

# IN THE NEWS

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## Proposed cement facility could generate 40 direct jobs

By John Glidden, Vallejo Times-Herald

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A proposed cement facility planned for South Vallejo would generate about 40 direct jobs, according to a major use permit application submitted to the city of Vallejo.

The paperwork — submitted in 2013 and later updated in March 2014 — states Orcem California, Inc. is expected to employ 20 full-time plant staff, and 20 full-time employees for sales, marketing, and administration.

The city is currently vetting a combined project with Orcem and the Vallejo Marine Terminal (VMT).

The VMT project component would reestablish industrial uses on the site through the removal of a deteriorated timber wharf and construction of a modern deep-water terminal, while the Orcem component involves construction and operation of an industrial facility producing cement.

Orcem would import most of the raw materials it uses via ships docking at the proposed VMT wharf, a 39-acre site at 790 and 800 Derr Avenue, in southwest Vallejo, on the Mare Island Strait.

In a Fiscal and Economic Impact Study furnished in November 2014, about 189 jobs would be created in total from the combined VMT/Orcem project.

“By 2021 when both projects are in operation, they are expected to directly employ workers in 97 full-time equivalent jobs,” according to the study.

The study further states that 51 indirect jobs in Solano County would be created by the combined project, with 41 “induced” jobs being created.

Indirect jobs would be “companies that supply services related to the projects,” the study found. While induced jobs are created from workers re-spending wages in the local community.

Andrea Ouse, the city's community & economic development director, confirmed that the impact study was paid for by VMT/Orcem. She further added that the study was not required for the review process with the city.

“The Orcem and VMT projects will create hundreds of construction and full and part time operations jobs,” wrote Eric Zell in an email to the Times-Herald Monday.

Zell's firm Zell & Associates is a government relations and public affairs firm, which was hired by Orcem to represent the company during the project.

“Our goal is to hire as many local Vallejo residents as possible, as well as providing high wage union jobs,” Zell added in his email. “Regarding construction jobs, there will be over 300 high wage union construction jobs to build both the VMT and Orcem projects.”

Zell further stated that the economic development impacts from the combined project would lead to additional jobs in the community.

According to the same study, the combined projects would net the city about \$533,000 each year, starting in 2021.

The majority of the revenue would come from utility taxes and lease revenue.

“The revenues for the Orcem project are not expected to have a large impact on city sales tax revenues,” the study states. “They will be mainly derived from the sale of their products, which are inputs into construction and are not subject to local sales tax.”