



1 Opinion by Sherton.

2 NATURE OF THE DECISION

3 Petitioners seek review of a January 10, 1989 order of the  
4 Douglas County Board of Commissioners approving a conditional  
5 use permit to allow mining and processing of aggregate on a ten  
6 acre portion of a 426.28 acre parcel in the Farm Forest (FF)  
7 and Exclusive Farm Use - Grazing (FG) zoning districts.

8 MOTION TO INTERVENE

9 Stanley Paroz moves to intervene on the side of respondent  
10 Douglas County in this review proceeding. There is no  
11 opposition to the motion, and it is allowed.

12 FACTS

13 A county decision to approve the subject conditional use  
14 permit was reviewed by LUBA in Vizina v. Douglas County, \_\_\_\_\_  
15 Or LUBA \_\_\_\_\_ (LUBA No. 88-014, August 26, 1988) (Vizina I).<sup>1</sup>  
16 In Vizina I, we stated:

17 "[Intervenor-respondent (intervenor)] filed an  
18 application with Douglas County (county) for a  
19 conditional use permit for aggregate mining and  
20 processing on ten acres adjoining the northern  
21 boundary of a 426.28 acre parcel. The parcel contains  
a house and two mobile homes occupied by family  
members and a rental dwelling. It is used primarily  
for grazing sheep.

22 "Steinhauer Road crosses the subject parcel in an  
23 east-west direction, towards its southern end. Access  
24 to the quarry site was proposed to be by a driveway  
extending north from the western end of the developed  
portion of Steinhauer Road.

25 "Property to the north and northwest of the subject  
26 parcel is zoned FF. The other property surrounding  
the subject parcel is zoned FG. Several smaller  
parcels (5 to 20 acres) with residences adjoin the

1 subject parcel to the northeast and adjoin the portion  
2 of Steinhauer Road to the east of the subject parcel.  
3 Other properties adjoining the subject parcel are  
larger parcels in farm use.

4 "The house nearest to the proposed quarry site is  
5 located 2,000 feet to the southeast, but this house is  
6 topographically screened from the quarry site by a  
ridge. The closest house not visually screened from  
the quarry site is approximately 2,700 feet to the  
southwest." Vizina I, slip op at 3-4.

7 In Vizina I, we remanded the county order approving the  
8 subject conditional use permit. We determined the county's  
9 findings were inadequate to demonstrate compliance with Douglas  
10 County Comprehensive Plan (plan) Mineral and Energy Resources  
11 Policy Implementation Statements 2.a and 3. We also found the  
12 county's decision failed to satisfy the compatibility criterion  
13 in Douglas County Land Use and Development Ordinance (LUDO)  
14 3.39.050.1<sup>2</sup> because of

15 "\*\* \* \* (1) the failure of the findings to address  
16 compatibility with other uses potentially permitted on  
17 adjacent land zoned FF and FG, and (2) lack of  
18 substantial evidence to support the conclusion that  
the proposed use is or can be made compatible with the  
approximately six unscreened residences with regard to  
dust and noise impacts." Vizina I, slip op at 15.

19 After our remand of Vizina I, the board of commissioners  
20 remanded the decision to the planning commission, which held a  
21 public hearing limited to the deficiencies identified in  
22 Vizina I. Record II 45-49. On November 17, 1988, the planning  
23 commission adopted an order approving the conditional use  
24 permit, with adoption of additional findings and one additional  
25 condition. The planning commission's decision was appealed to  
26 the board of commissioners by petitioners and others.

1           The board of commissioners reviewed the planning  
2 commission's decision based on the record in Vizina I and the  
3 additional record established before the planning commission on  
4 remand. The board of commissioners held a hearing at which  
5 those who qualified as parties before the planning commission  
6 could present argument. Record II 3, 13. On January 10, 1989,  
7 the board of commissioners adopted an order affirming the  
8 planning commission's decision. This appeal followed.

9           FIRST ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR

10           "The Decision is inconsistent with the Douglas County  
11 Comprehensive Plan, specifically the third policy  
12 implementation statement of the Mineral and Energy  
Resources element of the Comprehensive Plan."

13           Plan Mineral and Energy Resources Policy Implementation  
14 Statement 3 (M&E Policy Implementation 3) provides, as relevant:

15           "Prior to the County granting permits for new  
16 aggregate or mineral extraction operations, the  
17 applicant shall have met all other regulations as  
required by \* \* \* the State Department of Geology and  
Mineral Industries." Plan, p. 6-106.

18           On remand, the county adopted the following finding:

19           "1. The proposed use will meet applicable Department  
20 of Geology and Mineral Industries regulations."  
Record II 31.

21           Petitioners argue that the county's finding is inadequate  
22 because it states a conclusion without providing any  
23 explanation for how the conclusion was reached. Petitioners  
24 contend the county's finding must explain what the county found  
25 to be the facts, and also explain why those facts led to the  
26 conclusion reached by the county. Petitioners contend the

1 county's finding is insufficient to demonstrate that the  
2 proposed use will meet Department of Geology and Mineral  
3 Industries (DOGAMI) regulations because it does not  
4 (1) identify the applicable DOGAMI regulations, (2) set out  
5 facts relating to compliance with those regulations, or  
6 (3) explain why such facts demonstrate that the proposed use  
7 will comply with those regulations.

8 Petitioners further assert that applicable DOGAMI  
9 regulations require the applicant to submit a reclamation plan  
10 meeting the criteria of OAR 632-35-025, prior to issuance of  
11 any surface mining permit. Petitioners argue:

12 "As the Applicant did not submit for the County's  
13 consideration the evidence required by OAR 632-35-025,  
14 the applicable DOGAMI regulation has not been  
15 satisfied as a matter of law, and the County has no  
16 way of finding whether the Applicant will be able to  
17 reclaim the site as required by law." Petition for  
18 Review 10.

19 Intervenor argues that the record shows the county was made  
20 aware that the regulations of OAR Chapter 632, Division 30,  
21 implementing the Oregon Mined Land Reclamation Act, are the  
22 DOGAMI regulations applicable to the proposed use. Intervenor  
23 contends this Board has never held that a county must specify  
24 in its findings, by number, each regulation involved in a  
25 determination that a proposed use can meet applicable state  
26 agency regulations.

Intervenor also argues that the reclamation plan for the  
proposed use is in the record of the initial county  
proceedings. Record I 176-183. Intervenor claims there is

1 evidence in the record that this reclamation plan meets the  
2 applicable DOGAMI regulations. Intervenor points to the  
3 on-site inspection report of a DOGAMI reclamationist, which  
4 recommends DOGAMI approval of the reclamation plan.  
5 Record I 215-217. According to intervenor, "[p]etitioners have  
6 the burden of asserting and explaining specific grounds of  
7 error." Intervenor's Brief 4. Intervenor argues petitioners  
8 did not raise the issue of the adequacy of the reclamation plan  
9 before the county; and, therefore, the county was not required  
10 to specifically address the plan's adequacy in its findings.

11 We understand intervenor to argue that, where an approval  
12 standard requires the county to determine that a proposed use  
13 will meet a state agency's regulations, a general statement of  
14 that conclusion is a sufficient finding. We also understand  
15 intervenor to contend the county's findings have to identify,  
16 and address compliance with, a specific state agency regulation  
17 only if compliance with that specific regulation was raised as  
18 an issue in the county proceedings. We disagree.

19 The county's decision to approve the subject conditional  
20 use permit must be supported by findings which identify the  
21 criteria the county considers applicable, state the facts which  
22 the county relies on, and explain why those facts demonstrate  
23 the criteria are met. ORS 215.416(9); Sunnyside Neighborhood  
24 v. Clackamas Co. Comm., 280 Or 3, 20-21, 569 P2d 1063 (1977);  
25 Green v. Hayward, 275 Or 693, 706-708, 552 P2d 815 (1976);  
26 Standard Insurance Co. v. Washington County, \_\_\_ Or LUBA \_\_\_

1 (LUBA No. 87-020, September 1, 1987), slip op 21.

