



PRESS RELEASE

08-378



Date: Friday, January 2, 2009
District: 8 – San Berandino
Contact: Rose Melgoza(Caltrans) Bob McKenzie(NDOT)
Phone: (909) 383-6477 (702) 385-6504
(909) 289-2836 cell (702) 328-6629 cell

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REMINDER
**I-15 SHUTDOWN AT STATE LINE
FOR BLASTING OPERATION**

San Bernardino – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will be closing Interstate 15 (I-15) on Wednesday, January 7, 2009, to conduct blasting and rock removal in Mountain Pass just south of the Nevada Stateline. The southbound I-15 will be closed at the Nevada Stateline (in Primm) from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and the northbound I-15 will be closed at Baker from 10:00 a.m. to approximately 10:30 a.m. (in the event the blast is a success). Inclement weather such as rain or snow in the region will not cancel the blasting operation. The Wednesday “Blasts” are expected to continue through April 2009.

The full closures are necessary to maintain safety during the blasting. California Highway Patrol will initiate a traffic break and hold northbound travelers until the blasting is completed. Delays for the northbound travelers will be minimal. Southbound travelers who did not exit before Primm at the state line will be directed off the freeway by Nevada Highway Patrol to the Primm Valley resort area. This location offers a safe, comfortable and convenient area until the freeway re-opens. There is sufficient parking at Primm Valley to accommodate all motorists. Truckers are encouraged to exit at Jean off the I-15.

Caltrans is advising drivers leaving the Las Vegas Resort area to “**Leave Early or Stay Late**” to avoid delays. Electronic message boards will be activated in Nevada and California to warn motorists in advance of the closure. To get the latest information about the scheduled work, go to www.caltrans8.info.

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