

**SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL HAULED WATER INITIATIVE
FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT**

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

VOLUME II

PREPARED FOR:

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012**

PREPARED BY:

**SAPPHOS ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.
430 NORTH HALSTEAD STREET
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91107**

MAY 31, 2016

Appendix E

Notice of Preparation and Comments on Notice of Preparation



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Notice of Preparation

TO: Whom It May Concern FROM: County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California 91803

Subject: **Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development and Notice of Four Scoping Meeting Dates and Locations**

The County of Los Angeles will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to assess the feasibility of the adoption of an ordinance to allow hauled water as the primary source of potable water for new single-family residential construction in unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles, where there is no available service from a public or private water purveyor and where it has been demonstrated that an on-site groundwater well is not feasible. This project is referred to as the proposed Initiative. The County is seeking input from responsible and trustee agencies, other agencies required to receive this notice, and from the State Office of Planning and Research, and is also extending the outreach for early public consultation with potentially eligible property owners, and other interested parties regarding the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR. Scoping has been helpful to agencies in identifying a range of actions, alternatives, mitigation measures, and significant impacts to be analyzed in depth in an EIR, and in eliminating detailed studies of issues that are not expected to result in significant impacts. Responsible and trustee agencies will need to use the EIR when considering permits or related approvals for the proposed Initiative.

In order to determine which areas would be subject to the proposed Initiative, the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning developed a geographic information system (GIS) suitability model in 2012 based on five criteria :

- Parcels located in the unincorporated territory of Los Angeles County
- Vacant parcels
- Parcels located in areas where there is no designated water purveyor
- Zoning and General Plan designation that allow for development of a single-family residence
- Parcel size > 2,000 square feet with slopes under 50 percent (26.6°)

The County has estimated that, should the proposed Initiative be adopted, approximately 42,677 parcel owners in the County could be eligible to seek authorization for use of hauled water to support issuance of a building permit for a single-family residence (see Topographic Map). The combined proposed initiative study area consists of approximately 285,500 acres or approximately 450 square miles.

The parcels that would be affected by the proposed Initiative are located entirely within the 5th Supervisorial District in the northern one-third of the County, including areas located north and east of the San Gabriel Mountains in the Antelope Valley; areas located northeast of the City of Santa Clarita, north and south of California State Route 14; areas that are southwest of the City of Palmdale in the communities of Agua Dulce and Acton; and in the Kagel Canyon area in the Angeles National Forest. The subject parcels have been categorized into seven subareas:

1. **Lake Hughes, Gorman, West of Lancaster:** The Lake Hughes, Gorman, West of Lancaster subarea is located in an area generally located west of State Highway 14 and north of the Angeles National Forest.
2. **Lancaster Northeast:** The Lancaster Northeast subarea is located in an area generally east of State Highway 14 and north of East Avenue J.
3. **Antelope Valley Northeast:** The Antelope Valley North East subarea is located in an area generally located north of East Avenue E and east of 165th Street East in the far northeastern portion of Los Angeles County.
4. **Lake Los Angeles / Llano / Valyermo / Littlerock:** The Lake Los Angeles / Llano / Valyermo / Littlerock subarea is located in an area generally south of East Avenue J, east of 47th Street East.
5. **Acton:** The Acton subarea is located in an area generally east of Hubbard Road and West of 47th Street East.
6. **Castaic / Santa Clarita / Agua Dulce:** The Castaic / Santa Clarita / Agua Dulce subarea is located generally west of Hubbard Road and north of the 210 Freeway excluding Kagel Canyon.
7. **Kagel Canyon:** The Kagel Canyon subarea is surrounded by the Angeles National Forest and generally located along Kagel Canyon Road north of the 210 Freeway, west of Little Tujunga Road, and east of Lopez Canyon Road.

The County has completed an Initial Study and made a preliminary determination regarding the scope of the environmental analysis:

Environmental Issues Determined to Have No Impact or Less than Significant Impact

- Agricultural and Forestry Resources
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Geology and Soils
- Minerals

Environmental Issues with Potential Significant Impacts or Public Controversy

- Aesthetics
- Noise
- Air Quality
- Population and Housing
- Biological Resources
- Public Services
- Cultural Resources
- Recreation
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Transportation/Traffic
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Land Use and Planning

The Initial Study is available for review during the scoping period, September 17 to October 20, 2014, at:

5th Supervisorial District Field Office
1113 West Avenue M-4, Suite A
Palmdale, California 93551

Acton Agua Dulce Library
33792 Crown Valley Road
Acton, California 93510

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California 91803

Castaic Library
27955 Sloan Canyon Road
Castaic, California 91384

Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Stevenson Ranch Express Library
26233 West Faulkner Drive
Stevenson Ranch, California 91381

Quartz Hill Library
42018 North 50th Street West
Quartz Hill, California 93536

Lancaster Library
601 West Lancaster Boulevard
Lancaster, CA 93534

Lake Los Angeles Library
16921 East Avenue O, #A
Palmdale, California 93591

The County is providing a 35-day scoping period, rather than the standard 30-day scoping period, to allow sufficient time to host four scoping meetings:

Scoping meetings: The County will host four public scoping meetings to review the various project elements and solicit information in relation to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis for the proposed Initiative. The scoping meetings will take place from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the following locations on the dates listed:

September 24, 2014:
Agua Dulce Women's Club
33201 Agua Dulce Canyon Road
Agua Dulce, CA 91390

October 8, 2014:
Acton Community Club
3748 West Nickels Avenue
Acton, CA 93510

October 1, 2014:
Juniper Hills Community Center
31401 N. 106th East
Juniper Hills, CA 93543

October 15, 2014:
General William J. Fox Airfield
4555 West Avenue G
Lancaster, CA 93536

To ensure full consideration in the Environmental Impact Report, comments must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 20, 2014. Please send letters of comment (including the name of the designated contact person for your agency if applicable) on the Notice of Preparation to the following address:

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Dale Sakamoto/Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803

Comments can also be submitted electronically at: dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov

Comments sent via e-mail should state Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments in the Subject Line

Agencies and organization should identify a point of contact for future coordination.

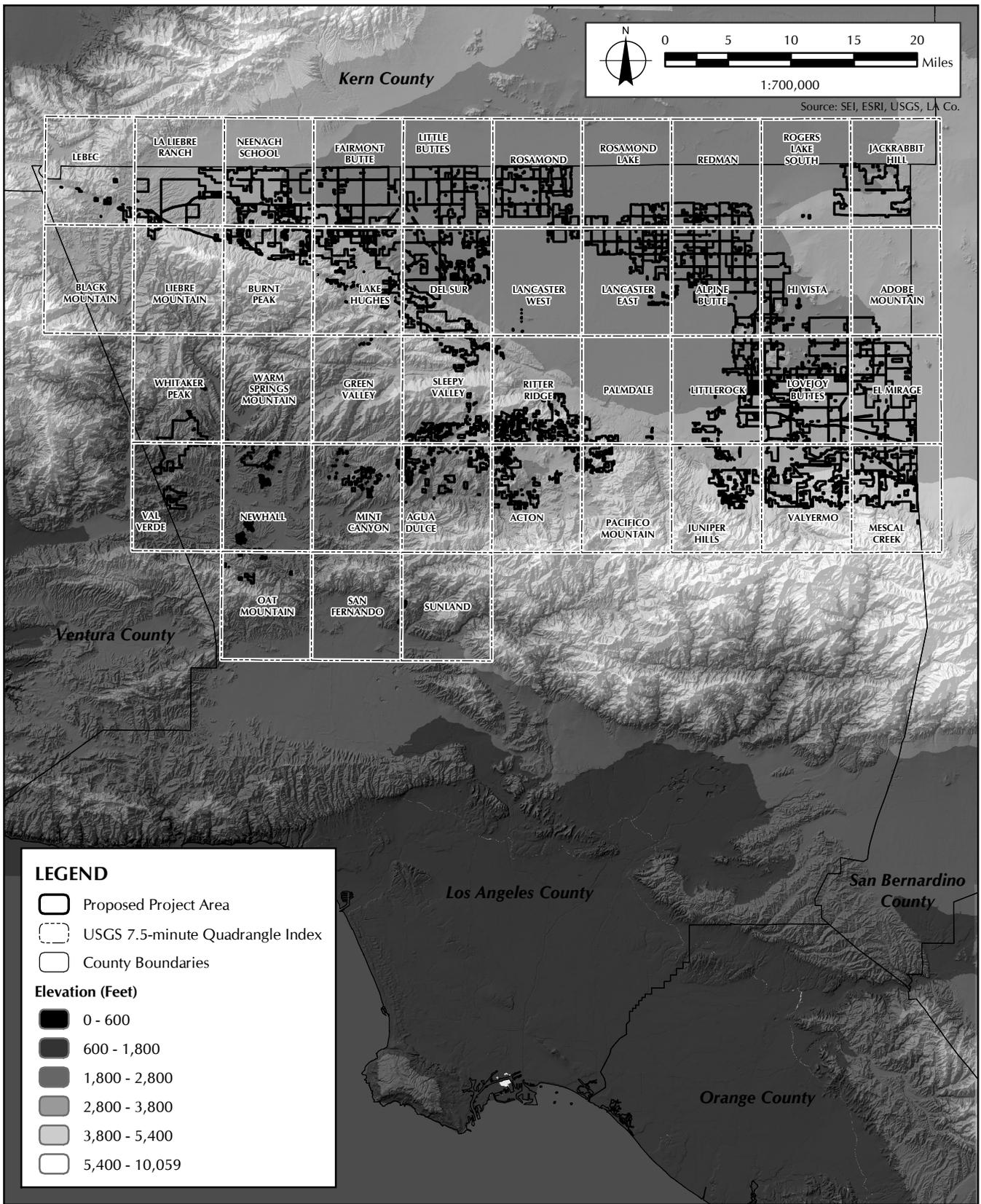
Project Title: Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development

Signature: 
Mr. Dale Sakamoto

Telephone: (626) 458-3915

Title: Civil Engineer

Date: September 17, 2014



LEGEND

- Proposed Project Area
- USGS 7.5-minute Quadrangle Index
- County Boundaries

Elevation (Feet)

- 0 - 600
- 600 - 1,800
- 1,800 - 2,800
- 2,800 - 3,800
- 3,800 - 5,400
- 5,400 - 10,059





COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Notice of Preparation

TO: Whom It May Concern FROM: County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California 91803

Subject: **Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development and Notice of a Scoping Meeting, Date, and Location**

The County of Los Angeles will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to assess the feasibility of the adoption of an ordinance to allow hauled water as the primary source of potable water for new single-family residential construction in unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles, where there is no available service from a public or private water purveyor and where it has been demonstrated that an on-site groundwater well is not feasible. This project is referred to as the proposed initiative. The County is seeking input from responsible and trustee agencies, other agencies required to receive this notice, and from the State Office of Planning and Research, and is also extending the outreach for early public consultation with potentially eligible property owners, and other interested parties regarding the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR. Scoping has been helpful to agencies in identifying a range of actions, alternatives, mitigation measures, and significant impacts to be analyzed in depth in an EIR, and in eliminating detailed studies of issues that are not expected to result in significant impacts. Responsible and trustee agencies will need to use the EIR when considering permits or related approvals for the proposed initiative.

A Notice of Preparation was originally circulated on September 17, 2014. Due to subsequent refinements to the project study area that identified additional parcels that could potentially qualify to use hauled water under the proposed initiative, the County is recirculating this Notice of Preparation to responsible and trustee agencies, other agencies required to receive this notice, the State Office of Planning and Research, and potentially eligible property owners who may not have previously received the Notice of Preparation.

In order to determine which areas would be subject to the proposed initiative, the County developed a geographic information system (GIS) suitability model in 2012 based on five criteria:

- Parcels located in the unincorporated territory of Los Angeles County
- Vacant parcels
- Parcels located in areas where there is no designated water purveyor
- Zoning and General Plan designation that allow for development of a single-family residence
- Parcel size > 2,000 square feet with slopes under 50 percent (26.6°)

This model was revised in 2015 to incorporate changes in water purveyor boundaries and land use designations from the Antelope Valley Area Plan and General Plan. As a result of these revisions, there was a net gain of 195 parcels in the study area that would potentially be eligible for the use of hauled water pursuant to the proposed initiative.

The County has estimated that, should the proposed initiative be adopted, approximately 42,872 parcel owners in the County could be eligible to seek authorization for use of hauled water to support issuance of a building permit for a single-family residence (see Topographic Map). The combined proposed initiative study area consists of approximately 342,715 acres or approximately 535 square miles.

The parcels that would be affected by the proposed initiative are located entirely within the 5th Supervisorial District in the northern one-third of the County, including areas located north and east of the San Gabriel

Mountains in the Antelope Valley; areas located northeast of the City of Santa Clarita, north and south of California State Route 14; areas that are southwest of the City of Palmdale in the communities of Agua Dulce and Acton; and in the eastern San Gabriel mountains area in the Angeles National Forest. The subject parcels have been categorized into seven subareas:

1. **Lake Hughes, Gorman, West of Lancaster:** The Lake Hughes, Gorman, West of Lancaster subarea is located in an area generally located west of State Highway 14 and north of the Angeles National Forest.
2. **Lancaster Northeast:** The Lancaster Northeast subarea is located in an area generally east of State Highway 14 and north of East Avenue J.
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5. **Acton:** The Acton subarea is located in an area generally east of Hubbard Road and West of 47th Street East.
6. **Castaic / Santa Clarita / Agua Dulce:** The Castaic / Santa Clarita / Agua Dulce subarea is located generally west of Hubbard Road and north of the 210 Freeway.
7. **East San Gabriel Mountains:** The East San Gabriel Mountains subarea consists of parcels generally located within the Angeles National Forest east of State Highway 14, north of the 210 freeway, south of the Pearblossom Highway, and west of the San Bernardino County line.