2 On numerous occasions, we have stated that findings which  
3 merely state the conclusion that a standard is met, and do not  
4 explain how the facts lead to that conclusion, are inadequate.  
5 McNulty v. City of Lake Oswego, 15 Or LUBA 16, 24 (1986), aff'd  
6 83 Or App 275 (1987); Bruck v. Clackamas County, 15 Or LUBA  
7 540, 541 (1987). We have previously held that where compliance  
8 with relevant comprehensive plan policies is an approval  
9 standard, a conclusional statement that the decision complies  
10 with the comprehensive plan is an insufficient finding. DLCD  
11 v. Klamath County, \_\_\_ Or LUBA \_\_\_ (LUBA No. 87-019, August 28,  
12 1987), slip op 8-9. We also stated that a county ordinance  
13 requiring gravel operations to "comply with all applicable air,  
14 noise and water quality regulations of all county, state or  
15 federal jurisdictions" requires findings that "[t]he  
16 application complies . . ." with particular environmental  
17 standards." (Emphasis added.) Allen v. Umatilla County, 14  
18 Or LUBA 749, 755 (1986).

19 We agree with petitioners the conclusional finding that  
20 "[t]he proposed use will meet applicable [DOGAMI] regulations"  
21 is insufficient to demonstrate compliance with M&E Policy  
22 Implementation 3. Where a county approval standard requires  
23 that a proposed use meet the applicable regulations of  
24 particular local, state or federal agencies, county findings  
25 must (1) identify the regulations the county considers  
26 applicable;<sup>3</sup> (2) set out any facts necessary to a

1 determination of compliance with those regulations; and  
2 (3) explain how those facts lead to a decision on  
3 compliance.<sup>4</sup> See Bowman Park v. City of Albany, 11 Or LUBA  
4 197, 221 (1984).

5 However, that the challenged county findings are inadequate  
6 to demonstrate compliance with M&E Policy Implementation 3 is  
7 not necessarily sufficient grounds for reversal or remand of  
8 the county's decision. ORS 197.835(10)(b) provides:

9 "Whenever the findings are defective because of  
10 failure to recite adequate facts or legal conclusions  
11 or failure to adequately identify the standards or  
12 their relation to the facts, but the parties identify  
13 relevant evidence in the record which clearly supports  
14 the decision or a part of the decision, the board  
shall affirm the decision or the part of the decision  
supported by the record and remand the remainder to  
the local government, with direction indicating  
appropriate remedial action."

15 In this case, the record contains an explanation by  
16 intervenor's attorney that the applicable DOGAMI regulations  
17 are found in OAR Chapter 632, Division 30, implementing the  
18 Oregon Mined Land Reclamation Act and requiring DOGAMI approval  
19 of a mined land reclamation permit (MLRP). Record II 52.  
20 Petitioners do not point to contrary evidence in the record.  
21 In fact, in the petition for review, petitioners also refer to  
22 the applicable DOGAMI regulations as being those implementing  
23 the Oregon Mined Land Reclamation Act.<sup>5</sup>

24 Intervenor also cites evidence in the record demonstrating  
25 the proposed use meets the requirements of DOGAMI regulations  
26 for obtaining a MLRP. The record contains intervenor's

1 September 22, 1987 application to DOGAMI for a MLRP, including  
2 intervenor's proposed reclamation plan. Record I 175-183. The  
3 record also contains DOGAMI reclamationist Allen H. Throop's  
4 report on his September 30, 1987 on-site inspection of the  
5 subject site. Record I 172-174. At the conclusion of the  
6 report, the reclamationist recommends that the MLRP be  
7 approved.

8 We agree with intervenor that we can infer from the DOGAMI  
9 reclamationist's recommendation of MLRP approval that he found  
10 intervenor's proposal to comply with DOGAMI regulations for  
11 MLRPs. We are cited to no evidence in the record contradicting  
12 the facts in intervenor's MLRP application, challenging  
13 Throop's qualifications as a reclamationist or otherwise  
14 detracting from the conclusion that intervenor's application  
15 complies with DOGAMI regulations. Petitioners do not present  
16 argument to demonstrate that the MLRP application in the record  
17 fails to comply with specific provisions of OAR Chapter 632,  
18 Division 30.

19 In these circumstances, we conclude the evidence identified  
20 by the parties in the record clearly supports findings that the  
21 provisions of OAR Chapter 632, Division 30 are the DOGAMI  
22 regulations applicable to the proposed use, and that the  
23 proposed use meets these regulations. Therefore, the evidence  
24 in the record clearly supports the county's conclusion that the  
25 proposed use complies with M&E Policy Implementation 3.

26 The first assignment of error is denied.

1        SECOND ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR

2            "The Decision is inconsistent with the Douglas County  
3            Comprehensive Plan, specifically the second policy  
4            implementation statement of the Mineral and Energy  
            Resources element of the Comprehensive Plan. "

5            Plan Mineral and Energy Resources Policy Implementation  
6            Statement 2 (M&E Policy Implementation 2) provides, as relevant  
7            to sections A through D of this assignment of error:

8            "Where required, review of applications for the  
9            development of aggregate resources shall consider the  
            impact of such an operation on:

10            "a. Surrounding land uses in terms of satisfying  
11            Department of Environmental Quality  
12            standards for noise, dust, visual impact as  
            well as impacts on traffic created as a  
            result of the operation.

13            " \* \* \* \* \* "

14            In Vizina I, we said:

15            "[M&E] Policy Implementation Statement 2a requires the  
16            county, in reviewing applications for the development  
17            of aggregate resources, to consider the impact of such  
18            an operation on surrounding land uses in terms of  
19            whether the proposed use will satisfy DEQ standards  
20            for noise, dust, visual and traffic impacts. Thus,  
            the county is required to make a determination in its  
            findings of whether the proposed use will meet  
            applicable DEQ standards." (Footnote omitted;  
            emphasis in original.) Vizina I, slip op at 9.

21            A. Traffic and Visual Impacts

22            On remand, the county adopted the following finding:

23            "3. There are no applicable DEQ rules or standards  
            for visual or traffic impact." Record II 31.

24            Petitioners argue this finding is inadequate to comply with  
25            M&E Policy Implementation 2.a, because the county is wrong  
26            about the existence of applicable DEQ regulations concerning

1 visual and traffic impacts. We address the DEQ regulations  
2 asserted by petitioners to be applicable below.<sup>6</sup>

3 1. OAR 340-20-120

4 With regard to traffic impacts, petitioners argue that  
5 OAR 340-20-120 applies to the proposed aggregate operation, and  
6 requires an approved traffic plan to assure attainment of air  
7 quality standards.

8 Intervenor responds that OAR 340-20-120 is not applicable  
9 to the proposed use. Intervenor contends the terms of  
10 OAR 340-20-120 make that regulation's requirement for a parking  
11 and traffic circulation plan applicable only upon a  
12 determination by the DEQ that control of parking spaces and  
13 traffic circulation is necessary in certain geographic areas.  
14 According to intervenor, there is no evidence that the county  
15 is the subject of such a determination.

16 OAR 340-20-120's requirement for a parking and traffic  
17 circulation plan is only applicable where the Environmental  
18 Quality Commission has determined that control of parking  
19 spaces and traffic circulation is necessary in specific  
20 geographic areas to ensure attainment and compliance with  
21 ambient air quality standards. OAR 340-20-120(1). Petitioners  
22 do not argue or demonstrate that the proposed use in in such an  
23 area. Petitioners have not shown the county was incorrect in  
24 concluding this rule is not applicable to the proposed use.

