royalty		
11	reports, records, annual reports, permit applications and other documents and statements to		
12	conceal, avoid and decrease their obligations to pay the State for sand mined from State lands in		
13	violation of Government Code section 12651, subdivision (a)(7).		
14	83. As a proximate result of the above-described acts, the State has been injured by		
15	Defendants' conversion of State property and in the loss of royalty payments in a specific amount		
16	to be determined at trial.		
17 18	SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION False Claims Act - Gov. Code, § 12651(a)(8) (Against All Defendants)		
19	84. Plaintiff incorporates here by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 83		
20	of this complaint.		
21	85. This is a claim for treble damages and penalties under the California False Claims		
22	Act, Government Code section 12650 et seq.		
23	86. To the extent that any Defendant did not knowingly make, use, or cause to be		
24	made or used, the false royalty reports, records, annual reports, permit applications and other		
25	documents and statements alleged above, such Defendant is a beneficiary of an inadvertent		
26	submission of a false claim to the State who subsequently discovered the falsity of the claims and		
27	failed to disclose them to the State within a reasonable time after such discovery, in violation of		
28	Government Code section 12651, subdivision (a)(8).		
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1	87. As a proximate result of the above-described acts, the State has been injured by		
2	Defendants' conversion of State property and in the loss of royalty payments in a specific amount		
3	to be determined at trial.		
4	THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION Falso Claims Act Conspirant - Cov. Codo, § 12651(a)(3)		
5	False Claims Act Conspiracy - Gov. Code, § 12651(a)(3) (Against Defendants Moe, Tidewater, Ellen Seaborn, James Peterson Joel Peterson, Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand, Jones, Hanson Marine Operations, Inc.		
6	and Hanson Aggregates Mid-Pacific, Inc.)		
7	88. Plaintiff incorporates here by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 87		
8	of this complaint.		
9	89. This is a claim for treble damages and penalties under the California False Claims		
10	Act, Government Code section 12650 et seq.		
11	90. The royalty reports to the Commission made or caused to be made by Defendants		
12	constituted "claims" within the meaning of Government Code section 12650 et seq.		
13	91. Defendants Moe, Tidewater, Ellen Seaborn, James Peterson and Joel Peterson		
14	conspired to conceal, avoid and decrease an obligation to pay the State by submitting false and		
15	fraudulent claims within the meaning of Government Code section 12651, subdivision (a)(3).		
16	Each conspirator intended to defraud the State, and acted in furtherance of the conspiracy to		
17	defraud the State by participating in the schemes, set forth above, to falsely report to the State		
18	and various state agencies, including the Commission, BCDC and the Board, the quantity of sand		
19	taken from the lease sites, the price for which the sand was sold, and the areas from which		
20	Defendants mined sand on State property.		
21	92. Defendants Olin Jones Sand, Jones Sand, and Jones conspired to conceal, avoid		
22	and decrease an obligation to pay the State by submitting false and fraudulent claims within the		
23	meaning of Government Code section 12651, subdivision (a)(3). Each conspirator intended to		
24	defraud the State, and acted in furtherance of the conspiracy to defraud the State by participating		
25	in the schemes, set forth above, to falsely report to the State and various state agencies, including		
26	the Commission, BCDC and the Board, the quantity of sand taken from the lease sites, the price		
27	for which the sand was sold, and the areas from which Defendants mined sand on State property.		
28	93. Defendants Hanson Marine Operations, Inc. and Hanson Aggregates Mid-Pacific,		

COMPLAINT IN INTERVENTION -22-

1	Inc. congristed to consequence and decreases on obligation to next the State by symptiting folgo		
1	Inc. conspired to conceal, avoid and decrease an obligation to pay the State by submitting false		
2	and fraudulent claims within the meaning of Government Code section 12651, subdivision (a)(3).		