The County has completed an Initial Study and made a preliminary determination regarding the scope of the environmental analysis.

Environmental Issues Determined to Have No Impact or Less than Significant Impact

- Agricultural and Forestry Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Minerals

Environmental Issues with Potential Significant Impacts or Public Controversy

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation/Traffic
- Utilities and Service Systems

The Notice of Preparation and previously prepared initial study are available for review during the scoping period, from May 1, 2015 to June 1, 2015, at:

5th Supervisorial District Field Office
1113 West Avenue M-4, Suite A
Palmdale, California 93551

Los Angeles County Department of Public
Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California 91803

Los Angeles County Department of Regional
Planning
320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Acton Agua Dulce Library
33792 Crown Valley Road
Acton, California 93510

Castaic Library
27955 Sloan Canyon Road
Castaic, California 91384

Lake Los Angeles Library
16921 East Avenue O, #A
Palmdale, California 93591

Stevenson Ranch Express Library
26233 West Faulkner Drive
Stevenson Ranch, California 91381

Lancaster Library
601 West Lancaster Boulevard
Lancaster, CA 93534

Quartz Hill Library
42018 North 50th Street West
Quartz Hill, California 93536

The initial study completed for the proposed project can also be viewed online at:

<http://planning.lacounty.gov/hauled>.

As a result of the revision to the study area, the County will host one additional scoping meeting to provide agencies and owners of the potentially eligible parcels that have been added to the study area to participate in the scoping process. At the scoping meeting, the County will review the various project elements and solicit information in relation to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis for the proposed initiative:

May 20, 2015, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Chimbole Cultural Center
38350 Sierra Highway
Palmdale, CA 93550

To ensure full consideration in the Environmental Impact Report, comments must be submitted no later than **5:00 p.m. on June 1, 2015**. Please send letters of comment (including the name of the designated contact person for your agency if applicable) on the Notice of Preparation to the following address:

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Dale Sakamoto/Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803

Comments can also be submitted electronically at: dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov

Comments sent via e-mail should state Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments in the Subject Line

Agencies and organization should identify a point of contact for future coordination.

Project Title: Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development

Signature: 
Mr. Dale Sakamoto

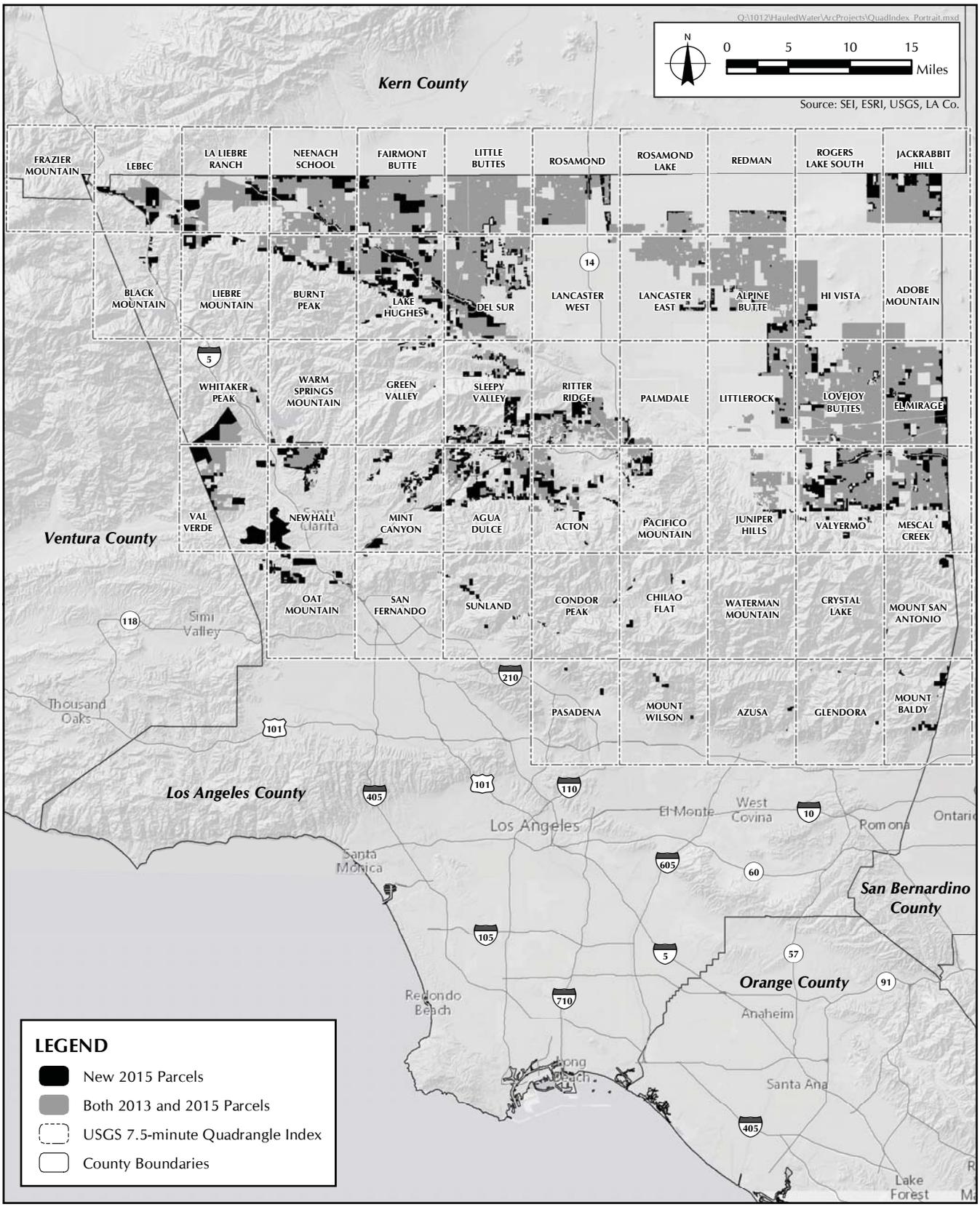
Telephone: (626) 458-3915

Title: Civil Engineer

Date: May 1, 2015



Source: SEI, ESRI, USGS, LA Co.



LEGEND

-  New 2015 Parcels
-  Both 2013 and 2015 Parcels
-  USGS 7.5-minute Quadrangle Index
-  County Boundaries





State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Drinking Water

May 7, 2015

**County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
ATTN: Mr. Dale Sakamoto/Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803**

Dear Mr. Dale Sakamoto

Subject: Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments

The State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) (formerly CDPH or DHS) has received and reviewed your Notice of Preparation of a Draft EIR for the proposed single-family residential hauled water initiative for new development. The DDW along with California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH) have opposed the use of hauled water as a primary source of drinking water for new construction. CCDEH also considers utilizing hauled water for this purpose as a poor land use practice for over a decade. A joint DHS/CCDEH policy and letter are attached. California, and a number of other states, through the regulation of haulers, has sought to reduce the risk associated with using hauled water as the primary source of drinking water through the regulation of haulers and through recommendations to local jurisdictions.

One of DDW's concerns regarding water hauling is a practical one. USEPA has published a legal finding (signed 11/26/1976, revised 11/1998), stating that once a hauler serves 15 or more houses, the operation falls under the provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act as a "constructed conveyance" (copy attached). Due to the small number of licensed haulers and small number of residences they serve, USEPA-Region 9 has not focused on this issue. However, should the use of water hauling expand to a community level, as could potentially happen in the Antelope Valley and others areas in Los Angeles County, USEPA may require DDW to enforce the more stringent requirements of the SDWA on water haulers. The DDW is not anxious to see the role of water haulers expand to the point where Region 9 would be forced to re-examine this issue.

The final decision on the use of hauled water for use by individual new homes on existing lots of record is a local land use decision. However, to ensure that a public water system (PWS) is not created, the county must not approve any land development utilizing hauled water as a source of supply that would serve 15 or more connections or result in water being provided to 25 or more persons at least 60 days out of the year (see definition of PWS). There should also be no formation of any State Small Water Systems as part of this process, i.e., serving 5 to 14 service connections. Based on this, hauled water should **not** be an option in the following circumstances:

- Any parcel map or sub-division map which identifies hauled water as a source of supply for the lot(s) being formed – particularly those that create 5 or more lots of record.
- Any lot of record within the boundary or service area of a public water system.
- Any individual lot(s), where the intended use can reasonably expected to result in a water system meeting the definition of a public water system or a state small water system.

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1180 Eugenia Place, Suite 200, Carpinteria, CA 93013 | www.waterboards.ca.gov

- Any individual lot(s), where the intended use meets the definition of a public water system that falls under the provisions of §116282 or that is attempting to use hauled water to meet the provision for exclusion under §116280 (b).

The existing DHS/CCDEH policy is not a regulatory requirement and does not carry the force of law. If the county does decide to allow hauled water as a source of domestic water in new construction, DDW would recommend that the following provisions be considered in the development of county ordinances regulating this practice:

- The property owner be required to demonstrate, by attempting to develop an on-site individual domestic water source, that water is unavailable on the property or is of a quality that renders it unsuitable for domestic use.
- That a suitable recording be made as part of the property title, regarding the limitations of the individual water supply, so that the property owner and successors, lenders and insurance providers are fully aware of the constraints and potential liability created by a hauled water supply. Such a recording should include a limitation that the residence only be allowed to be "owner occupied".
- That owners and their successors be required to connect to a public water system when or if one becomes available without undue delay. The county should consider whether or not to require that a cash bond be held in trust by the county, and be sufficient to cover estimated future connection charges.
- That owners and their successors be provided with an informative fact sheet, acceptable to the county, that informs them about the risks and responsibilities associated with hauled water usage.
- That the owner release the state and county of any liability associated with their use of hauled water.

The DDW and the County of Los Angeles are aware of private wells serving single-family residences in the Agua Dulce area that have run dry. The homes are forming a water system, Scenic Estates Mutual Water Company to serve the Agua Dulce homes, and they are seeking a connection to Newhall CWD. The reliability of obtaining hauled water during drought conditions is very difficult and obtaining hauled water from a potable source is also very expensive. Many water systems are not allowing haulers access to the distribution water supply due to lack of water supply during the drought. **The DDW is opposed to the County allowing new development for single-family residences using hauled water.**

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (805) 566-1326.

Sincerely,



Kurt Souza, P.E.
Acting Southern California Branch Chief
Division of Drinking Water
State Water Resources Control Board

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Services



California
Department of
Health Services

DIANA M. BONTÁ, R.N., Dr. P.H.
Director



GRAY DAVIS
Governor

AND



California Conference
of Directors of
Environmental Health

February 7, 2003

County Planning and Building Departments

Dear Directors of Planning and Building Departments:

Re: Federal Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments Affecting Potable Water

In 1996, the reauthorization of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) included requirements designed to ensure the viability of new public water systems. The California Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management (DDWEM) has since incorporated these requirements into the California Health and Safety Code and notified all Directors of Environmental Health. A copy of these regulations and guidance for the implementation of these new State laws was provided to Planning and Building Departments in a letter from the State Department of Health Services dated February 4, 2000 (attached).

The purpose of this letter is to advise you that local planning and development policies and State laws may overlap, and in some instances, may conflict with these recently mandated requirements for potable water supplies as specified in the Uniform Plumbing Code. In addressing this issue, the DDWEM has sought the advice and concurrence of the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health in order to jointly recommend a review of your land use policies to assure that adequate public health protection is provided to new facilities.

For planning and development projects reviewed at the local level that may result in the formation of a new public water system or change the ownership of an existing public water system, the project applicant must be informed of the new mandates for Technical, Managerial and Financial requirements (attached). In addition, when reviewing projects for new residential or commercial construction, the Uniform Plumbing Code requires that new construction be served by an acceptable source of potable water.

To avoid conflict with the recently adopted Federal mandates and existing State Codes, it may be necessary for County General Plans to be amended to provide proper land use planning policy relative to new construction and safe potable drinking water supplies. By doing so, this will allow for local decision makers to discourage the proliferation of small water systems that may not be able to provide the necessary technical, managerial or financial requirements to maintain such a system and may produce substandard conditions as those found in some jurisdictions where hauled water was needed to provide remedy to homeowners faced with an unreliable and potentially, unsafe alternative water supply.

Providing information to project proponents

For proposals you review which may result in the formation of a new public water system or a change in ownership of an existing public water system, we request that you inform the project proponent of the Technical, Managerial and Financial (TMF) requirements. Please also refer the individual to our local District office or your local Environmental Health Department. We have provided information summarizing the TMF requirements as well as a list of contacts for each County.

We have also learned that some new construction is being allowed where the source of the domestic water supply has been identified by the project proponent as hauled water. The use of hauled water for domestic purposes should only be allowed to serve existing facilities where the original supply is no longer adequate due to a loss of quantity or quality and where an approved source cannot be acquired. **The Department of Health Services and the Directors of Environmental Health do not support the use of irrigation ditch water, hauled water (from any source), or similar unacceptable sources of water for any new construction and request that this practice be eliminated.**

Some counties have already effectively addressed this problem by amending the County General Plan to actively discourage the formation of new public water systems and they prohibit the use of hauled water for new construction.

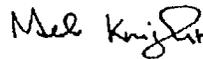
We believe that by working together, we can effectively implement these requirements and thereby protect the public health while following sound planning practices.