25 2. OAR 340-20-001 and 340-20-076

26 With regard to visual impacts, petitioners point out that

1 the proposed use includes rock crushing, which petitioners  
2 assert is identified as an air contaminant source by  
3 OAR 340-20-155, Table 1. According to petitioners,  
4 OAR 340-20-001 requires visibility impacts from air contaminant  
5 sources to be at the lowest possible level, but the county made  
6 no such finding concerning the proposed use. Petitioners also  
7 contend that OAR 340-20-276 requires new air contaminant  
8 sources to satisfy detailed visibility impact standards.  
9 According to petitioners, there is no evidence in the record  
10 that these visibility impact standards are satisfied by the  
11 proposed use.

12 Intervenor argues it is not fatal that the county did not  
13 specifically identify by number the applicable regulations in  
14 OAR Chapter 340, Division 20. Intervenor argues that rock  
15 crushers, as opposed to rock crushing, are the air contaminant  
16 sources regulated by OAR Chapter 340, Division 20. Intervenor  
17 points out that OAR 340-20-276 applies only to new air  
18 contaminant sources. Intervenor asserts that evidence in the  
19 record shows that the rock crusher which will be used as part  
20 of the proposed aggregate operation is the subject of a DEQ air  
21 contaminant discharge permit, has been found to comply with  
22 that permit and, therefore, meets the requirements of OAR  
23 Chapter 340, Division 20. Record I 219-224; Intervenor's  
24 Brief A-55.

25 Intervenor does not argue that the regulations of OAR  
26 Chapter 340, Division 20 cited by petitioners are not

1 potentially applicable DEQ regulations concerning visual  
2 impacts. Thus, intervenor effectively concedes the inadequacy  
3 of the county's conclusionary finding that there are no  
4 applicable DEQ visual impact regulations. However, we  
5 understand intervenor to argue that this aspect of the county's  
6 decision should nevertheless be affirmed because evidence in  
7 the record clearly supports a determination that the cited  
8 provisions of OAR Chapter 340, Division 20 are either  
9 inapplicable or satisfied.

10 We agree with intervenor that it is only the rock crusher  
11 to be used as part of the proposed aggregate operation that is  
12 identified by OAR 340-20-155(1), Table 1, Item 42, as an air  
13 contaminant source required to obtain an air contaminant  
14 discharge permit. We also agree with intervenor that the  
15 visibility impact analysis requirements of OAR 340-20-276 apply  
16 only to the issuance of air contaminant discharge permits for  
17 new "major sources" or "major modifications" of sources, as  
18 defined in OAR 340-20-225. Intervenor cites evidence in the  
19 record which clearly demonstrates that the rock crusher  
20 proposed to be used has obtained a DEQ air contaminant  
21 discharge permit. This evidence clearly supports the county's  
22 determination that OAR 340-20-276 is not applicable to the  
23 proposed use.

24 OAR 340-20-001 states, in relevant part:

25 "Notwithstanding the general and specific emission  
26 standards and regulations contained in this Division,  
the highest and best practicable treatment and control

1 of air contaminant emissions shall in every case be  
2 provided so as to maintain \* \* \* visibility reduction  
3 \* \* \* and other deleterious factors at the lowest  
possible levels. \* \* \* " (Emphasis added.)

4 The above-quoted regulation provides that its requirement  
5 for highest and best practicable treatment and control of air  
6 contaminant emissions applies, notwithstanding the emission  
7 standards and regulations contained elsewhere in Division 20.  
8 Thus, obtaining an air contaminant discharge permit does not  
9 automatically satisfy this regulation. We cannot determine  
10 from the county's decision or the evidence cited in the record  
11 that this regulation is not a DEQ regulation concerning visual  
12 impacts, is otherwise inapplicable to the proposed use or is  
13 satisfied by the proposed use. Therefore, the county's  
14 decision does not comply with M&E Policy Implementation 2.a  
15 with regard to OAR 340-20-001.

16 3. OAR 340-21-015

17 Petitioners contend that OAR 340-21-015(2) prohibits the  
18 emission of any air contaminant that does not meet certain  
19 visibility limitation standards and, therefore, is an  
20 applicable DEQ regulation concerning visual impacts.  
21 Petitioners assert there is no evidence in the record that the  
22 proposed use would meet these standards.

23 OAR 340-21-015 is found in a division of the DEQ rules  
24 establishing "General Emission Standards for Particulate  
25 Matter." This regulation, by its terms, applies to "new air  
26 contaminant sources" and "existing air contaminant sources."

1 Petitioners do not argue that the proposed use involves "air  
2 contaminant sources" in addition to the proposed rock crusher.  
3 Petitioners do not explain why the air contaminant discharge  
4 permit issued by DEQ does not ensure that the rock crusher  
5 proposed to be used at the site will meet this standard.<sup>7</sup> We  
6 will not make petitioners' legal arguments for petitioners.  
7 Deschutes Development v. Deschutes County, 5 Or LUBA 218, 220  
8 (1982).

9 4. OAR 340-24-010

10 Petitioners contend that OAR 340-24-010 is an applicable  
11 DEQ regulation which prohibits operation of vehicles which  
12 produce visible emissions. Petitioners argue there is no  
13 evidence that the increased truck traffic resulting from the  
14 proposed use will comply with this standard. At oral argument,  
15 petitioners maintained this regulation is applicable to diesel  
16 trucks using Steinauer Road.

17 Intervenor argues that OAR 340-24-010 is inapplicable to  
18 the proposed use because it only applies to motor vehicles  
19 driven on public roads, and the proposed use will only affect  
20 private lands and roads. According to intervenor,  
21 OAR 340-20-010 is also inapplicable because it excludes diesel  
22 vehicles, and there is evidence in the record that the vehicles  
23 used will be diesel powered vehicles that meet all DEQ  
24 standards.

25 Intervenor does not argue that OAR 340-24-010 does not  
26 concern "visual impacts," as that term is used in M&E Policy

1 Implementation 2.a. Intervenor does not cite evidence in the  
2 record clearly demonstrating that this regulation is  
3 inapplicable because the proposed use does not involve the use  
4 of motor vehicles on public roads.<sup>8</sup> However, the evidence  
5 cited by intervenor, uncontradicted by petitioners, does  
6 clearly support a determination that this regulation is  
7 inapplicable because the trucks involved in the proposed use  
8 will be diesel trucks.

9 This subassignment of error is sustained, in part, with  
10 regard to the inadequacy of the county's findings to address  
11 OAR 340-20-001.

12 B. Dust

13 The county's findings addressing compliance with DEQ dust  
14 regulations<sup>9</sup> state:

15 "The use as proposed will meet DEQ standards for \* \* \*  
16 dust \* \* \*." Record II 34.

17 1. OAR 340-21-030 and 340-21-060

18 Petitioners argue that OAR 340-21-030 prohibits the  
19 emission of particulates in excess of certain amounts.  
20 Petitioners argue that OAR 340-21-060 prohibits "fugitive  
21 emissions" from creating "nuisance conditions," as defined in  
22 OAR 340-21-050. Petitioners contend there is no evidence in  
23 the record to demonstrate that the county considered these  
24 regulations in reaching its conclusion, or that the proposed  
25 use will meet these standards.

26 Intervenor argues there is uncontraverted evidence in the

1 record that the rock crusher to be used as part of the proposed  
2 agregate operation meets these DEQ standards. Intervenor  
3 points out that the DEQ Air Contaminant Discharge Permit  
4 Application Review Report for the rock crusher states that  
5 fugitive emissions are considered negligibile when the plant is  
6 operated in compliance with permit conditions," and recommends  
7 approval of the permit. Record II 223. Intervenor notes that  
8 the rock crusher's approved air contaminant discharge permit  
9 includes limits on emissions of particulates and fugitive  
10 emissions. Record II 220. Finally, intervenor points out that  
11 the November 5, 1987 DEQ source inspection report found the  
12 rock crusher to be operating in compliance with the permit  
13 conditions and notes "no dust problem." Record II 224.