3	Each conspirator intended to defraud the State, and acted in furtherance of the conspiracy to		
4	defraud the State by participating in the schemes, set forth above, to falsely report to the State		
5	and various state agencies, including the Commission, BCDC and the Board, the quantity of sand		
6	taken from the lease sites, the price for which the sand was sold, and the areas from which		
7	Defendants mined sand on State property.		
8	94. Each conspirator intended to defraud the state, and acted in furtherance of the		
9	conspiracy to defraud the State by participating in the schemes to falsely report to the		
10	Commission the quantity of sand taken from the lease sites and the price for which the sand was		
11	sold.		
12	95. As a proximate result of the above-described acts, the State has been injured by		
13	Defendants' conversion of State property and in the loss of royalty payments in a specific amount		
14	to be determined at trial.		
15	FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION		
16	Conversion of Mineral Deposits - Public Resources Code, § 6224.2 (Against All Defendants)		
17	96. Plaintiff incorporates here by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 95		
18	of this Complaint.		
19	97. This is a claim for damages under the California Public Resources Code section		
20	6224.2.		
21	98. By dredging sand from State lands without leases, as described above, Defendants		
22	appropriated and converted mineral deposits reserved to, and owned by, the State and under the		
23	jurisdiction of the Commission.		
24	99. As a proximate result of the above-described acts, the State has been injured by		
25	Defendants' conversion of State property in a specific amount to be determined at trial.		
26			
27	//		
28	FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION		
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	Unfair Practices Act - Business & Professions Code, § 17200 et seq.	
	(Against All Defendants)	
100.	Plaintiff incorporates here by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 99	
of this Complaint.		
101.	The above described acts by Defendants constitute unfair competition within the	
meaning of Business & Professions Code section 17200, in that they include, but are not limited		
to the following	ng:	
	a. Defendants falsely reported to the Commission and other government	
agencies the q	uantity of sand they dredged from State lands leased by Defendants from the	
Commission;		
	b. Defendants falsely reported to the Commission the price for which they	
sold the sand	they dredged from the leases with the Commission;	
	c. Defendants unilaterally changed the method by which they calculated	
royalties owed	d to the State in violation of lease terms;	
	d. Defendants failed to inform the Commission that Defendants changed the	
method by which they calculated royalties owed to the State;		
	e. Defendants dredged outside of their lease boundaries;	
	f. Defendants failed to pay the State royalties they owed for sand dredged	
outside of leas	se boundaries;	
	g. Defendants made false statements and submitted false records to the	
Commission a	and other government entities that misrepresented the extent of Defendants' mining	
operations on	State lands;	
	h. Defendants violated Government Code section 12650 et seq.;	
	i. Defendants violated Pubic Resources Code section 6224.2.	
	PRAYER FOR RELIEF	
Where	efore, plaintiff the State prays for relief against all Defendants as follows:	
1.	Three times the damages which the State sustained as a result of Defendants' false	
claims in an ar	mount to be determined;	
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1	2.	Civil penalties in the amount of \$10,000 for each false claim pursuant to the False		
2	Claims Act;			
3	3.	Civil penalties in the amount of \$2,500 for each act by Defendants in violation of the		
4	Business & Professions Code section 17200, but in an amount no less than \$2,800,000;			
5	4.	For single damages sustained by the State as a result of Defendants' violation of Pubic		
6	Resources C	ode section 6224.2 in an amount to be determined;		
7	5. For permanent injunction pursuant to Business & Professions Code section 17203			
8	restraining and enjoining Defendants, and each of them, and all those acting under, by through or on			
9	behalf of the	m, from engaging in or performing directly or indirectly, any or all of the following:		
10		a. Making any false claims as set forth in paragraphs 25-95;		
11		b. Engaging in any acts of unfair competition described in paragraphs 25-101,		
12	or any other act of unfair competition.			
13	6.	For costs of suit incurred herein.		
14	7.	Such further or additional relief as the Court deems proper.		
15	DATED: Oc	tober 24, 2003.		
16		Respectfully submitted,		
17				
18		BILL LOCKYER Attorney General		
19		CHRISTOPHER M. AMES		
20		Senior Assistant Attorney General		
21				
22		GEORGE PRINCE		
23		Deputy Attorney General		
24		Attorneys for the State of California		
25 26				
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