Sincerely,



David Spath, Ph.D., P.E., Chief
Division of Drinking Water
and Environmental Management

Sincerely,



Mel Knight, R.E.H.S., President
California Conference of Directors
of Environmental Health

Attachments:

1. Copy of letter from February, 2000
2. General information on TMF requirements
3. Copy of TMF Regulatory Requirements
4. List of contacts
5. Definition of Public Water System
6. Locations & contact information for DHS District Offices

cc: County Board of Supervisors

Hauled Water For New Development
February 7, 2003
Page 3

County Environmental Health Departments
State Department of Real Estate
Mr. Tom Hensley, Assistant Commissioner of Subdivisions
PO Box 187005
Sacramento, CA 95818

Local Agency Formation Commission Officers (LAFCO)
REs and DEs, DDWEM
Clifford A. Sharpe, Chief, NCDWFOB
Cindy A. Forbes, Chief, SCDWFOB
Norm Knoll, Staff Counsel, DWP

Bulk Hauled Water Policy

September 19, 2002

Issue:

With the implementation of the recently adopted federal regulations, the California Department of Health Services staff has worked with numerous Environmental Health Agencies and Irrigation Districts to address several water-conveyance systems where older homes were served historically by older irrigation districts in remote areas where potable water was not readily available or is limited. To allow for a more seamless integration of these new regulations and to ensure that close collaboration occurs between State and local agencies involved in permitting of new construction, it is desirable to adopt a policy restricting or eliminating the utilization of these outdated non-conforming systems for development purposes.

Recommendation:

The California Department of Health Services' Drinking Water Program and the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health concur that local governmental agencies ensure that local policies are in effect that prohibit the construction of new commercial and industrial facilities and residential dwellings that would be served by non-conforming systems which include, but are not limited to: irrigation ditch water; bulk hauled water (regardless of the source); and public water systems that do not meet the current standards of the California Safe Drinking Water Act.

Background:

Typically, most local regulations and the California Government Code require that subdivisions provide proof of an adequate water supply (private or public utilities) and suitability of wastewater disposal (onsite wastewater treatment systems on each parcel or public sewer service) prior to the subdivision map being recorded. When community services are not available, common practice is to require that a water well which produces adequate water quality and quantity be developed and that approved onsite wastewater treatment systems be approved before building permits are issued.

In instances where existing private water systems and or water wells fail to produce water in an adequate quantity or quality (permanently or seasonally), the landowner seeks approval from the local permitting agency for construction of a new water well to serve the water system. If this is unsuccessful, local authorities may find a temporary resolution by allowing bulk hauled water from a potable water source as an interim measure to allow the homeowner sufficient time to obtain a permanent and reliable source of potable water.

The California Department of Health Services' Drinking Water Program and the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health concur that bulk hauled water does not provide the equivalent level of public health protection nor reliability as that provided from a permanent water system from an approved onsite source of water supply. This position is based on the following public health risks:

1. The potential for contamination exists when water is transferred from tanker trucks to onsite storage facilities (water storage tanks). Improper handling of the piping used to transfer the water by accidental bacterial contamination easily occurs by personnel handling the delivery. Fittings and hoses used in the transfer process between the truck and onsite storage facilities can easily become contaminated during transport or from a prior delivery where adequate disinfection between uses does not occur.
2. Storage tanks often are demonstrated to be the source of bacterial contamination. Frequent opening and closing of hatches and transfer pipe openings increase the potential for contamination. Contaminants often enter through poorly constructed and maintained roofs, lids and hatches, vents and other openings.
3. Although water hauling companies must be licensed by the Food and Drug Branch of State Department of Health Services, this does not ensure that the licensed hauler will at all times follow the State guidelines. In addition, trucks may inadvertently haul materials other than potable water and failure to recognize the potential for contamination may result in unsafe water being delivered to the consumer.
4. Although an individual may be able to demonstrate that they have the financial resources to purchase bulk hauled water at a given time, economic conditions from an individual, regional or national level can deteriorate rapidly. A potable water supply must be reliable for not only the initial owner, but also for successors, heirs and future owners of the property. The costs associated with bulk hauled water for all domestic needs may be insurmountable and jeopardize future reliability of such a source.
5. As demonstrated by a number of waterborne disease outbreaks from the use of water not intended for drinking water purposes, there is generally a higher risk for contamination that may result in serious illness or death.

Local authority:

Local agencies have authority to set policy on bulk hauled water based on Uniform Plumbing Code Sections 101.2, 202.0, and 601.0. These sections state:

Section 101.2, "Purpose: ...this Code is an ordinance providing the minimum requirements and standards for the protection of public health, safety and welfare."

Section 202.0, "Definition of Terms: Potable water is water which is satisfactory for drinking, culinary, and domestic purposes and meets the requirements of the health authority having jurisdiction."

Section 601.0, "Running Water Required: Except where not deemed necessary for safety of sanitation by the Administrative Authority, each plumbing fixture shall be provided with an adequate supply of potable running water piped thereto in an approved manner, so arranged as to flush and keep it in a clean and sanitary condition without danger of backflow or cross-connection."

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WSG 6A

Date Signed: November 26, 1976

Revised: November 1998

Revised by: Wendy Warren

MEMORANDUM

TO: Victor J. Kimm
Deputy Assistant Administrator
for Water Supply (WH-550)

FROM: Thomas A. Largen (signed by T. A. L.)
Attorney-Advisor
Water Quality Division (A-131)

THRU: Roger D. Lee, Chief
Drinking Water Regulations Implementation Branch
Office of Water Supply (WH-550)

SUBJECT: Applicability of the Safe Drinking Water Act to Water Haulers

Region V has requested an interpretation as to whether water haulers are public water systems under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

A "public water system" is defined by Section 1401(4) as:

...a system for the provision to the public of water for human consumption, through pipes or other constructed conveyances if such system has at least fifteen service connections or regularly¹ serves an average of at least twenty-five individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year.

Although the term "piped water" is not defined by the Act or the NIPDWR, hauled water is piped into the carrier vehicle, withdrawn by similar mechanism into the user's cistern, and in most cases, piped again from cistern to faucet. Therefore, a hauler presumably provides piped water.

¹The regulations under the SDWA explain the term "regular" by stating that a public water system must have at least fifteen service connections or regularly serve an average of twenty-five individuals daily at least sixty days out of the year. 40 CFR 35.603(c), 41 F.R. 2913, Jan. 20, 1976.

This interpretation is reinforced by the legislative history of the SDWA which clearly intends a broad meaning for "public water system" to insure comprehensive protection of public health. (See House Report No. 93-1185, at 1).

The broad purpose of the SDWA "is to assure that water supply systems serving the public meet minimum national standards for protection of public health". (House Report No 93-1185, at 1). Whether water for public use is withdrawn from a transport vehicle, a river, or a well is irrelevant under the comprehensive regulatory scheme.

Thus, a water hauler, whether independent or owned or operated by a public water system, is itself a public water system under the NIPDWR if it meets minimum standards for number of outlets or customers served.

Furthermore, if the water hauler serves at least fifteen service connections used by year-round residents or regularly serves at least twenty-five year-round residents, then the hauler is a "community water system" as defined by Section 141.2(a)(i). Otherwise, it is a non-community system which would be subject to less stringent monitoring requirements than a community system.

The coverage section of NIPDWR, Section 141.3, includes any public water system, unless it satisfies all of the following conditions:

- (a) Consists only of distribution and storage facilities (and does not have any collection and treatment facilities);
- (b) Obtains all of its water from, but is not owned or operated by, a public water system to which such regulations apply;
- (c) Does not sell well water to any person; and
- (d) Is not a carrier which conveys passengers in interstate commerce.

If independently owned or operated, a water hauler's business presumably is to sell water. Therefore, condition (c) is not met. To "sell" water is given broad meaning under the Act. For example, a sale transaction cannot be disguised as a service charge to circumvent condition (c). Note the House Committee's interpretation:

Thus, for example, a municipal system which imposes water and sewage taxes or charges would not be exempt, because it sells water within the meaning of the section. Any distributor of water for human consumption, whether public or private, would be subject to the primary regulations unless he can show that he receives his water supplies from a system which is subject to the regulations and he does not charge consumers for the water that he provides. The purpose of this provision is to exempt from Federal regulation those facilities such as hotels, which

merely by virtue of having a storage tank and acting as a conduit from public water system to consumer would otherwise be subject to Federal regulation as a public water system.

By this provision the Committee intends that primary regulations would apply to housing developments, motels, restaurants, trailer parkers, and other businesses serving the public, if the business in question maintains its own well or water supply. The Committee intends to exempt business which merely store and distribute water provided by others, unless that business sells water as a separate item or bills separately for water it provides. (Emphasis added). House Report No. 93-1185, at 17.

In the case of a water hauler which is owned or operated by a public water system to which the NIPDWR apply, and from which the hauler obtains all its water, condition (b) of the coverage in Section 141.3 is not satisfied. Neither, presumably, is the non-sale condition of subparagraph (c) satisfied. The broad meaning of to "sell" water under SDWA does not intend to permit circumvention of condition (c) by resort to accounting devices, e.g., arranging to have users make direct payments to the source supplier and be billed separately by the hauler for a "service charge". (See above quoted passage from House Report No 93-1185, at 17.)

Note, however, the effect of Section 141.29 of the NIPDWR, which provides for modifications in monitoring requirements for "consecutive public water systems" to the extent that the interconnection of the systems justifies treating them as a single system for purposes of monitoring. Thus, if a water hauler qualifying as a "public water system" obtains all of its water from another "public water system," then the state may treat the two as a single system for purposes of monitoring, where the state finds the interconnection of the two systems is justified for this limited purpose, and the modified monitoring is conducted pursuant to a schedule specified by the state and concurred in by the Administrator of EPA. See Section 141.29 of the NIPDWR.

May 20, 2015

Mr. Dale Sakamoto
County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Re: Castaic Lake Water Agency's Comments on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Impact Report for the Hauled Water Initiative for New Development (Project)

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

The Castaic Lake Water Agency (CLWA) submits the following comments to provide guidance to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works consistent with the intent of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) regarding NOP responses (CEQA Guidelines Section 15082(b)). Although CLWA will not be a responsible agency as defined in CEQA, CLWA is an interested agency. Additionally, many of the parcels in the Castaic/Santa Clarita/Aqua Dulce Subarea as described in the Project description are within the CLWA service area. Therefore, we request notification of any information promulgated regarding the Project or its associated environmental documentation. With regard to the NOP we have included a discussion of potentially significant environmental issues for water utilities that should be addressed in the DEIR. Additionally, we believe that the Initial Study has erroneously made determinations of no impact or less than significant impact in a number of other impact categories.

Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts to Water Service Utilities

The evaluation of the proposed Project and any alternatives in the DEIR should address the following potential impacts to Water Service Utilities:

1. The Project is proposing to allow up to 42,872 parcel owners within the unincorporated County area to use trucked water for single-family detached residential units. This would represent a sizable water demand in an area that has extremely limited water resources and is experiencing the most severe drought in California history. In fact, CLWA has been approached by community members in the Bouquet Creek and Aqua Dulce areas whose local wells are no longer producing and have to rely on expensive hauled water that they report to be unreliable as well as economically unsustainable. To compound these problems with additional residences that lack a water supply is an example of poor land use planning.



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"A PUBLIC AGENCY PROVIDING RELIABLE, QUALITY WATER AT A REASONABLE COST TO THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY"

Others have raised concerns that recharge from septic systems are comprising too large a portion of local groundwater from which local wells withdraw water, including those that are likely to provide sources for hauled water. The DEIR should identify the likely water sources to be used if the ordinance is approved and evaluate the impacts to the area where the water would be acquired as well as adjacent areas that are hydrologically connected. This evaluation should include the ability of the affected water supply to meet demand in the long-term including at the time of build-out for the communities in the vicinity/water utility service area. Additionally, the quality of the water supply to be provided, and impacts to those areas that the water would be extracted from, needs to be evaluated. Also, variations in water quality and quantity due to drought should be a part of the analysis.

2. All domestic water suppliers with over 3,000 connections must document a strategy for compliance with SBX7-7, which requires that they achieve a twenty percent per capita reduction in potable water demand by the year 2020. The strategy includes reliance on all new development using water conservation technology and meeting new code requirements and the efficient use of irrigation in any outdoor landscaped areas. The DEIR needs to document how the ordinance would not interfere with meeting the goals of the law and how the new development served by hauled water would be conditioned for the maximum amount of water conservation.
3. Consistent with the requirements of CEQA regarding cumulative analysis, the impacts described above need to be evaluated in conjunction with the impacts of related projects to determine if the ordinance would have significant cumulative impacts. For instance, no drinking water supplier had the opportunity in forecasting long term demand to calculate the additional demands that would result from the Project nor was any water supplier able to evaluate the Project's impacts to future demand in its 2010 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). The increase in demand resulting from the Project will need to be accounted for in all of the affected agencies' 2015 UWMPs including those of the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts.
4. The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires the adoption groundwater management plans that are tailored to the resources and needs of their communities. Good groundwater management will provide a buffer against drought and climate change, and contribute to reliable water supplies regardless of weather patterns. The Project is likely to have impacts on numerous groundwater basins and those impacts will need to be accounted for in order to permit local agencies to comply with SGMA.
5. The evaluation of the impacts to water facilities in the Initial Study Checklist (Section 3.17.3 (b)) does not address the need for new water facilities and instead only addresses wastewater facilities. In fact, new water facilities will need to be constructed to provide hauled water and other facilities may need to be constructed as a result of lost supplies to other water suppliers in the region. Large lots of the type covered by the ordinance typically use an acre foot or more per year so the document needs to address the new demand/loss of approximately 50,000 acre feet of water per year in the region. In comparison, this new water demand is substantially higher than the imported water total that CLWA currently delivers to the Santa Clarita Valley.