14 We agree with intervenor that there is substantial evidence  
15 in the record to support the county's decision that the  
16 proposed use meets OAR 340-20-030 and 340-20-060 with regard to  
17 the rock crusher to be used in the aggregate operation.  
18 Petitioners present no argument and cite no evidence that these  
19 regulations apply to aspects of the proposed use other than the  
20 rock crusher.

21 2. OAR 340-31-015

22 Petitioners maintain that OAR 340-15-015 prohibits  
23 concentrations of particulates in excess of certain specified  
24 levels. Petitioners argue the decision lacks findings of fact  
25 specifically showing how the county reached the conclusion this  
26 standard is met by the proposed use. Petitioners also argue

1 there is nothing in the record to show the county considered  
2 the application of this regulation to the proposed use.

3 Intervenor argues that OAR 340-31-015 is not applicable to  
4 the proposed use. Intervenor points out that OAR Chapter 340,  
5 Division 31 deals with ambient air quality. Intervenor notes  
6 that the purpose statement for this division provides that its  
7 ambient air quality standards are not generally meant to be  
8 used as a means of determining the acceptability of emissions  
9 from a particular source. OAR 340-31-010(2). Intervenor  
10 argues that when an air contaminant source operates under a DEQ  
11 air contaminant discharge permit, it can be presumed that  
12 OAR 340-31-015 does not apply unless the source is deemed  
13 singularly responsible for causing violations of ambient air  
14 quality standards. According to intervenor, there is no  
15 evidence in the record that meeting ambient air quality  
16 standards is a problem in the county, or that the subject rock  
17 crusher is singularly responsible for any violations.

18 Section (2) of OAR 340-31-015 ("Purpose and Scope of  
19 Ambient Air Quality Standards") provides:

20 "Ambient air quality standards are not generally  
21 applicable as a means of determining the acceptability  
22 or unacceptability of emissions from specific sources  
23 of air contamination. \* \* \* However, in the case of a  
24 source or sources which are deemed to be singularly  
25 responsible for ambient air quality standards being  
exceeded in a particular locality, the violation of  
such standards shall be due cause for imposing  
emission standards more stringent than those generally  
applied to the class of sources involved. \* \* \* "

26 It is clear from the above-quoted rule provision that

1 OAR 340-31-015 is not a standard generally applicable to the  
2 approval of a particular use involving an air contaminant  
3 source. Petitioners neither argue nor cite evidence in the  
4 record demonstrating that, because ambient air quality  
5 standards would be violated in the subject area due to the  
6 proposed use, this regulation is applicable in this case.  
7 Therefore, the county's failure to discuss compliance with this  
8 regulation in its findings, and the absence of evidence in the  
9 record demonstrating consideration of this regulation, are not  
10 grounds for reversal or remand of the county's decision.

11 This subassignment of error is denied.

12 C. Noise

13 The county's finding addressing compliance with DEQ noise  
14 regulations<sup>10</sup> states:

15 "The use as proposed will meet DEQ standards for noise  
16 \* \* \*." Record II 34.

17 Petitioners argue the county's finding is simply a  
18 conclusion that DEQ noise standards will be satisfied by the  
19 proposed use. Petitioners state that OAR 340-35-035  
20 establishes specific noise pollution standards for the proposed  
21 use. According to petitioners, the county's finding is  
22 inadequate because it does not identify the applicable DEQ  
23 regulations, state the facts the county found to be true or  
24 explain how those regulations will be met. Petitioners contend  
25 that mere recitations of the evidence offered by Harry Reeder  
26 on behalf of intervenor are not adequate findings.

1           Intervenor argues there is evidence in the record which  
2 supports a determination that the proposed use will comply with  
3 OAR 340-35-035. Intervenor argues that the county was entitled  
4 to rely on the expert testimony of Reeder, a registered  
5 acoustical engineer, who based his testimony on field  
6 measurements, calculations and a visit to the subject site.  
7 According to intervenor, Reeder's testimony states the noise  
8 level limit established by OAR 340-35-035(1)(d) for blasting,  
9 and establishes that the proposed use will meet that limit.  
10 Intervenor also contends Reeder's testimony establishes that  
11 DEQ's lowest noise standard for commercial/industrial uses,  
12 45 dBA, is for quiet areas at night. According to intervenor,  
13 Reeder testified that the proposed use would produce about  
14 20 dBA from normal operations, and 25-30 dBA from blasting, as  
15 measured at the nearest down valley house.

16           As we explained under the first assignment of error, supra,  
17 such a conclusion of compliance with state agency regulations  
18 is inadequate because it does not identify the regulations the  
19 county considers applicable, set out any facts necessary to a  
20 determination of compliance with those regulations, or explain  
21 how those facts lead to a decision on compliance. However, as  
22 we also stated under the first assignment, an inadequate  
23 finding is not necessarily sufficient grounds for reversal or  
24 remand of the county's decision. Under ORS 197.835(10)(b), we  
25 are nevertheless required to affirm this aspect of the county's  
26 decision if the parties identify evidence in the record which

1 clearly supports the decision.

2 In this case, we find that the uncontraverted testimony of  
3 Reeder, an expert whose qualifications are not contested by  
4 petitioners, clearly supports a determination that the proposed  
5 use will meet the DEQ noise standards for blasting found in  
6 OAR 340-35-035(1)(d)(A). Intervenor's Brief A-39 to A-41.  
7 Reeder's testimony also establishes that the proposed use will  
8 meet DEQ's standards for allowable noise levels from industrial  
9 sources as measured in quiet areas. OAR 340-35-035(1)(c),  
10 Table 9. Intervenor's Brief A-36 to A-37. Thus, we can also  
11 conclude that the proposed use would meet the less stringent  
12 standards for allowable noise levels from existing or new noise  
13 sources as measured at the nearest noise sensitive property.  
14 OAR 340-35-035(1)(a), Table 7 and 340-35-035(1)(b), Table 8.

15 However, OAR 340-35-035(1)(b)(B) imposes an additional  
16 requirement on new industrial noise sources located on  
17 previously unused sites. OAR 340-35-015(47) defines  
18 "previously unused industrial or commercial site" as:

19 " \* \* \* property which has not been used by any  
20 industrial or commercial noise source during the 20  
21 years immediately preceding commencement of  
construction of a new industrial or commercial source  
on that property. \* \* \* "

22 The county's original February 17, 1988 decision includes a  
23 finding that "[a] shale pit has been worked on the subject  
24 property for at least 30 years." Record I 97. However, the  
25 DOGAMI site inspection report in the record states the proposed  
26 aggregate operation includes two extraction sites - Site A,

1 which will be used on a one-time basis for no more than a year;  
2 and Site B, about 1/2 mile away, which is intended as the  
3 long-term aggregate source for the proposed use. Record I 100,  
4 172. The report further states it is Site A which has been  
5 mined since 1953. The parties identify no evidence in the  
6 record clearly supporting a determination that Site B is not a  
7 previously unused industrial or commercial site.

8 OAR 340-35-035(1)(b)(B) provides that the noise levels  
9 generated or indirectly caused by operation of a new industrial  
10 or commercial noise source on a previously unused site cannot  
11 increase certain ambient statistical noise levels by more than  
12 10 dBA in any one hour, as measured at an appropriate measuring  
13 point specified in OAR 340-35-035(3)(b).<sup>11</sup> The parties do  
14 not identify evidence in the record which clearly supports a  
15 determination that the proposed use satisfies  
16 OAR 340-35-035(1)(b)(B), or that OAR 340-35-035(1)(b)(B) is not  
17 applicable to the proposed use.<sup>12</sup>

18 This subassignment of error is sustained with regard to the  
19 county's failure to address the applicability and satisfaction  
20 of the DEQ noise standard in OAR 340-35-035(1)(b)(B) with  
21 regard to Site B.

22 D. Ground Water Impacts

23 After our remand in Vizina I, the county adopted the  
24 following finding:

25 "The use as proposed will meet DEQ standards for \* \* \*  
26 water quality. \* \* \*" Record II 34.

1           Petitioners argue that although the county adopted the  
2 above-quoted conclusionary finding, it is apparent that the  
3 county ignored applicable DEQ regulations concerning ground  
4 water impacts. Petitioners contend "the issue of ground water  
5 impacts is a required approval criterion." Petition for  
6 Review 14. Petitioners argue the county's finding that waste  
7 water discharge from the proposed use is subject to a DEQ  
8 permit (Record I 101) does not demonstrate that DEQ regulations  
9 concerning ground water will be satisfied. Petitioners further  
10 argue that because the county did not consider the quantity or  
11 quality of the ground water at the subject site, it cannot  
12 determine whether the proposed use will harm the groundwater.  
13 Petitioners specifically claim that the county failed to  
14 address or find compliance with OAR 340-41-029(2)(A),  
15 340-41-120(3)(C) and 340-45-015(1)(D).

16           Intervenor argues that M&E Policy Implementation 2.a does  
17 not require consideration of DEQ water quality standards.  
18 Intervenor argues that consideration of whether the proposed  
19 use satisfies DEQ water quality standards was not one of the  
20 bases for our remand of the county's decision in Vizina I.  
21 According to intervenor, because the county was not required to  
22 determine compliance of the proposed use with DEQ water quality  
23 standards, the county's mention of it in its finding is mere  
24 surplusage.

25           Both the Court of Appeals and LUBA have determined that the  
26 doctrine of "waiver" applies to LUBA's proceedings. Under the

1 doctrine of waiver, after a land use decision is remanded by  
2 LUBA and a local government adopts a decision on remand, a  
3 party is precluded from raising issues in a subsequent LUBA  
4 appeal which could have been raised in the first LUBA appeal.  
5 Mill Creek Glen Protection Assoc. v. Umatilla Co., 88 Or App  
6 522, 526-527, 746 P2d 728 (1987); Hearne v. Baker County, 89  
7 Or App 282, 288, 748 P2d 1016, rev den 304 Or 576 (1988);  
8 Portland Audubon v. Clackamas County, 14 Or LUBA 433, 436-437,  
9 aff'd 80 Or App 593 (1986).

10 Petitioners' second assignment of error claims that the  
11 decision is inconsistent with M&E Policy Implementation 2.<sup>13</sup>  
12 The only issue raised by petitioners in Vizina I with regard to  
13 compliance with M&E Policy Implementation 2 was the lack of  
14 findings addressing whether the proposed use will satisfy DEQ  
15 standards for noise, dust, visual and traffic impacts, as  
16 required by M&E Policy Implementation 2.a. Petitioners do not  
17 argue the requirement of M&E Policy Implementation 2 for  
18 findings on compliance with DEQ ground water standards could  
19 not have been raised in the first appeal to LUBA. Petitioners  
20 cannot claim for the first time here that M&E Policy  
21 Implementation 2 requires a determination of whether the  
22 proposed use complies with DEQ ground water standards.<sup>14</sup>

23 This subassignment of error is denied.

24 E. Destruction of Wildlife Habitat

25 Petitioners argue that M&E Policy Implementation 2 requires  
26 consideration of the impacts of the proposed use on destruction

1 of wildlife habitat. Petitioners further argue there is no  
2 evidence in the record that the wildlife habitat issue was  
3 considered by the county or that the proposed use complies with  
4 this standard.

5 Intervenor argues that consideration of impacts of the  
6 proposed use on destruction of wildlife habitat is required by  
7 M&E Policy Implementation 2.c, which was not a subject of the  
8 remand in Vizina I. Intervenor argues that because petitioners  
9 did not raise this issue in their first appeal to LUBA, they  
10 are precluded from raising it in this second appeal  
11 proceeding.

12 We agree with intervenor that this issue was not raised in  
13 Vizina I. Therefore, for the reasons stated under the previous  
14 subassignment of error, this issue cannot be raised in this  
15 appeal.

16 This subassignment of error is denied.

17 The second assignment of error is sustained in part.

18 FOURTH ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR

19 "The Decision is inconsistent with Sections 3.3.150  
20 and 3.5.125 of the Land Use and Development Ordinance  
21 which provide that a Conditional Use Permit in the FF  
22 and FG zones cannot be granted unless granting the  
23 permit would not materially alter the stability of the  
24 overall land use pattern of the area."

23 FIFTH ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR

24 "The Decision is in violation of Sections 3.3.150 and  
25 3.5.125 of the Douglas County Land Use and Development  
26 Ordinance in that the Decision does not adequately  
address the issue of interference of the proposed  
quarry on forest and farm uses and practices on  
adjacent lands devoted, or suitable, for such uses."

1           These assignments of error were raised by petitioners, and  
2 decided adversely to them, in their first appeal. See  
3 Vizina I, slip op at 10-11. Petitioners' argument under these  
4 assignments of error is based entirely on the findings and  
5 record of the county's original February 17, 1988 decision in  
6 this matter. Petitioners do not argue that the county's  
7 proceedings on remand altered its decision in any way relevant  
8 to the issues sought to be raised in these assignments of  
9 error.<sup>15</sup> We decline to reconsider the ruling on these issues  
10 made in Vizina I.

11           The fourth and fifth assignments of error are denied.

12           SIXTH ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR

13           "The Decision is in violation of the County's Land Use  
14 and Development Ordinance, Section 3.39.050(1), in  
15 that the County did not adopt adequate findings,  
16 supported by substantial evidence, that the proposed  
quarry is or will be made compatible with existing  
adjacent permitted uses and other uses permitted in  
the underlying FF and FG zones."

17           LUDO 3.39.050.1 requires that any proposed conditional use  
18 meet the following approval criterion:

19           "The proposed use is or may be made compatible with  
20 existing adjacent permitted uses and other uses  
permitted in the underlying zone."

21           Petitioners first complain that the county's findings are  
22 generally inadequate because the county nowhere explains what  
23 it means by compatibility. Petitioners argue this failure  
24 prevents proper review of the decision by LUBA.

25           The county's decision on remand includes the following  
26 finding:

1 "In our opinion compatibility does not mean that  
2 absolutely no impact could result to adjoining uses.  
3 Some impact must be permissible, or no use could be  
4 made of any property. The question is whether the  
5 impact would significantly interfere with those  
6 uses." Record II 34.

7 It is clear from the findings quoted above that the county  
8 did explain the definition of compatibility it applied in  
9 making its decision. We, therefore, reject petitioners'  
10 challenge that the county erred by failing to explain its  
11 interpretation of "compatibility."

12 A. Six Unscreened Residences

13 In Vizina I, we found the county's decision failed to  
14 comply with LUDO 3.39.050.1 in part because of a lack of  
15 substantial evidence in the record to support the county's  
16 determination that the proposed use is or can be made  
17 compatible with approximately six unscreened residences, with  
18 regard to dust and noise impacts. Vizina I, at slip op 14-15.

19 Petitioners recognize that the county received on remand  
20 additional evidence relating to dust and noise impacts of the  
21 proposed use. However, petitioners do not attack the  
22 substantiality of that evidence to support the county's  
23 decision, but rather attack the adequacy of the county findings  
24 on dust and noise impacts. See Petition for Review 20-21.

25 In Vizina I, slip op at 13, we specifically found that the  
26 county's findings concerning compatibility of the proposed use  
with existing adjacent uses regarding noise and dust impacts  
were adequate to demonstrate compliance with LUDO 3.39.050.1.

1 We decline to reconsider our ruling on this issue.

2 This subassignment of error is denied.

3 B. Other Uses Permitted in the FG and FF Zones

4 In Vizina I, slip op at 13, we also stated that the  
5 county's findings failed to comply with LUDO 3.39.050.1 because  
6 "they do not address compatibility with other uses of adjacent  
7 property potentially permitted under the FF and FG zones."