6. The evaluation of the impacts to water supplies in the Initial Study Checklist (Section 3.17.3 (d)) has numerous errors regarding the availability of supplies and ability of agencies to deliver water to the new residences permitted by the Project. This DEIR section will need to be authored by someone with expert knowledge of existing water conditions and the current drought to adequately evaluate impacts to water supplies.
7. The presumption in many categories of the Initial Study Checklist, including Water Service Utilities, of a "reasonable worst-case build out scenario" is in error and CEQA does not permit an arbitrary limiting of the time horizon of a project to evaluate impacts. The DEIR will need to evaluate the impacts from the construction of 42,872 single family residences in every impact category, including the increase of up to 50,000 acre feet per year of new potable water demand.

Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts to Other Checklist Categories

In addition to the impacts to Water Service Utilities, CLWA notes the other areas of the Initial Study that appear to be deficient in their evaluation of the environmental impacts of the Project.

1. **Agricultural Resources** – The Initial Study indicates that impacts to Agricultural Resources will be less than significant. The supporting text does not address the potential for lowered groundwater levels that would compel farms in the region to sink deeper wells or abandon irrigation and reduce the area farmed. This would impact not only farmland within the Project's direct area of impact, but adjacent farmland in the areas that the water will be acquired from. Agriculture is substantially dependent on groundwater and increased pumping as a result of the Project would potentially result in a significant reduction of those groundwater supplies. Additionally, while it may be correct that the development of a single-family residence and any associated structures does not preclude the use of the remainder of the parcel from agricultural use, if a significant portion of the 42,872 parcels were to lose all or part of the available arable land, this would potentially add up to a significant loss of farmland. These potential impacts should be evaluated in the DEIR and feasible mitigation measures prepared for any significant impacts.
2. **Air Quality/Odors** – The Initial Study indicates there would be a less than significant impact due to impacts from odors. The explanation does not address the potential for increased diesel truck trips that result in odors in residential areas or other sensitive uses. The trucks would also congregate in currently unknown locations to be filled with water supplies that are yet to be identified. The fill stations would be potential hot spots of air emissions and potentially impact surrounding sensitive uses. These potential impacts should be evaluated in the DEIR and feasible mitigation measures prepared for any significant impacts.
3. **Geology and Soils** – The Initial Study states there are no impacts because single-family residences are currently permitted by zoning in the project area and therefore there won't be any persons exposed to any additional risk with the approval of the Project. However, the residences cannot be built without the Project's approval and it is this discretionary action that will result in residences being built in locations where none can be built today. Therefore, the approval of the Project would allow construction potential in areas of high geotechnical risk. All of the questions in the Geology and Soils section of the Initial Study should have been answered as potentially significant impacts. These potential impacts should be evaluated in the DEIR and feasible mitigation measures should be prepared for any significant impacts.

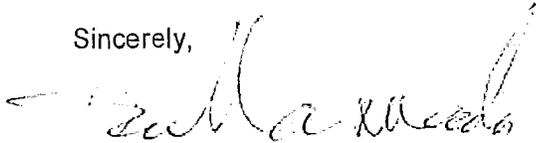
- 4. Hazards and Hazardous Materials** – The Initial Study is conclusionary in making determinations that the emissions of hazardous materials near schools would not be an impact nor would there be any impacts due to increased wildfire risk. The Project would greatly increase diesel truck traffic in residential areas and within one-quarter mile of numerous schools. Diesel combustion emissions are considered an air toxic, and an evaluation of the potential impacts needs to be performed in the DEIR and feasible mitigation measures should be prepared for any significant impacts. The Hazardous Materials Assessment is flawed in that there is no known location of water fill stations and no proposed routes for the transportation of hauled water.

The Project would result in greatly increased exposure of single-family residences to wildfire hazards as result of locating them in areas that currently don't have water service, thereby exposing both residents and firefighters to higher risk. The contention in the Initial Study that the County's approval process would reduce these potentially significant impacts to less than significant is not backed by substantial evidence and needs to be evaluated in the DEIR. If the impacts are determined to remain potentially significant, feasible mitigation measures need to be prepared.

In all of the impact categories above, and those that have been determined to be potentially significant in the Initial Study, a thorough cumulative analysis will need be conducted to evaluate the impacts from the build-out of the 42,872 parcels along the build-out of related projects and the General Plan land uses for the Los Angeles County Fifth Supervisorial District.

CLWA appreciates having the opportunity to respond to the NOP and looks forward to reviewing the Draft EIR. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Jeff Ford, Principal Water Resources Planner, at (661) 513-1281.

Sincerely,



Dan Masnada
General Manager

cc: Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
CLWA Board of Directors
Rosalind Waymans, Los Angeles County Fifth Supervisorial District
David Perry, Los Angeles County Fifth Supervisorial District
Gail Farber, Chief Engineer, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Richard J. Bruckner, Director of Planning, Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
Interim Health Officer Jeffrey Gunzenhauser, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Jeff Kightlinger, General Manager, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Marcie L. Edwards, General Manager, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Dan Flory, General Manager, Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency
Dennis D. LaMoreaux, General Manager, Palmdale Water District
Adam Ariki, District Engineer, Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts
Steve Cole, General Manager, Newhall County Water District
Mauricio Guardado Jr., Retail Operations Manager, Santa Clarita Water Division
Keith Abercrombie, General Manager, Valencia Water Company



South Coast
Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

May 5, 2015

Dale Sakamoto
County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803

**Notice of Preparation of a CEQA Document for the
Hauled Water Initiative for New Development Project**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) staff appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. The SCAQMD staff's comments are recommendations regarding the analysis of potential air quality impacts from the proposed project that should be included in the draft CEQA document. Please send the SCAQMD a copy of the CEQA document upon its completion. Note that copies of the Draft EIR that are submitted to the State Clearinghouse are not forwarded to the SCAQMD. Please forward a copy of the Draft EIR directly to SCAQMD at the address in our letterhead. **In addition, please send with the draft EIR all appendices or technical documents related to the air quality and greenhouse gas analyses and electronic versions of all air quality modeling and health risk assessment files. These include original emission calculation spreadsheets and modeling files (not Adobe PDF files). Without all files and supporting air quality documentation, the SCAQMD will be unable to complete its review of the air quality analysis in a timely manner. Any delays in providing all supporting air quality documentation will require additional time for review beyond the end of the comment period.**

Air Quality Analysis

The SCAQMD adopted its California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Air Quality Handbook in 1993 to assist other public agencies with the preparation of air quality analyses. The SCAQMD recommends that the Lead Agency use this Handbook as guidance when preparing its air quality analysis. Copies of the Handbook are available from the SCAQMD's Subscription Services Department by calling (909) 396-3720. More recent guidance developed since this Handbook was published is also available on SCAQMD's website here: [http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/ceqa-air-quality-handbook-\(1993\)](http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/ceqa-air-quality-handbook-(1993)). SCAQMD staff also recommends that the lead agency use the CalEEMod land use emissions software. This software has recently been updated to incorporate up-to-date state and locally approved emission factors and methodologies for estimating pollutant emissions from typical land use development. CalEEMod is the only software model maintained by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) and replaces the now outdated URBEMIS. This model is available free of charge at: www.caleemod.com.

The Lead Agency should identify any potential adverse air quality impacts that could occur from all phases of the project and all air pollutant sources related to the project. Air quality impacts from both construction (including demolition, if any) and operations should be calculated. Construction-related air quality impacts typically include, but are not limited to, emissions from the use of heavy-duty equipment from grading, earth-loading/unloading, paving, architectural coatings, off-road mobile sources (e.g., heavy-duty construction equipment) and on-road mobile sources (e.g., construction worker vehicle trips, material transport trips). Operation-related air quality impacts may include, but are not limited to, emissions from stationary sources (e.g., boilers), area sources (e.g., solvents and coatings), and vehicular trips (e.g., on- and off-road tailpipe emissions and entrained dust). Air quality impacts from indirect sources, that is, sources that generate or attract vehicular trips should be included in the analysis.

The SCAQMD has also developed both regional and localized significance thresholds. The SCAQMD staff requests that the lead agency quantify criteria pollutant emissions and compare the results to the recommended regional significance thresholds found here: <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/handbook/scaqmd-air-quality-significance-thresholds.pdf?sfvrsn=2>. In addition to analyzing regional air quality impacts, the SCAQMD staff recommends calculating localized air quality impacts and comparing the results to localized significance thresholds (LSTs). LST's can be used in addition to the recommended regional significance thresholds as a second indication of air quality impacts

when preparing a CEQA document. Therefore, when preparing the air quality analysis for the proposed project, it is recommended that the lead agency perform a localized analysis by either using the LSTs developed by the SCAQMD or performing dispersion modeling as necessary. Guidance for performing a localized air quality analysis can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/localized-significance-thresholds>.

In the event that the proposed project generates or attracts vehicular trips, especially heavy-duty diesel-fueled vehicles, it is recommended that the lead agency perform a mobile source health risk assessment. Guidance for performing a mobile source health risk assessment ("*Health Risk Assessment Guidance for Analyzing Cancer Risk from Mobile Source Diesel Idling Emissions for CEQA Air Quality Analysis*") can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/mobile-source-toxics-analysis>. An analysis of all toxic air contaminant impacts due to the use of equipment potentially generating such air pollutants should also be included.

In addition, guidance on siting incompatible land uses (such as placing homes near freeways) can be found in the California Air Resources Board's *Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Perspective*, which can be found at the following internet address: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/handbook.pdf>. CARB's Land Use Handbook is a general reference guide for evaluating and reducing air pollution impacts associated with new projects that go through the land use decision-making process.

Mitigation Measures

In the event that the project generates significant adverse air quality impacts, CEQA requires that all feasible mitigation measures that go beyond what is required by law be utilized during project construction and operation to minimize or eliminate these impacts. Pursuant to state CEQA Guidelines §15126.4 (a)(1)(D), any impacts resulting from mitigation measures must also be discussed. Several resources are available to assist the Lead Agency with identifying possible mitigation measures for the project, including:

- Chapter 11 of the SCAQMD *CEQA Air Quality Handbook*
- SCAQMD's CEQA web pages at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/mitigation-measures-and-control-efficiencies>.
- CAPCOA's *Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures* available here: <http://www.capcoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/CAPCOA-Quantification-Report-9-14-Final.pdf>.
- SCAQMD's Rule 403 – Fugitive Dust, and the Implementation Handbook for controlling construction-related emissions
- Other measures to reduce air quality impacts from land use projects can be found in the SCAQMD's Guidance Document for Addressing Air Quality Issues in General Plans and Local Planning. This document can be found at the following internet address: <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/planning/air-quality-guidance/complete-guidance-document.pdf?sfvrsn=4>.

Data Sources

SCAQMD rules and relevant air quality reports and data are available by calling the SCAQMD's Public Information Center at (909) 396-2039. Much of the information available through the Public Information Center is also available via the SCAQMD's webpage (<http://www.aqmd.gov>).

The SCAQMD staff is available to work with the Lead Agency to ensure that project emissions are accurately evaluated and mitigated where feasible. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at Jwong1@aqmd.gov or call me at (909) 396-3176.

Sincerely,

Jillian Wong

Jillian Wong, Ph.D.

Program Supervisor

Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Public Health



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www.publichealth.lacounty.gov

May 18, 2015

TO: Dale Sakamoto
Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
Department of Public Works

FROM: Michelle Tsiebos, REHS, DPA M.T
Environmental Health Division
Department of Public Health

SUBJECT: **CEQA Consultation/Notice of Preparation
Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development
Unincorporated Los Angeles County**

The Department of Public Health - Environmental Health Division has reviewed the information provided in the draft Initial Study (IS) for the project identified above. The Project is to assess the feasibility of the adoption of an ordinance to allow hauled water as the primary source of potable water for new single-family residential construction in unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles, where there is no available service from a public or private water purveyor and where it has been demonstrated that an onsite groundwater well is not feasible. We offer the following comments.

Hydrology and Water Quality

The Initial Study did not give the drought situation the emphasis it now deserves following the Governor’s Executive Order B-29-15 of April 1, 2015. Due to the water restrictions on the municipal water systems, and the upcoming curtailment on water rights for ground water, the EIR will have to focus more on the availability of potable water to be hauled to new residences. It is most probable that any “surplus” water supplies from water wholesalers will be directed to “reserves” rather than sales.

At the level of subdivisions, which are not included in the hauled water initiative, we are already observing moratorium for new water connections from some municipal water purveyors.

For any questions regarding this report, please contact me at (626) 430-5382 or at mtsiebos@ph.lacounty.gov.



NEWHALL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

23780 North Pine Street • P.O. Box 220970 • Santa Clarita, CA 91322-0970
(661) 259-3610 Phone • (661) 259-9673 Fax • email: mail@ncwd.org

Directors: B. J. ATKINS, *President* MARIA GUTZEIT, *Vice President* KATHY COLLEY DANIEL MORTENSEN LYNNE A. PLAMBECK

May 20, 2015

Mr. Dale Sakamoto County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Re: Newhall County Water District's Comments on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an
Environmental Impact Report for the Hauled Water Initiative for New Development (Project)

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Hauled Water Initiative for New Development (Project). The Newhall County Water District (NCWD) submits the following comments to provide guidance to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works in the preparation of the EIR for the Project.

The Project is proposing to allow up to 42,872 parcel owners within the unincorporated County area to use trucked water for single-family detached residential units. Large lots of the type covered by the Project typically use an acre foot or more per year. The EIR will need to address the new demand of approximately 50,000 acre feet of water per year in the region. This represents a sizable water demand in an area that has extremely limited water resources. In fact, NCWD has been approached by existing property owners in the Aqua Dulce area whose local wells are no longer producing. These property owners have to rely on expensive hauled water that they report to be unreliable as well as economically unsustainable.

The EIR should identify the likely water sources to be used and evaluate the impacts to the area where the water would be acquired as well as adjacent areas that are hydrologically connected. This evaluation should include the ability of the affected water supply to meet both quality standards and demand in the long-term including at the time of build-out.

Consistent with the requirements of CEQA regarding cumulative analysis, the impacts described above need to be evaluated in conjunction with the impacts of related projects to determine if the Project would have significant cumulative impacts. For instance, no drinking water supplier had the opportunity in forecasting long term demand to calculate the additional demand that would result from the Project nor was any water supplier able to evaluate the Project's impacts to future demand

in its 2010 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). The increase in demand resulting from the Project will need to be accounted for in all of the affected agencies 2015 UWMPs including those of the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts.

NCWD appreciates your consideration of these comments. Please feel free to contact me at (661) 702-4439.

Sincerely,

NEWHALL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Cole', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephen L. Cole
General Manager



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294

DARYL L. OSBY
FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

May 20, 2015

Dale Sakamoto, Civil Engineer
LA County Department of Public Works
Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

RECIRCULATING THE NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND NOTICE OF A SCOPING MEETING, "PROPOSED SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL HAULED WATER INITIATIVE FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT", ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY OF THE ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOW HAULED WATER, APPROXIMATELY 42,872 PARCEL OWNERS, CONSISTS OF APPROXIMATELY 342,715 ACRES OR APPROXIMATELY 535 SQUARE MILES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY (FFER 201500078)

The Recirculating the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report and Notice of a Scoping Meeting has been reviewed by the Planning Division, Land Development Unit, Forestry Division, and Health Hazardous Materials Division of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department. The following are their comments:

PLANNING DIVISION:

1. We have no comments at this time.

LAND DEVELOPMENT UNIT:

1. Chapter 5, Section 507.1, of the Fire Code specifies that an approved water supply capable of supplying the required fire flow for fire protection shall be

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

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ARTESIA
AZUSA
BALDWIN PARK
BELL
BELL GARDENS
BELLFLOWER
BRADBURY

CALABASAS
CARSON
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CLAREMONT
COMMERCE
COVINA
CUAHDY

DIAMOND BAR
DUARTE
EL MONTE
GARDENA
GLENORA
HAWAIIAN GARDENS
HAWTHORNE

HIDDEN HILLS
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LOMITA
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PALMDALE
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RANCHO PALOS VERDES
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SANTA CLARITA

SIGNAL HILL
SOUTH EL MONTE
SOUTH GATE
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WALNUT
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WESTLAKE VILLAGE
WHITTIER

provided to premises upon which buildings are constructed. Additionally, Fire Code Chapter 5, Section 507.4, states the fire-code official shall be provided with approved documentation of the water supply test prior to final approval of the water supply system. If a project does not have a public water supply, an "alternate means of fire protection" can be requested, and it shall comply with the Fire Department's Regulation No.19. The water tank is required to be supplied from a private on-site well that is certified sustainable by the Department of Public Health and meet all required health standards. Please contact FPEA Wally Collins at (323) 890-4243 or Wally.Collins@fire.lacounty.gov if there are any questions regarding these comments.

FORESTRY DIVISION – OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:

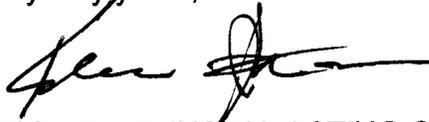
1. The statutory responsibilities of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department's Forestry Division include erosion control, watershed management, rare and endangered species, vegetation, fuel modification for Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones or Fire Zone 4, archeological and cultural resources, and the County Oak Tree Ordinance. Potential impacts in these areas should be addressed.

HEALTH HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION:

1. The Health Hazardous Materials Division (HHMD) of the Los Angeles County Fire Department has no comment or objection to the "residential hauled water initiative" project.

If you have any additional questions, please contact this office at (323) 890-4330.

Very truly yours,



KEVIN T. JOHNSON, ACTING CHIEF, FORESTRY DIVISION
PREVENTION SERVICES BUREAU

KTJ:ad



Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce

27451 Tournay Road, Suite 160 • Santa Clarita, CA 91355

(661) 702-6977 • (661) 702-6980

May 21, 2015

Mr. Dale Sakamoto
County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra CA 91803

RE: Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce Support of Castaic Lake Water Agency's Comments on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Impact Report for the Hauled Water Initiative for New Development (Project)

Dear Mr. Sakamoto,

On behalf of the Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to inform you that on May 19, 2015, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to support the Castaic Lake Water Agency's comments on the Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the Hauled Water Initiative.

The Castaic Lake Water Agency submitted their comments in a letter to you dated May 20, 2015, to provide guidance to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works consistent with the intent of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) regarding NOP responses. The Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce fully agrees with the concerns stated in this letter.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terri K. Crain".

Terri K. Crain
President / CEO



AGUA DULCE TOWN COUNCIL

33201 Agua Dulce Canyon Road * Box Number 8 * Agua Dulce, CA 91390

Website: www.adtowncouncil.com

October 17, 2014

Mr. Dale Sakamoto
Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Via Email to: dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov

RE: Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

The Agua Dulce Town Council appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development Scoping. We also appreciate the Department of Public Works hosting scoping meetings in the affected areas to solicit information from the public.

The Agua Dulce Town Council is a local entity representing approximately 5,000 residents in the unincorporated community of Agua Dulce in northern Los Angeles County. Our community is semi-rural and is composed of a town center and small family-owned ranches and homesteads.

The Council has reviewed the Notice of Preparation and the Initial Study, and while we do not consider ourselves to be experts in the complexities of the proposed initiative, we do have a number of comments relating to the perceived impacts of allowing hauled water for new single-family residential construction. The proposed initiative directly impacts our community of Agua Dulce.

- **Parcels affected by the proposed initiative:** The County has estimated that ALL of the now vacant parcels in the 5th District located in areas where there is no designated water purveyor (42,677 parcels) could be eligible to seek authorization for use of hauled water to support new single family residence construction.
 - That estimation is clearly overstated. Based on known groundwater resources, many of these vacant parcels could be developed with drilling a private well providing adequate water quality and quantity yields required by Los Angeles County Department of Environmental Health.
 - In addition to drilling wells, there may be a number of parcels that are within a reasonable distance from a water purveyor. Those parcels could install the required infrastructure and join a water utility, company, or district for distribution of potable water.
 - Using that over inflated estimated number of vacant parcels (42,677) in the "worst case scenario," of 384 building permits per year, over the 20 year projection to 2035, only

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BH33605@aol.com
- Mary Johnson, Secretary
(661) 268-8804
maryjohnson767@gmail.com
- Troy Fosberg, Treasurer
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- Steve Cummings, Clerk
(661)433-3234
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- Scott Keller, Member
(661)317-5355
scottwilliamkeller@aol.com
- Ed Porter, Member
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porteredward@msn.com
- Lou Vince, Member
(310) 597-7154
Lou@LouVince.com

- 7,680 parcels would be developed; less than 18% of the total vacant parcels.
 - Using the over-inflated number of vacant parcels results in an overstated cumulative effect.
 - Table 13.13.2-3 has incorrect numbers stated in *New Single-Family Residence Permits Issued in the Hauled Water (Initiative study area not as part of a subdivision)*. The numbers do not match the totals and average noted in the text.
- **Evaluation of impacts related to single-family residence construction:** Impacts related to construction of single family residences should be eliminated from review.
 - According to the adopted Land Use Policy Map in the 1980 Land Use Element of the adopted Los Angeles County General Plan, the 42,677 subject parcels have been designated with 13 different land use types *that permit single-family residential development*.
 - Pursuant to the zoning designations described under Title 22 Planning and Zoning, the 42,677 parcels that are subject to the proposed initiative fall within eight zoning designations described in the Los Angeles County, California, Code of Ordinances – Title 22 Planning and Zoning. All eight of these zoning designations *permit the construction of a single family residence*.
 - Impacts related to single family residence construction are covered within the General and Area Plans. There is no need to consider the impacts of single family residence construction when that is an entitlement of the parcel. Further evaluation is redundant and unnecessary.
 - IF any of these 42,677 parcels were to drill their own well OR hook up to a water purveyor, residential construction impacts to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, greenhouse gas emission, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, and utilities and service systems would NOT be studied to determine any environmental issues. As long as the residential construction adhered to National, State, and County regulations, the cumulative environmental impacts would not be considered. Evaluation of environmental impacts to residential construction related impacts is addressed in the General Plan and subsequent Area Plans. It is redundant and unnecessary to evaluate them any further.
 - The only environmental impacts to be evaluated should be related to the actual operations of a water hauling truck.
- **Evaluation of Land Use Change:** Prior to 2003, approvals of domestic water sources were not required for new single-family residential development. Prior to 2003, all of the referenced 42,677 vacant parcels would have been permitted to subdivide their property in a minor land division. This policy, while allowing the parcel to be developed essentially prohibits the land owner from the ability to subdivide with a minor land division.
- **Evaluation of Aesthetics regarding Water Tank:** The visual impacts of glare and impacts to significant ridgelines regarding water tanks should not be evaluated. Existing water tanks are part of the landscape of our area and are required for fire protection whether or not the residence is served by hauled water. Aesthetic impacts or any other impacts related to water storage tanks should not be evaluated.
- **Reasonable Range of Feasible Alternatives must be evaluated:** The objective of the EIR may need to be modified to indicate the objective is to find potable water sources for construction of single family residences. By broadening that objective, a number of reasonable, feasible alternatives can be evaluated.
 - Evaluate the potential of reducing the current policy of 2,880 gallons per day minimum well yield requirement to a more realistic amount would allow those parcels with low producing wells to have the ability to construct a single family residence.
 - Evaluating the potential of low-cost, affordable, subsidized water purveyor infrastructure and distribution to the rural underserved population.

We encourage Los Angeles County Department of Public Works to evaluate only the impacts related to water hauling operations, eliminate impacts related to single family residence construction, research and determine a more realistic number of parcels affected by the proposed initiative, eliminate impacts relating to water storage tanks, evaluate the loss of allowing minor land divisions, and to evaluate reasonable and feasible alternatives to the initiative in the Draft Environmental Impact Report.

We ask that our comments and those of our constituents be given serious consideration. We appreciate the opportunity to present our concerns and hope those concerns are kept in mind during the preparation of the Environmental Impact Report. If any of our comments need clarification or further explanation, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Don Henry

Don Henry, President
Agua Dulce Town Council – 2014

Cc: Ms. Rosalind Wayman, 5th District Deputy rwayman@lacbos.org
Mr. Edel Vizcarra, 5th District Land Use Deputy evizcarra@lacbos.org

BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
Website: www.bof.fire.ca.gov
(916) 653-8007



Via email

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Dale Sakamoto/Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803
June 1, 2015

RE: Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

The California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) would like to issue comment on the revised scope and contents of the Initial Study for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development. The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection disagrees with the assessment that this proposed initiative has no impact or a less than significant impact on hazards and hazardous materials, especially since the proposed additional parcels are in areas of VHFHSZ and/or SRA.

This proposed initiative is incompatible with Policy S 3.1 in the County's 2035 General Plan Update – *"Discourage development in VHFHSZs, particularly in areas with significant biological resources."* and Policy S 3.6 – *"Ensure adequate infrastructure, including ingress, egress, and peak load water supply availability for all projects located in VHFHSZs."* Additionally, this proposal does not meet the water supply and availability requirements of §1275.10 in Title 14 CCR – State Responsibility Area (SRA) Fire Safe Regulations. Residential development in the SRA that does not comply with §1275.10 and Title 14 regulations may be subject to enforcement by CAL FIRE.

According to page 3.8-15 of the Initial Study, nearly 20% of the study area is located within High or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones and 22% of the study area is in SRA (page 3.14-2). This initiative includes no specifications for how Los Angeles County proposes to protect homes in VHFHSZs or SRA that take advantage of this initiative with additional wildfire protection mitigations nor does it describe how new residential development will meet state and local requirements for emergency water infrastructure. The Board recommends that, in the development of this ordinance, LA County Public Works and LA County Planning meet with LA County Fire to ensure all state and local standards for wildland firefighting water supply are met.

Given the fire history and fire hazard risk faced by the study area, particularly the Acton, Kagel Canyon, Lake Hughes/Gorman/West of Lancaster, and Castaic/Santa Clarita/Agua Dulce subareas, the Board believes the proposed hauled water ordinance is insufficient to meet the emergency water needs for residential development. There are potentially significant impacts that would expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, contrary to the County's finding on page 2-7. The Board requests this issue be studied in further depth in the Environmental Impact Report.

Sincerely,

Edith Hannigan
Board Consultant, SRA
edith.hannigan@bof.ca.gov
(916) 653-2928

cc: Chief Philip Cocker, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Assistant Chief J. Lopez, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Chris Browder, CAL FIRE Deputy Environmental Coordinator

BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

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SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
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Via email

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Dale Sakamoto/Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803
October 19, 2014

RE: Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

The California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) would like to issue comment on the scope and contents of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development.

This proposed initiative is incompatible with Policy S 3.1 in the County's 2035 General Plan Update – "*Discourage development in VHFHSZs, particularly in areas with significant biological resources.*" and Policy S 3.6 – "*Ensure adequate infrastructure, including ingress, egress, and peak load water supply availability for all projects located in VHFHSZs.*" Additionally, this proposal does not meet the water supply and availability requirements of §1275.10 in Title 14 CCR – SRA Fire Safe Regulations.