8 In its decision on remand, the county adopted the following  
9 additional findings<sup>16</sup> relevant to compatibility of the  
10 proposed use with other uses potentially permitted in the FG  
11 and FF zones:

12 " \* \* \* We have also imposed stringent conditions on  
13 the Applicant's hours of operation, quantity of rock  
14 to be removed, road maintenance, and operation of  
equipment to assure compatibility with other uses.  
\* \* \*

15 " \* \* \* \* \*

16 " \* \* \* The use as proposed will meet DEQ standards  
17 for noise, dust, air, and water quality. Those DEQ  
standards, together with the additional conditions  
18 imposed and to be imposed herein, are adequate to  
assure compatibility with adjacent \* \* \* future  
19 permissible FF and FG uses \* \* \*." Record II 33-34.

20 Petitioners contend the county's findings are inadequate  
21 because they are conclusionary. Petitioners argue that a  
22 compatibility criterion is not satisfied by a finding merely  
23 stating the proposed use will be compatible, citing Okeson v.  
24 Union County, 10 Or LUBA 1 (1983). Petitioners also argue that  
25 compliance with DEQ regulations is not in itself sufficient to  
26 assure compatibility. Finally, petitioners argue that no

1 evidence was introduced on remand that the proposed use will be  
2 compatible with other permitted uses in the FG and FF zones  
3 with regard to "visibility, traffic, air quality, ground water  
4 and wildlife habitat impacts." Petition for Review 21.

5 Intervenor disagrees that the county's determination of  
6 compatibility is based solely on its finding that the proposed  
7 use will comply with certain DEQ regulations. Intervenor  
8 argues this can be determined from reviewing the relevant  
9 testimony of Brundige and Reeder concerning dust and noise.  
10 Intervenor also argues that petitioners are precluded from  
11 arguing that the county erred by not considering visibility,  
12 traffic, air quality, ground water and wildlife habitat in  
13 assessing compatibility because those issues were not included  
14 in the scope of our remand in Vizina I. Intervenor contends  
15 the county was only required to consider the issues of dust and  
16 noise on remand. Intervenor argues in the alternative, without  
17 explanation, that the county's findings and evidence more than  
18 amply deal with these other issues.

19 Intervenor is mistaken about the scope of our remand in  
20 Vizina I. We found that the county had failed to adopt any  
21 findings concerning compatibility of the proposed use with uses  
22 permitted in the the FG and FF zones, other than the existing  
23 rural residences. The requirement that the county address  
24 compatibility of the proposed use with these other potentially  
25 permitted uses was not limited to the issues of dust and  
26 noise.

1 As we explained under the first assignment of error,  
2 findings must state the facts the county believed to be true  
3 and explain how those facts lead to the conclusion reached. In  
4 this case, the LUDO 3.39.050.1 standard requiring that this  
5 proposed conditional use is or may be made compatible with uses  
6 potentially permitted in the FG and FF zone requires findings  
7 which (1) identify the potentially permitted uses considered by  
8 the county; (2) set out the facts relied on by the county  
9 concerning the impacts of the proposed use; and (3) explain why  
10 those facts led the county to its conclusion on compatibility.  
11 See Champion International v. Douglas County, \_\_\_ Or LUBA \_\_\_  
12 (LUBA No. 87-047, October 5, 1987), slip op 18; Marineau v.  
13 City of Bandon, 15 Or LUBA 375, 379-380 (1987).

14 We agree with petitioners that a mere conclusory  
15 statement that a proposed use is compatible with other uses is  
16 inadequate to show compliance with an approval standard  
17 requiring compatibility. Okeson v. Union County, 10 Or LUBA  
18 at 4. However, in this case, the county's findings do not  
19 simply state the conclusion that the proposed use is compatible  
20 with other potentially permissible FG and FF uses. The  
21 findings explain that the county bases its conclusion on  
22 determinations that the proposed use will meet DEQ standards  
23 for noise, dust, air and water quality, and on conditions  
24 imposed concerning hours of operation, quantity of rock  
25 removed, road maintenance and equipment operation.  
26 Record II 33-34.

1           However, as we determined under sections B and C of the  
2 second assignment of error, the county's finding that the  
3 proposed use will meet DEQ regulations for noise and dust is  
4 itself impermissibly conclusionary. The same is true of the  
5 county's finding concerning the satisfaction of DEQ air and  
6 water quality regulations. Thus, the county's determination of  
7 compatibility with regard to each of these impacts can be  
8 affirmed only if the parties identify evidence in the record  
9 which clearly supports that determination. ORS 197.835(10)(b).

10           Under section B of the second assignment of error, we  
11 affirmed the county's conclusion that the proposed use will  
12 meet DEQ dust standards. Intervenor also identifies  
13 uncontraverted testimony in the record that compliance with DEQ  
14 dust standards will protect adjacent properties from all dust  
15 impacts. Intervenor's Brief A-55 to A-57. We find that the  
16 county's determination of compatibility with regard to dust is  
17 clearly supported by the evidence.

18           However, under section C of the second assignment of error,  
19 we found the county's determination that the proposed use  
20 complies with DEQ noise regulations was not clearly supported  
21 by the cited evidence in the record. Therefore, the county  
22 cannot rely on that determination to establish compatibility of  
23 the proposed use with other uses potentially permitted in the  
24 FG and FF zones with regard to noise.

25           With regard to compliance of the proposed use with DEQ  
26 water quality regulations, intervenor cites testimony of Frank

1 Brundige, an experienced aggregate operator, that the proposed  
2 use will meet all DEQ standards for wastewater discharge, and  
3 that those standards are adequate to protect all the uses which  
4 might be permitted around the subject property in the future.  
5 Intervenor's Brief A-58 to A-59. Intervenor also cites the  
6 DOGAMI site inspection report stating that there are no  
7 drainages affected by the operation, and will be no discharge  
8 of wastewater from the site into the waters of the state.  
9 Record I 216. In the absence of a challenge to Brundige's  
10 qualifications or an identification of contrary evidence in the  
11 record by petitioners, we conclude that the county's  
12 determination of compatibility of the proposed use with other  
13 potentially permitted uses with regard to water quality is  
14 clearly supported by evidence in the record.

15 With regard to compliance of the proposed use with DEQ air  
16 quality regulations, we found under the second assignment of  
17 error the county's determination that the proposed use complies  
18 with DEQ visual impact regulations was not clearly supported by  
19 the cited evidence in the record. Therefore, the county cannot  
20 rely on that determination to establish compatibility of the  
21 proposed use with other potentially permitted uses with regard  
22 to visual impacts. As to DEQ air quality standards other than  
23 those concerning dust or visibility, we are not cited to  
24 evidence in the record that clearly supports a determination  
25 that the proposed use will meet such standards, or to clear  
26 evidence that such standards are sufficient to assure

1 compatibility with potentially permitted uses with regard to  
2 air quality impacts other than dust.

3 Petitioners argue that in addition to the impacts discussed  
4 above, the county's findings on compatibility with potentially  
5 permitted uses in the FG and FF zones must also consider  
6 traffic and wildlife habitat impacts. Intervenor identifies no  
7 relevant findings on the compatibility of the proposed use with  
8 potentially permitted uses with regard to these issues. The  
9 parties do not identify evidence in the record which would  
10 clearly support such a determination of compatibility.

11 In summary, the county's findings are inadequate to  
12 demonstrate compatibility of the proposed use with other uses  
13 potentially permissible in the FG and FF zones. However, the  
14 parties cite evidence in the record which clearly supports such  
15 a determination with regard to dust and water quality. On  
16 remand, the county must adopt findings demonstrating that the  
17 proposed use is compatible with potentially permissible uses in  
18 the FG and FF zones with regard to noise, air quality (other  
19 than dust), traffic and wildlife habitat impacts.