According to page 3.8-15 of the Initial Study, nearly 20% of the study area is located within High or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones and 22% of the study area is in State Responsibility Area (SRA) (page 3.14-2). The proposed ordinance provides water source exemptions for residential development in areas in VHFHSZ and SRA that do not have sufficient groundwater for wells and no designated water purveyor. By developing an ordinance that creates alternative water source options, the County is encouraging development in Very High Fire Hazard Areas while failing to provide sufficient water supply and infrastructure, which is directly contrary to the above stated policies. This initiative includes no specifications for how Los Angeles County proposes to protect homes in VHFHSZs or SRA that take advantage of this initiative with additional wildfire mitigations nor does it describe how new residential development will meet state and local requirements for emergency water infrastructure.

Given the fire history and fire hazard risk faced by the study area, particularly the Acton, Kagel Canyon, Lake Hughes/Gorman/West of Lancaster, and Castaic/Santa Clarita/Agua Dulce subareas, the Board believes the proposed hauled water ordinance is insufficient to meet the emergency water needs for residential development. There are potentially significant impacts that would expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, contrary to the County's finding on page 2-7. The Board requests this issue be studied in further depth in the Environmental Impact Report.

Sincerely,

Edith Hannigan
Board Consultant, SRA
edith.hannigan@bof.ca.gov
(916) 653-2928

cc: J. Lopez, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Chris Browder, CAL FIRE Deputy Environmental Coordinator



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
(858) 467-4201
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EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



October 17, 2014

Mr. Dale Sakamoto
County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov

Subject: Comments on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development in Los Angeles County (SCH# 2014091048).

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) has reviewed the above-referenced Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development (Project) Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) prepared by the County of Los Angeles (County) acting as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The Project site includes 42,677 parcels in the unincorporated territory of Los Angeles County. The combined Project area consists of approximately 285,500 acres or approximately 450 square miles in the northern one-third of the County, including areas located north and east of the San Gabriel Mountains in the Antelope Valley; areas located northeast of the City of Santa Clarita, north and south of California State Route 14; areas that are southwest of the City of Palmdale in the communities of Agua Dulce and Acton; and in the Kagel Canyon area in the Angeles National Forest.

The Project involves a proposed ordinance that would allow hauled water as the primary source of potable water for new development of single-family residences on existing vacant legal lots or lots that are eligible for a certificate of compliance where the property owner has demonstrated that there is no other feasible source of private or municipal potable water or capability of developing an on-site well to provide potable water to the property, and only if the property lies outside of the boundaries of the local private and municipal water districts, and is not eligible for service by the nearest public-community water purveyor. The ordinance is proposed for parcels that are larger than 2,000 square feet in size with slopes under 50 percent. The ordinance would be applicable solely to the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County.

The following statements and comments have been prepared pursuant to the Department's authority as Trustee Agency with jurisdiction over natural resources affected by the project, (CEQA Guidelines § 15386) and pursuant to our authority as a Responsible Agency under CEQA Guidelines section 15381 over those aspects of the proposed project that come under the purview of the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish and Game Code § 2050 *et seq.*) and Fish and Game Code section 1600 *et seq.*

Specific Comments

1. Cumulative Impacts – The proposed Project may have cumulative effect on sensitive species and habitats known to occur on and adjacent to the Project site. A cumulative effects analysis should be developed as described under CEQA Guidelines Section 15130. The Department recommends the DEIR analyze cumulative effects to sensitive species and habitats resulting from the proposed Project and known proposed developments on adjacent properties as well as potential effects to regional conservation planning.
2. Growth-Inducing Impacts – The DEIR should discuss the growth-inducing impacts on biological resources within the Project footprint that may result from the development of Project infrastructure and road improvements, which are not currently present in the area.

General Comments

The Department provides the following comments for general issues and concerns regarding Project impacts to biological resources.

1. The Department has responsibility for wetland and riparian habitats. It is the policy of the Department to strongly discourage development in wetlands or conversion of wetlands to uplands. The Department opposes any development or conversion, which would result in a reduction of wetland acreage or wetland habitat, values, unless, at a minimum, Project mitigation assures there will be "no net loss" of either wetland habitat values or acreage. Development and conversion include but are not limited to conversion to subsurface drains, placement of fill or building of structures within the wetland, and channelization or removal of materials from the streambed. All wetlands and watercourses, whether intermittent or perennial, should be retained and provided with substantial setbacks, which preserve the riparian and aquatic values and maintain their value to on-site and off-site wildlife populations. Mitigation measures to compensate for impacts to mature riparian corridors must be included in the DEIR and must compensate for the loss of function and value of a wildlife corridor.
 - a) The Project area supports aquatic, riparian, and wetland habitats; therefore, a jurisdictional delineation of the creeks and their associated riparian habitats should be included in the DEIR. The delineation should be conducted pursuant to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) wetland definition adopted by the

Department.¹ Please note that some wetland and riparian habitats subject to the Department's authority may extend beyond the jurisdictional limits of the USACE.

- b) The Department also has regulatory authority over activities in streams and/or lakes that will divert or obstruct the natural flow, or change the bed, channel, or bank (which may include associated riparian resources) of a river or stream, or use material from a streambed. For any such activities, the Project applicant (or "entity") must provide written notification to the Department pursuant to section 1600 *et seq.* of the Fish and Game Code. Based on this notification and other information, the Department determines whether a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSA) with the applicant is required prior to conducting the proposed activities. The Department's issuance of a LSA for a Project that is subject to CEQA will require CEQA compliance actions by the Department as a Responsible Agency. The Department as a Responsible Agency under CEQA may consider the local jurisdiction's (lead agency) Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report for the Project. To minimize additional requirements by the Department pursuant to section 1600 *et seq.* and/or under CEQA, the document should fully identify the potential impacts to the stream or riparian resources and provide adequate avoidance, mitigation, monitoring and reporting commitments for issuance of the LSA.²
2. The Department considers adverse impacts to a species protected by the CESA, for the purposes of CEQA, to be significant without mitigation. As to CESA, take of any endangered, threatened, or candidate species that results from the Project is prohibited, except as authorized by state law (Fish and Game Code, §§ 2080, 2085.) Consequently, if the Project, Project construction, or any Project-related activity during the life of the Project will result in take of a species designated as endangered or threatened, or a candidate for listing under CESA, the Department recommends that the Project proponent seek appropriate take authorization under CESA prior to implementing the Project. Appropriate authorization from the Department may include an incidental take permit (ITP) or a consistency determination in certain circumstances, among other options (Fish and Game Code §§ 2080.1, 2081, subs. (b),(c)). Early consultation is encouraged, as significant modification to a Project and mitigation measures may be required in order to obtain a CESA Permit. Revisions to the Fish and Game Code, effective January 1998, may require that the Department issue a separate CEQA document for the issuance of an ITP unless the Project CEQA document addresses all Project impacts to CESA-listed species and specifies a mitigation monitoring and reporting program that will meet the requirements of an ITP. For these reasons, biological mitigation monitoring and reporting proposals should be of sufficient detail and resolution to satisfy the requirements for a CESA ITP.

¹ Cowardin, Lewis M., et al. 1979. Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States. U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service.

² A notification package for a LSA may be obtained by accessing the Department's website at www.wildlife.ca.gov/habcon/1600.

3. To enable the Department to adequately review and comment on the proposed Project from the standpoint of the protection of plants, fish, and wildlife, we recommend the following information be included in the DEIR.
 - a) A complete discussion of the purpose and need for, and description of, the proposed Project, including all staging areas and access routes to the construction and staging areas.
 - b) A range of feasible alternatives to ensure that alternatives to the proposed Project are fully considered and evaluated; the alternatives should avoid or otherwise minimize impacts to sensitive biological resources particularly wetlands. Specific alternative locations should be evaluated in areas with lower resource sensitivity where appropriate.

Biological Resources within the Project's Area of Potential Effect

4. To provide a complete assessment of the flora and fauna within and adjacent to the Project area, with particular emphasis upon identifying endangered, threatened, sensitive, and locally unique species and sensitive habitats, the DEIR should include the following information:
 - a) Per CEQA Guidelines, section 15125(c), information on the regional setting that is critical to an assessment of environmental impacts, with special emphasis should be placed on resources that are rare or unique to the region.
 - b) A thorough, recent floristic-based assessment of special status plants and natural communities, following the Department's Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities³. The Department recommends focused, repeated surveys be conducted by a qualified botanist during the appropriate floristic period(s) with results disclosed in the DEIR. Surveys should be no more than two years old and surveys periods should be verified with a known reference site. The Department recommends that floristic, alliance- and/or association-based mapping and vegetation impact assessments be conducted at the Project site and neighboring vicinity. The Manual of California Vegetation, second edition, should also be used to inform this mapping and assessment (Sawyer et al. 2008). Adjoining habitat areas should be included in this assessment where site activities could lead to direct or indirect impacts offsite. Habitat mapping at the alliance level will help establish baseline vegetation conditions.

³ http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/pdfs/protocols_for_surveying_and_evaluating_impacts.pdf

- c) A current inventory of the biological resources associated with each habitat type on site and within the area of potential effect. The Department's California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB) in Sacramento should be contacted at www.wildlife.ca.gov/biogeodata/ to obtain current information on any previously reported sensitive species and habitat, including Significant Natural Areas identified under Chapter 12 of the Fish and Game Code. The CNDDDB should be used to generate an initial list of potential species occurrence and not as evidence of non-occurrence. A lack of records in CNDDDB does not mean that rare plants or animals do not occur in a Project area. Field verification for the presence or absence of sensitive species, by a qualified biologist, is necessary to provide a complete biological assessment for adequate CEQA review.
- d) An inventory of rare, threatened, endangered, and other sensitive species on site and within the area of potential effect. Species to be addressed should include all those which meet the CEQA definition (see CEQA Guidelines, § 15380). This should include sensitive fish, wildlife, reptile, amphibian species, and any species that can be shown to meet the criteria for State listing, which includes State Species of Special Concern (SOC) and California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Lists 1A, 1B, and 2, which consist of plants that, in a majority of cases, would qualify for listing (CEQA Guidelines Sections 15380(d), 15065(a)). Seasonal variations in use of the Project area should also be addressed. Focused species-specific surveys, conducted at the appropriate time of year and time of day when the sensitive species are active or otherwise identifiable, are required. Acceptable species-specific survey procedures should be developed in consultation with the Department and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Analyses of the Potential Project-Related Impacts on the Biological Resources

- 5. To provide a thorough discussion of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts expected to adversely affect biological resources, with specific measures to offset such impacts, the following should be addressed in the DEIR.
 - a) A discussion of potential adverse impacts from lighting, noise, human activity, exotic species, and drainage should also be included. The latter subject should address: Project-related changes on drainage patterns on and downstream of the Project site; the volume, velocity, and frequency of existing and post-Project surface flows; polluted runoff; soil erosion and/or sedimentation in streams and water bodies; and post-Project fate of runoff from the Project site. The discussions should also address the proximity of the extraction activities to the water table, whether dewatering would be necessary, and the potential resulting impacts on the habitat, if any, supported by the groundwater. Mitigation measures proposed to alleviate such impacts should be included.
 - b) Discussions regarding indirect Project impacts on biological resources, including resources in nearby public lands, open space, adjacent natural habitats, riparian ecosystems, and any designated and/or proposed or existing reserve lands (e.g., preserve lands associated with a NCCP). Impacts on, and maintenance of,

wildlife corridor/movement areas, including access to undisturbed habitats in adjacent areas, should be fully evaluated in the DEIR.

- c) The zoning of areas for development Projects or other uses that are nearby or adjacent to natural areas may inadvertently contribute to wildlife-human interactions. A discussion of possible conflicts and mitigation measures to reduce these conflicts should be included in the environmental document.
- d) A cumulative effects analysis should be developed as described under CEQA Guidelines section 15130. General and specific plans, as well as past, present, and anticipated future Projects, should be analyzed relative to their impacts on similar plant communities and wildlife habitats.

Mitigation for the Project-related Biological Impacts

- 6. The DEIR should include measures to fully avoid and otherwise protect Rare Natural Communities from Project-related impacts. The Department considers these communities as threatened habitats having both regional and local significance.
- 7. The DEIR should include mitigation measures for adverse Project-related impacts to sensitive plants, animals, and habitats. Mitigation measures should emphasize avoidance and reduction of Project impacts. For unavoidable impacts, on-site habitat restoration or enhancement should be discussed in detail. If on-site mitigation is not feasible or would not be biologically viable and therefore not adequately mitigate the loss of biological functions and values, off-site mitigation through habitat creation and/or acquisition and preservation in perpetuity should be addressed.
- 8. For proposed preservation and/or restoration, the DEIR should include measures to perpetually protect the targeted habitat values from direct and indirect negative impacts. The objective should be to offset the Project-induced qualitative and quantitative losses of wildlife habitat values. Issues that should be addressed include restrictions on access, proposed land dedications, monitoring and management programs, control of illegal dumping, water pollution, increased human intrusion, etc.
- 9. If the nesting season cannot be avoided and construction or vegetation removal occurs between March 1st to September 15th (January 1st to July 31st for Raptors), the Permittee will do one of the following to avoid and minimize impacts to nesting birds⁶;

⁶ Qualified avian biologist shall establish the necessary buffers to avoid take of nest as defined in FGC 3503 and 3503.5

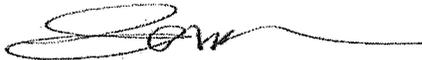
- a) Implement a 300-foot minimum avoidance buffers for all passerine birds and 500 foot minimum avoidance buffer for all raptors species. The breeding habitat/nest site shall be fenced and/or flagged in all directions. The nest site area shall not be disturbed until the nest becomes inactive, the young have fledged, the young are no longer being fed by the parents, the young have left the area, and the young will no longer be impacted by the project.⁵
 - b) Develop a project specific Nesting Bird Management Plan. The site-specific nest protection plan shall be submitted to the lead agency for review and CDFW. The Plan should include detailed methodologies and definitions to enable a CDFW qualified avian biologist to monitor and implement nest-specific buffers based upon the life history of the individual species; species sensitivity to noise, vibration, and general disturbance; individual bird behavior; current site conditions (screening vegetation, topography, etcetera), ambient levels of human activity; the various project-related activities necessary to construct the project, and other features. This Nesting Bird Management Plan shall be supported by a Nest Log, which tracks each nest and its outcome. The Nest Log will be submitted to the lead agency and CDFW at the end of each week.
 - c) The Permittee may propose an alternative plan for avoidance of nesting birds for the lead agency's review and submittal to CDFW.
10. The Department generally does not support the use of relocation, salvage, and/or transplantation as mitigation for impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species. Studies have shown that these efforts are experimental in nature and largely unsuccessful.
 11. Plans for restoration and revegetation should be prepared by persons with expertise in southern California ecosystems and native plant revegetation techniques. Each plan should include, at a minimum: (a) the location of the mitigation site; (b) the plant species to be used, container sizes, and seeding rates; (c) a schematic depicting the mitigation area; (d) planting schedule; (e) a description of the irrigation methodology; (f) measures to control exotic vegetation on site; (g) specific success criteria; (h) a detailed monitoring program; (i) contingency measures should the success criteria not be met; and (j) identification of the party responsible for meeting the success criteria and providing for conservation of the mitigation site in perpetuity.

⁵ NOTE: Buffer area may be increased if any endangered, threatened, or CDFW species of special concern are identified during protocol or pre-construction presence/absence surveys.

Dale Sakamoto
October 17, 2014
Page 8 of 8

The Department appreciates the opportunity to comment on the referenced NOP. Questions regarding this letter and further coordination on these issues should be directed to Ms. Victoria Chau, Environmental Scientist, at (562) 430-5082 or Victoria.Chau@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



for:
Betty Courtney
Environmental Program Manager I
South Coast Region

ec: Ms. Victoria Chau, CDFW, Los Alamitos
Ms. Betty Courtney, CDFW, Santa Clarita
Ms. Erinn Wilson, CDFW, Los Alamitos
Ms. Kelly Schmoker, CDFW, Mission Viejo
Mr. Scott Harris, CDFW, Pasadena
Mr. Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse, Sacramento



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
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EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



May 28, 2015

Mr. Dale Sakamoto
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Subject: Comments on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development in Los Angeles County (SCH# 2014091048).

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) has reviewed the above-referenced Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development (Project) Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) prepared by the County of Los Angeles (County) acting as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Project area includes approximately 42,872 parcels in the unincorporated territory of Los Angeles County. The combined Project area consists of approximately 342,715 acres or approximately 535 square miles located in the northern one-third of the County, including areas located north and east of the San Gabriel Mountains in the Antelope Valley; areas located northeast of the City of Santa Clarita, north and south of California State Route 14; areas that are southwest of the City of Palmdale in the communities of Agua Dulce and Acton; and in the Kagel Canyon area in the Angeles National Forest.

The Project involves a proposed ordinance that would allow hauled water as the primary source of potable water for new development of single-family residences on existing vacant legal lots or lots that are eligible for a certificate of compliance where the property owner has demonstrated that there is no other feasible source of private or municipal potable water or capability of developing an on-site well to provide potable water to the property, and only if the property lies outside of the boundaries of the local private and municipal water districts, and is not eligible for service by the nearest public-community water purveyor. The ordinance is proposed for parcels that are larger than 2,000 square feet in size with slopes under 50 percent. The ordinance would be applicable solely to the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. An NOP for a previous project on the subject property was issued on September 17, 2014, and the Department commented with a letter dated October 17, 2014.

The following comments and recommendations have been prepared pursuant to the Department's authority as a Responsible Agency under CEQA Guidelines section 15381 over those aspects of the proposed project that come under the purview of the California Endangered Species Act (Fish and Game Code § 2050 *et seq.*) and Fish and Game Code section 1600 *et seq.*, and pursuant to our authority as Trustee Agency with jurisdiction over natural resources affected by the project (California Environmental Quality Act, [CEQA] Guidelines § 15386) to assist the Lead Agency in avoiding or minimizing potential project impacts on biological resources.

Specific Comments

- 1) Cumulative Impacts. The proposed Project may have cumulative effect on sensitive species and habitats known to occur on and adjacent to the Project site. A cumulative effects analysis should be developed as described under CEQA Guidelines Section 15130. The Department recommends the DEIR analyze cumulative effects to sensitive species and habitats resulting from the proposed Project and known proposed developments on adjacent properties as well as potential effects to regional conservation planning.
- 2) Growth-Inducing Impacts. The DEIR should discuss the growth-inducing impacts on biological resources within the Project footprint that may result from the development of Project infrastructure and road improvements, which are not currently present in the area.
- 3) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB). The NOP indicates a CNDDDB query was conducted using USGS 7.5 minute quadrangles for the Project area as well as all neighboring USGS 7.5 minute quadrangles. The Department recommends a nine quadrangle literature search of CNDDDB to provide a regional context for the Project area and to accommodate for a wider range of species' populations. The CNDDDB should be used to generate an initial list of potential species occurrence and not used as evidence of non-occurrence. A lack of records in CNDDDB does not mean that rare plants or animals do not occur in a Project area. Field verification for the presence or absence of sensitive species, by a qualified botanist, during the appropriate climatic conditions is necessary to provide a complete biological assessment for adequate CEQA review.
- 4) Species of Special Concern. Page 3.4-11 of the NOP states "only ESA [Endangered Species Act] status and CRPR [California Rare Plant Ranking] is presented in subsequent tables given that the other species reported by CNDDDB are species of special concern." CEQA provides protection not only for state and federally listed species under CESA and ESA, but for any special status species including but not limited to State and federal candidate species proposed for listing under CESA and ESA, State fully protected species, California Species of Special Concern (SOC) and plant species that can be shown to meet the criteria for State listing including Lists 1A, 1B and 2 of the California Native Plant Society Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California. SOC and Listed 1A, 1B and 2 plant species consist of plants and wildlife species that in many cases would qualify for listing under CESA and are considered special status species (CEQA Guidelines Section 15380 (d)). The Department recommends the DEIR discuss all special status species, including SOC, reported by CNDDDB in the impact analysis and include appropriate avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures to reduce adverse impacts to below significant levels.
- 5) Rare Plant Surveys. Page 3.4-14 of the NOP states "if parcels were developed as a result of accepting the proposed initiative, surveys would need to be conducted on parcels where at CalVeg/DRECP data indicates a State sensitive community may be present." The NOP does not provide a clear guidance on what subsequent CEQA review is needed for parcels that would be developed as a result of the hauled water initiative. The Department is specifically concerned with disclosing existing baseline conditions for biological resources and analyzing the potential significant effects from the proposed development. The Department recommends rare plant surveys be conducted for all parcels that would have not been developable subsequent to the proposed Ordinance and where additional CEQA would not ordinarily be required (i.e., single family homes).

Rare plant surveys should be conducted at the appropriate time of year to maximize the likelihood of locating special status plant species or special status natural communities that may be present. The rare plant surveys should be floristic in nature to identify all plant taxa on the proposed development area to the level necessary to determine rarity and listing status. Each survey period should be verified with a known reference site because blooming periods are easily missed with a single survey, and blooming periods can shift with changes in climatic conditions such as during drought years. During drought years, some plants germinate and die without growing to full size. Evidence of these species would likely be absent later in the season (June/July surveys).

- 6) Appendix A. Appendix A indicates several species are absent from the Project area due to "no habitat present." However, field surveys have not been conducted to verify habitat communities in the Project area. The Appendix also indicates species occurrence in areas identified by CNDDDB records, but does not consider areas that have not yet been found by or entered into CNDDDB. The Department recommends the Appendix change the species occurrence category from "Absent" to "Unknown" due to the lack of field surveys and limited CNDDDB information. The Department also recommends the DEIR include an analysis of each species habitat requirement. Given that the Project area is large with a high potential for habitat type to occur in several different locations throughout the County, the DEIR should address potential species occurrence at a specific location.
- 7) Tricolored blackbird. Appendix A states that tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*) is presumed present in the Project area. Tricolored blackbird is an emergency-listed species for protection under CESA. The Department recommends focused protocol surveys be conducted by a qualified avian specialist to determine baseline conditions and analyze the potential significant effects from the proposed Project on the species. The Department recommends full avoidance of the species, including avoiding ground-disturbing activities during periods when tricolor blackbird has the potential to be present within areas proposed for development.

General Comments

- 8) Project Description and Alternatives. To enable the Department to adequately review and comment on the proposed project from the standpoint of the protection of plants, fish, and wildlife, we recommend the following information be included in the DEIR:
 - a) A complete discussion of the purpose and need for, and description of, the proposed project, including all staging areas and access routes to the construction and staging areas; and,
 - b) A range of feasible alternatives to project component location and design features to ensure that alternatives to the proposed project are fully considered and evaluated. The alternatives should avoid or otherwise minimize direct and indirect impacts to sensitive biological resources and wildlife movement areas.
- 9) Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreements (LSA). As a Responsible Agency under CEQA Guidelines section 15381, the Department has authority over activities in streams and/or lakes that will divert or obstruct the natural flow, or change the bed, channel, or bank

(including vegetation associated with the stream or lake) of a river or stream, or use material from a streambed. For any such activities, the project applicant (or "entity") must provide written notification to the Department pursuant to section 1600 *et seq.* of the Fish and Game Code. Based on this notification and other information, the Department determines whether a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSA) with the applicant is required prior to conducting the proposed activities. The Department's issuance of a LSA for a project that is subject to CEQA will require CEQA compliance actions by the Department as a Responsible Agency. As a Responsible Agency, the Department may consider the Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report of the local jurisdiction (Lead Agency) for the project. To minimize additional requirements by the Department pursuant to section 1600 *et seq.* and/or under CEQA, the document should fully identify the potential impacts to the stream or riparian resources and provide adequate avoidance, mitigation, monitoring and reporting commitments for issuance of the LSA.¹

- a) The project area supports aquatic, riparian, and wetland habitats; therefore, a preliminary jurisdictional delineation of the streams and their associated riparian habitats should be included in the DEIR. The delineation should be conducted pursuant to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service wetland definition adopted by the Department.² Some wetland and riparian habitats subject to the Department's authority may extend beyond the jurisdictional limits of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Section 404 permit and Regional Water Quality Control Board Section 401 Certification.
- b) In project areas which may support ephemeral streams, herbaceous vegetation, woody vegetation, and woodlands also serve to protect the integrity of ephemeral channels and help maintain natural sedimentation processes; therefore, the Department recommends effective setbacks be established to maintain appropriately-sized vegetated buffer areas adjoining ephemeral drainages.
- c) Project-related changes in drainage patterns, runoff, and sedimentation should be included and evaluated in the environmental document.

10) Wetlands Resources. The Department, as described in Fish & Game Code § 703(a) is guided by the Fish and Game Commission's policies. The Wetlands Resources policy (<http://www.fgc.ca.gov/policy/>) of the Fish and Game Commission "...seek[s] to provide for the protection, preservation, restoration, enhancement and expansion of wetland habitat in California. Further, it is the policy of the Fish and Game Commission to strongly discourage development in or conversion of wetlands. It opposes, consistent with its legal authority, any development or conversion which would result in a reduction of wetland acreage or wetland habitat values. To that end, the Commission opposes wetland development proposals unless, at a minimum, project mitigation assures there will be "no net loss" of either wetland habitat values or acreage. The Commission strongly prefers mitigation which would achieve expansion of wetland acreage and enhancement of wetland habitat values".

¹ A notification package for a LSA may be obtained by accessing the Department's web site at www.wildlife.ca.gov/habcon/1600.

² Cowardin, Lewis M., et al. 1970. Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States. U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service.