20 This subassignment of error is sustained in part.

21 The sixth assignment of error is sustained in part.

22 THIRD ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR

23 "The Decision impermissibly uses the imposition of  
24 conditions subsequent as a means to defer  
25 determinations of compliance with the mandatory  
approval criteria applicable to Conditional Use  
Permits, Douglas County Land Use Ordinance Article 39."

26 Under this assignment of error, petitioners generally

1 contend that the county may not defer a determination of  
2 compliance with a mandatory approval criterion through the  
3 imposition of conditions at the time of conditional use permit  
4 approval. We consider each condition challenged by  
5 petitioners separately below.

6 A. Dust Abatement Condition

7 The county imposed the following condition in its original  
8 February 17, 1988 order approving the conditional use permit:

9 "9. Road dust from truck traffic on the access road  
10 shall be abated by the application of oil based  
11 dust preventative." Record I 102.

12 In its January 10, 1989 order on remand, the county "reminded"  
13 the applicant that the previously imposed conditions remain in  
14 effect. Record II 3.

15 Petitioners argue that the above-quoted condition is  
16 deficient to ensure compliance with applicable DEQ dust  
17 regulations because

18 "it does not articulate the appropriate DEQ dust  
19 abatement standard or advise the Applicant how much  
20 preventative is to be applied or how frequently the  
21 dust preventative is to be applied." Petition for  
22 Review 17.

23 We understand petitioners to contend (1) that the county  
24 has deferred the determination of compatibility of the proposed  
25 use with other permissible uses with regard to dust impacts,  
26 required by LUDO 3.39.050.1, by relying on the challenged  
condition to ensure future compatibility with regard to dust;  
and (2) that the challenged condition does not ensure  
compatibility because it is not sufficient to ensure compliance

1 with DEQ dust regulations.

2 We concluded under the sixth assignment of error that the  
3 county has determined the proposed use will be compatible with  
4 other permissible uses with regard to dust impacts, based on  
5 the county's determination that the proposed use will comply  
6 with DEQ dust regulations. We upheld the latter county  
7 determination in section B of the second assignment of error.  
8 Petitioners do not demonstrate that these county compatibility  
9 determinations with regard to dust impacts are dependent upon  
10 imposition of the challenged condition.

11 This subassignment of error is denied.

12 B. Noise Reduction Condition

13 The county imposed the following condition in its original  
14 February 17, 1988 order approving the conditional use permit,  
15 and stated in the order on remand that it continues to apply:

16 "2. The equipment used at the site shall be muffled  
17 to the extent possible." Record I 102.

18 We understand petitioners to argue that the county  
19 determination of compatibility of the proposed use with other  
20 permissible uses with regard to noise, required by  
21 LUDO 3.39.050.1, must be based on a determination that the  
22 proposed use will not produce noise in excess of the limits  
23 established by OAR 340-35-035. Petitioners further argue the  
24 challenged condition is not adequate to ensure compliance with  
25 this DEQ noise regulation because it simply requires equipment  
26 used at the subject site be muffled "to the extent possible."

1 We found under the sixth assignment of error that the  
2 county's determination of compatibility of the proposed use  
3 with other permissible uses with regard to noise is inadequate  
4 because it relies on a determination of the proposed use's  
5 ability to comply with DEQ noise standards which we found  
6 inadequate in section C of the second assignment of error. The  
7 county's failure to determine that the proposed use can comply  
8 with OAR 340-35-035(1)(b)(B) identified in section C of the  
9 second assignment of error is not remedied by the imposition of  
10 the challenged condition.

11 This subassignment of error is sustained.

12 C. Compliance With DOGAMI Regulations Condition

13 Another condition imposed by the county in its initial  
14 order approving the conditional use permit and retained in its  
15 January 10, 1989 order on remand provides:

16 "The quarry operation shall be conducted in compliance  
17 with Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
18 permit regulations." Record I 102.

18 According to petitioners, if the applicant cannot  
19 demonstrate that he can mine and reclaim the subject property  
20 consistent with DOGAMI standards, the county cannot approve a  
21 conditional use permit for the proposed use by conditioning  
22 that approval on future compliance with DOGAMI regulations.

23 Intervenor argues that the county made the required  
24 determination of compliance with DOGAMI regulations, based on  
25 substantial evidence in the record, and has not deferred that  
26 determination through imposition of the challenged condition.

1 Under the first assignment of error, supra, we determined  
2 the county satisfied the requirement of M&E Policy  
3 Implementation 3 that it determine the proposed use will meet  
4 applicable DOGAMI regulations. Thus, the condition imposed  
5 does not substitute for the required determination of  
6 compliance.

7 This subassignment of error is denied.

8 The third assignment of error is sustained in part.

9 SEVENTH ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR

10 "The Decision violates Section 2.200(3)(b) [sic  
11 2.300(3)(b)] of the Douglas County Land Use and  
12 Development Ordinance in that the Decision adopted the  
Findings of the Planning Commission at a hearing  
colored by bias on the part of one Commissioner."

13 Petitioners contend that LUDO 2.300(3)(b) provides that no  
14 member of a decision making body shall take part in "any  
15 proceeding in which such member has bias \* \* \*." Petitioners  
16 argue this provision was violated because a member of the  
17 planning commission participated in the planning commission  
18 hearing even though he had excused himself from voting at an  
19 earlier hearing because of a past association with counsel for  
20 the applicant.

21 Petitioners argue that the planning commission member in  
22 question should not have been allowed to participate in the  
23 planning commission hearing on remand simply because he excused  
24 himself from participation in a previous hearing due to a prior  
25 association with counsel for a party to the proceeding.  
26 Petitioners do not argue that the planning commission member in

1 question was biased. In the absence of such argument,  
2 petitioners provide no basis for finding a violation of  
3 LUDO 2.300(3)(b).

4 The seventh assignment of error is denied.

5 EIGHTH ASSIGNMENT OF ERROR

6 "The Decision violated Section 2.300(3)(i) of the  
7 Douglas County Land Use Development Ordinance in that  
8 the County allowed a planning commissioner to view the  
9 site of the proposed quarry without giving the  
10 Petitioners an opportunity to offer rebuttal evidence  
11 and testimony, or to respond to such evidence."

12 LUDO 2.300(3)(i) provides that the approving authority, in  
13 conducting a hearing, shall:

14 "Allow the parties to offer rebuttal evidence and  
15 testimony, and to respond to any additional evidence.  
16 The scope and extent of rebuttal shall be determined  
17 by the Approving Authority."

18 Petitioners argue that the planning commission violated  
19 LUDO 2.300(3)(i) by allowing a commissioner to present evidence  
20 obtained at a view of the subject property without allowing  
21 petitioners to rebut or comment on this evidence. Petitioners  
22 assert that LUBA has held that if decision makers visit a site  
23 that is the subject of a land use permit application, they must  
24 explain to all parties the information obtained from the site  
25 visit, and allow all parties the opportunity to rebut such  
26 information. According to petitioners, if a decision maker  
obtains information relevant to a land use application, without  
giving interested parties an opportunity to rebut such  
evidence, those interested parties are substantially prejudiced.

Intervenor concedes that a planning commission member was

1 allowed to comment on his view of the subject site at a time  
2 when the hearing had been closed to further input by  
3 petitioners. However, intervenor points out that the board of  
4 commissioners found, upon reviewing the entire record, that the  
5 facts recited by that member were already in the record.  
6 Intervenor argues that the board of commissioners' finding is  
7 equivalent to a ruling of harmless error. Intervenor contends  
8 that petitioners' challenge should be rejected because they do  
9 not contest this finding by the board of commissioners.

10 The board of commissioners considered this issue and  
11 adopted the following finding:

12 "The individual Planning Commissioner who viewed the  
13 site and recited what he found, did so at a time no  
14 rebutting testimony [was] allowed. However, upon  
15 review of the entire record, we find that the facts  
16 recited by the Commissioner appear elsewhere in the  
record and substantially the same findings could have  
been entered without the evidence presented by the  
Commissioner." Record II 2-3.

17 The board of commissioners effectively conceded that the  
18 planning commission erred by not allowing rebuttal to the  
19 commissioner's recitation of his observations, but concluded  
20 this error was harmless because the facts given by the planning  
21 commissioner were already in the record. Petitioners do not  
22 challenge this determination by arguing either (1) the planning  
23 commissioner presented facts not already in the record, or  
24 (2) even if the facts were already in the record, it was still  
25 prejudicial to petitioners' rights not to be able to rebut the  
26 planning commissioner's testimony. Petitioners, therefore, do

1 not explain how the board of commissioners' decision is error.

2 The eighth assignment of error is denied.

3 The county's decision is remanded.

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FOOTNOTES

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3 1  
4 The county record in Vizina I is included in the county  
5 record in this review proceeding, and shall be cited as  
6 "Record I." The record compiled by the county after our remand  
7 in Vizina I shall be cited as Record II.

8 2  
9 LUDO 3.39.050.1 provides in part:  
10 "The Approving Authority may grant a request for  
11 conditional use approval if \* \* \*:

12 "1. The proposed use is or may be made compatible  
13 with existing adjacent permitted uses and other  
14 uses permitted in the underlying zone.

15 " \* \* \* \* \*"

16 3  
17 While it may not always be essential to include numerical  
18 citations to each regulation considered applicable, so long as  
19 the applicable regulations are identified in some manner in the  
20 decision, we note that our review of a decision is facilitated  
21 by accurate, specific citations of applicable standards or  
22 criteria.

23 4  
24 In addition, we note that if compliance with a particular  
25 applicable regulation is raised as an issue in the county  
26 proceedings, the county must respond in its findings to the  
27 specific issue raised. City of Wood Village v. Portland Metro.  
28 Area LGBC, 48 Or App 79, 87, 616 P2d 528 (1980); Norvell v.  
29 Portland Area LGBC, 43 Or App 849, 853, 604 P2d 896 (1979);  
30 Allen v. Umatilla County, supra.

31 5  
32 OAR Chapter 632, Division 30 applies to all new mineral  
33 products operations except coal and metal-bearing ore  
34 operations. OAR Chapter 632, Division 35 contains parallel  
35 regulations which apply to new coal and metal-bearing ore  
36 operations. In their brief, petitioners cite Division 35 as  
37 the applicable division. This appears to be a typographical  
38 error or an oversight on their part.

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3 OAR 340-35-035(1)(b)(B) provides in relevant part:

4 "New Sources Located on Previously Unused Site.

5 "(i) No person owning or controlling a new industrial  
6 or commercial noise source located on a  
7 previously unused industrial or commercial site  
8 shall cause or permit the operation of that  
9 noise source if the noise levels generated or  
10 indirectly caused by that noise source increase  
11 the ambient statistical noise levels L<sub>10</sub> or  
12 L<sub>50</sub>, by more than 10 dBA in any one hour,  
13 \* \* \* as specified in subsection (3)(b) of this  
14 rule.

15 "(ii) The ambient statistical noise level of a new  
16 industrial or commercial noise source on a  
17 previously unused industrial or commercial site  
18 shall include all noises generated or indirectly  
19 caused by or attributable to that source,  
20 including all of its related activities. \* \* \*"

21 OAR 340-35-015(59) defines "statistical noise level" as:

22 "\* \* \* the Noise Level which is equalled or exceeded a  
23 stated percentage of the time. An L<sub>10</sub> = 65 dBA  
24 implies that in any hour of the day 65 dBA can be  
25 equalled or exceeded only 10 percent of the time, or  
26 for six minutes."

27 12

28 The evidence to which we are cited in the record appears to  
29 suggest that this standard, if applicable to the proposed use,  
30 might not be met. At one point, Reeder testified that the  
31 sound level the six unscreened residences down the valley will  
32 hear from the proposed use is 10 to 12 dBA. Intervenor's Brief  
33 A-37 to A-38. At another point, Reeder testified that the  
34 noise levels to be expected at the down valley house nearest to  
35 the proposed operation would be around 20 dBA from normal  
36 operations, maybe 25 to 30 dBA from blasting. Intervenor's  
37 Brief A-41 to A-42.

38 13

39 In their petition for review, petitioners also argue that  
40 failure to make specific findings showing adequate protection  
41 of water quality violates statewide land use planning goals.  
42 This claim also was not raised in Vizina I. However, in any

1 case, the county's comprehensive plan and land use regulations  
2 have been acknowledged by the Land Conservation and Development  
3 Commission, and the goals are not approval standards for land  
4 use decisions made under acknowledged plans and regulations.  
5 ORS 197.175(2)(d), 197.835(3).

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5 However, petitioners' sixth assignment of error concerning  
6 compliance with LUDO 3.39.050.1 is also based in part on their  
7 arguments under this subassignment concerning the adequacy of  
8 the county's finding that the proposed use will meet DEQ water  
9 quality standards. If relevant, and not precluded by waiver,  
10 we will consider petitioners' arguments under that assignment  
11 of error.

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10 We note that the use approved by the county in its  
11 January 10, 1989 order is the same as that approved by the  
12 county's November 17, 1988 order, save that an additional  
13 condition requiring preservation of the trees on intervenor's  
14 property to the south of the quarry site was added by the more  
15 recent order. Record II 3. Furthermore, the board of  
16 commissioners specifically limited the scope of the issues to  
17 be considered by the planning commission on remand, and the  
18 planning commission specifically limited the scope of its  
19 public hearing on remand, to those issues which were the bases  
20 for our remand in Vizina I. Record II 44-45, 48.

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17 As we noted in n 8 and n 9, supra, the "Findings of Fact"  
18 section of the county's decision also includes lengthy  
19 descriptions of testimony received on the dust and noise  
20 issues. For the reasons stated in n 8, we do not consider  
21 these recitations of evidence to be county findings of fact.  
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2 A finding that certain regulations do not apply to a  
3 decision may be stated in conclusional form. Of course, such a  
4 conclusion must be legally correct. However, petitioners  
5 wishing to challenge such a conclusion with regard to a  
6 particular regulation have an obligation to provide some  
7 explanation as to why the conclusion is erroneous, unless it is  
8 clear on its face that the particular standard does apply.

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7 We note that the air contaminant discharge permit for the  
8 rock crusher proposed to be used at the subject site includes  
9 emissions limits for opacity that appear to satisfy the  
10 requirements of OAR 340-21-015. Record I 220. Furthermore,  
11 the DEQ November 5, 1987 source inspection report found the  
12 rock crusher to be in compliance with the permit conditions.  
13 Record I 224.

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12 In fact, it seems clear that once trucks traveling to and  
13 from the aggregate extraction and processing site leave the  
14 private driveway on the subject property, they will be  
15 traveling on public roads.

15  
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16 We note that the section of the county planning  
17 commission's decision entitled "Findings of Fact," incorporated  
18 by reference into the board of commissioners' decision,  
19 contains lengthy descriptions of the testimony given by Frank  
20 Brundige concerning compliance of the proposed use with DEQ  
21 standards for noise, dust air and water quality. Record II 31-32. We have repeatedly held that such  
22 descriptions of evidence in the record are not findings of fact  
23 because they do not state what the county itself found to be  
24 true. See Hill v. Union County Court, 42 Or App 883, 601 P2d  
25 905 (1979); McCoy v. Linn County, \_\_\_\_\_ Or LUBA \_\_\_\_\_ (LUBA  
26 No. 87-046, December 15, 1987), slip op 31, n 15, aff'd 90  
Or App 271 (1988).

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24 We agree with petitioners that the lengthy descriptions of  
25 Reeder's testimony and opponents responses concerning the noise  
26 issue found in the "Findings of Fact" section of the county's  
decision are not really findings of fact, for the reasons  
stated in n 8.