- a) The Wetlands Resources policy provides a framework for maintaining wetland resources and establishes mitigation guidance. The Department encourages avoidance of wetland resources as a primary mitigation measure and discourages the development or type conversion of wetlands to uplands. The Department encourages activities that would avoid the reduction of wetland acreage, function, or habitat values. Once avoidance and minimization measures have been exhausted, the project must include mitigation measures to assure a "no net loss" of either wetland habitat values, or acreage, for unavoidable impacts to wetland resources. Conversions include, but are not limited to, conversion to subsurface drains, placement of fill or building of structures within the wetland, and channelization or removal of materials from the streambed. All wetlands and watercourses, whether ephemeral, intermittent, or perennial, should be retained and provided with substantial setbacks, which preserve the riparian and aquatic values and functions for the benefit to on-site and off-site wildlife populations. The Department recommends mitigation measures to compensate for unavoidable impacts be included in the DEIR and these measures should compensate for the loss of function and value.
 - b) The Fish and Game Commission's Water policy guides the Department to [insure] the quantity and quality of the waters of this state should be apportioned and maintained respectively so as to produce and sustain maximum numbers of fish and wildlife; to provide maximum protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife and their habitat; encourage and support programs to maintain or restore a high quality of the waters of this state, and prevent the degradation thereof caused by pollution and contamination; and endeavor to keep as much water as possible open and accessible to the public for the use and enjoyment of fish and wildlife. The Department recommends avoidance of water practices and structures that use excessive amounts of water, and minimization of impacts that negatively affect water quality, to the extent feasible.
- 7) California Endangered Species Act (CESA). The Department considers adverse impacts to a species protected by CESA, for the purposes of CEQA, to be significant without mitigation. As to CESA, take of any endangered, threatened, candidate species, or state-listed rare plant species that results from the Project is prohibited, except as authorized by state law (Fish and Game Code, §§ 2080, 2085; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §786.9). Consequently, if the Project, Project construction, or any Project-related activity during the life of the Project will result in take of a species designated as endangered or threatened, or a candidate for listing under CESA, the Department recommends that the Project proponent seek appropriate take authorization under CESA prior to implementing the Project. Appropriate authorization from the Department may include an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) or a consistency determination in certain circumstances, among other options (Fish and Game Code §§ 2080.1, 2081, subds. (b),(c)). Early consultation is encouraged, as significant modification to a Project and mitigation measures may be required in order to obtain a CESA Permit. Revisions to the Fish and Game Code, effective January 1998, may require that the Department issue a separate CEQA document for the issuance of an ITP unless the Project CEQA document addresses all Project impacts to CESA-listed species and specifies a mitigation monitoring and reporting program that will meet the requirements of an ITP. For these reasons, biological mitigation monitoring and reporting proposals should be of sufficient detail and resolution to satisfy the requirements for a CESA ITP.
- 8) Biological Baseline Assessment. To provide a complete assessment of the flora and fauna within and adjacent to the project area, with particular emphasis upon identifying endangered, threatened, sensitive, regionally and locally unique species, and sensitive

habitats, the DEIR should include the following information:

- a) Information on the regional setting that is critical to an assessment of environmental impacts, with special emphasis on resources that are rare or unique to the region (CEQA Guidelines § 15125[c]);
 - b) a thorough, recent, floristic-based assessment of special status plants and natural communities, following the Department's *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities* (see <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/habcon/plant/>);
 - c) floristic, alliance- and/or association-based mapping and vegetation impact assessments conducted at the project site and within the neighboring vicinity. *The Manual of California Vegetation*, second edition, should also be used to inform this mapping and assessment (Sawyer et al. 2008³). Adjoining habitat areas should be included in this assessment where site activities could lead to direct or indirect impacts offsite. Habitat mapping at the alliance level will help establish baseline vegetation conditions;
 - d) a complete, recent, assessment of the biological resources associated with each habitat type on site and within adjacent areas that could also be affected by the project. The Department's California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB) in Sacramento should be contacted to obtain current information on any previously reported sensitive species and habitat. The Department recommends that CNDDDB Field Survey Forms be completed and submitted to CNDDDB to document survey results. Online forms can be obtained and submitted at http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/submitting_data_to_cnddb.asp ;
 - e) a complete, recent assessment of rare, threatened, and endangered, and other sensitive species on site and within the area of potential effect, including SOC and California Fully Protected Species (Fish and Game Code § 3511). Species to be addressed should include all those which meet the CEQA definition (see CEQA Guidelines § 15380). Seasonal variations in use of the project area should also be addressed. Focused species-specific surveys, conducted at the appropriate time of year and time of day when the sensitive species are active or otherwise identifiable, are required. Acceptable species-specific survey procedures should be developed in consultation with the Department and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and,
 - f) a recent, wildlife and rare plant survey. The Department generally considers biological field assessments for wildlife to be valid for a one-year period, and assessments for rare plants may be considered valid for a period of up to three years. Some aspects of the proposed project may warrant periodic updated surveys for certain sensitive taxa, particularly if build out could occur over a protracted time frame, or in phases.
5. Biological Direct, Indirect, and Cumulative Impacts. To provide a thorough discussion of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts expected to adversely affect biological resources, with specific measures to offset such impacts, the following should be addressed in the DEIR:

³ Sawyer, J. O., Keeler-Wolf, T., and Evens J.M. 2008. A manual of California Vegetation, 2nd ed. ISBN 978-0-943460-49-9.

- a) A discussion of potential adverse impacts from lighting, noise, human activity, exotic species, and drainage. The latter subject should address project-related changes on drainage patterns and downstream of the project site; the volume, velocity, and frequency of existing and post-project surface flows; polluted runoff; soil erosion and/or sedimentation in streams and water bodies; and post-project fate of runoff from the project site. The discussion should also address the proximity of the extraction activities to the water table, whether dewatering would be necessary and the potential resulting impacts on the habitat, if any, supported by the groundwater. Mitigation measures proposed to alleviate such impacts should be included;
 - b) a discussion regarding indirect project impacts on biological resources, including resources in nearby public lands, open space, adjacent natural habitats, riparian ecosystems, and any designated and/or proposed or existing reserve lands (e.g., preserve lands associated with a NCCP). Impacts on, and maintenance of, wildlife corridor/movement areas, including access to undisturbed habitats in adjacent areas, should be fully evaluated in the DEIR;
 - c) the impacts of zoning of areas for development projects or other uses nearby or adjacent to natural areas, which may inadvertently contribute to wildlife-human interactions. A discussion of possible conflicts and mitigation measures to reduce these conflicts should be included in the environmental document; and,
 - d) a cumulative effects analysis, as described under CEQA Guidelines section 15130. General and specific plans, as well as past, present, and anticipated future projects, should be analyzed relative to their impacts on similar plant communities and wildlife habitats.
6. Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation for Sensitive Plants. The DEIR should include measures to fully avoid and otherwise protect sensitive plant communities from project-related direct and indirect impacts. The Department considers these communities to be imperiled habitats having both local and regional significance. Plant communities, alliances, and associations with a statewide ranking of S-1, S-2, S-3 and S-4 should be considered sensitive and declining at the local and regional level. These ranks can be obtained by querying the CNDDB and are included in *The Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer et al. 2008).
 7. Compensatory Mitigation. The DEIR should include mitigation measures for adverse project-related impacts to sensitive plants, animals, and habitats. Mitigation measures should emphasize avoidance and reduction of project impacts. For unavoidable impacts, on-site habitat restoration or enhancement should be discussed in detail. If on-site mitigation is not feasible or would not be biologically viable and therefore not adequately mitigate the loss of biological functions and values, off-site mitigation through habitat creation and/or acquisition and preservation in perpetuity should be addressed.
 8. Long-Term Management of Mitigation Lands. For proposed preservation and/or restoration, the DEIR should include measures to protect the targeted habitat values from direct and indirect negative impacts in perpetuity. The objective should be to offset the project-induced qualitative and quantitative losses of wildlife habitat values. Issues that should be

addressed include, but are not limited to, restrictions on access, proposed land dedications, monitoring and management programs, control of illegal dumping, water pollution, and increased human intrusion. An appropriate non-wasting endowment should be set aside to provide for long-term management of mitigation lands.

9. Nesting Birds. In order to avoid impacts to nesting birds, the DEIR should require that clearing of vegetation and construction occur outside of the peak avian breeding season, which generally runs from February 1st through September 1st (as early as January 1 for some raptors). If project construction is necessary during the bird breeding season, a qualified biologist with experience in conducting bird breeding surveys should conduct weekly bird surveys for nesting birds within three days prior to the work in the area, and ensure that no nesting birds in the project area would be impacted by the project. If an active nest is identified, a buffer shall be established between the construction activities and the nest so that nesting activities are not interrupted. The buffer should be a minimum width of 300 feet (500 feet for raptors), be delineated by temporary fencing, and remain in effect as long as construction is occurring or until the nest is no longer active. No project construction shall occur within the fenced nest zone until the young have fledged, are no longer being fed by the parents, have left the nest, and will no longer be impacted by the project. Reductions in the nest buffer distance may be appropriate depending on the avian species involved, ambient levels of human activity, screening vegetation, or possibly other factors.
10. Translocation/Salvage of Plants and Animal Species. Translocation and transplantation is the process of moving an individual from the project site and permanently moving it to a new location. The Department generally does not support the use of, translocation or transplantation as the primary mitigation strategy for unavoidable impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species. Studies have shown that these efforts are experimental and the outcome unreliable. The Department has found that permanent preservation and management of habitat capable of supporting these species is often a more effective long-term strategy for conserving sensitive plants and animals, and their habitats.
11. Moving out of Harm's Way. The proposed project is anticipated to result in clearing of natural habitats that support many species of indigenous wildlife. To avoid direct mortality, the Department recommends a qualified biological monitor approved by the Department be on site prior to and during ground and habitat disturbing activities to move out of harm's way special status species or other wildlife of low mobility that would be injured or killed by grubbing or project-related construction activities. It should be noted that the temporary relocation of on-site wildlife does not constitute effective mitigation for the purposes of offsetting project impacts associated with habitat loss.
12. Wildlife Movement and Connectivity. The project area supports significant biological resources and is located adjacent to a regional wildlife movement corridor. The project area contains habitat connections and supports movement across the broader landscape, sustaining both transitory and permanent wildlife populations. Onsite features, which contribute to habitat connectivity, should be evaluated and maintained. Aspects of the project could create physical barriers to wildlife movement from direct or indirect project-related activities. Indirect impacts from lighting, noise, dust, and increased human activity may displace wildlife in the general area.

13. Revegetation/Restoration Plan. Plans for restoration and re-vegetation should be prepared by persons with expertise in southern California ecosystems and native plant restoration techniques. Plans should identify the assumptions used to develop the proposed restoration strategy. Each plan should include, at a minimum: (a) the location of restoration sites and assessment of appropriate reference sites; (b) the plant species to be used, sources of local propagules, container sizes, and seeding rates; (c) a schematic depicting the mitigation area; (d) a local seed and cuttings and planting schedule; (e) a description of the irrigation methodology; (f) measures to control exotic vegetation on site; (g) specific success criteria; (h) a detailed monitoring program; (i) contingency measures should the success criteria not be met; and (j) identification of the party responsible for meeting the success criteria and providing for conservation of the mitigation site in perpetuity. Monitoring of restoration areas should extend across a sufficient time frame to ensure that the new habitat is established, self-sustaining, and capable of surviving drought.
- a) The Department recommends that local onsite propagules from the project area and nearby vicinity be collected and used for restoration purposes. Onsite seed collection should be initiated in the near future in order to accumulate sufficient propagule material for subsequent use in future years. Onsite vegetation mapping at the alliance and/or association level should be used to develop appropriate restoration goals and local plant palettes. Reference areas should be identified to help guide restoration efforts. Specific restoration plans should be developed for various project components as appropriate.
- b) Restoration objectives should include providing special habitat elements where feasible to benefit key wildlife species. These physical and biological features can include, for example, retention of woody material, logs, snags, rocks and brush piles (see Mayer and Laudenslayer, 1988⁴, for a more detailed discussion of special habitat elements).

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the referenced NOP. Questions regarding this letter and further coordination on these issues should be directed to Victoria Chau, Environmental Scientist at (562) 430-5082 or Victoria.Chau@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,


for Betty J. Courtney
Environmental Program Manager I
South Coast Region

cc: Ms. Christine Medak (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
Mr. Scott Morgan (State Clearinghouse)
Ms. Erinn Wilson, CDFW, Los Alamitos
Ms. Kelly Schmoker, CDFW, Mission Viejo
Mr. Scott Harris, CDFW, Pasadena

⁴ Mayer, K. E. and W. F. Laudenslayer, Jr. 1988. Editors: A guide to wildlife habitats of California. State of California, The Resources Agency, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Sacramento, CA.



State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Drinking Water

October 20, 2014

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
ATTN: Mr. Dale Sakamoto/Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Dear Mr. Dale Sakamoto

Subject: Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments

The State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) (formerly CDPH or DHS) has received and reviewed your Notice of Preparation of a Draft EIR for the proposed single-family residential hauled water initiative for new development. The DDW along with California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH) have opposed the use of hauled water as a primary source of drinking water for new construction. CCDEH also considers utilizing hauled water for this purpose as a poor land use practice for over a decade. A joint DHS/CCDEH policy and letter are attached. California, and a number of other states, through the regulation of haulers, has sought to reduce the risk associated with using hauled water as the primary source of drinking water through the regulation of haulers and through recommendations to local jurisdictions.

One of DDW's concerns regarding water hauling is a practical one. USEPA has published a legal finding (signed 11/26/1976, revised 11/1998), stating that once a hauler serves 15 or more houses, the operation falls under the provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act as a "constructed conveyance" (copy attached). Due to the small number of licensed haulers and small number of residences they serve, USEPA-Region 9 has not focused on this issue. However, should the use of water hauling expand to a community level, as could potentially happen in the Antelope Valley and others areas in Los Angeles County, USEPA may require DDW to enforce the more stringent requirements of the SDWA on water haulers. The DDW is not anxious to see the role of water haulers expand to the point where Region 9 would be forced to re-examine this issue.

The final decision on the use of hauled water for use by individual new homes on existing lots of record is a local land use decision. However, to ensure that a public water system (PWS) is not created, the county must not approve any land development utilizing hauled water as a source of supply that would serve 15 or more connections or result in water being provided to 25 or more persons at least 60 days out of the year (see definition of PWS). There should also be no formation of any State Small Water Systems as part of this process, i.e., serving 5 to 14 service connections. Based on this, hauled water should **not** be an option in the following circumstances:

- Any parcel map or sub-division map which identifies hauled water as a source of supply for the lot(s) being formed – particularly those that create 5 or more lots of record.
- Any lot of record within the boundary or service area of a public water system.
- Any individual lot(s), where the intended use can reasonably be expected to result in a water system meeting the definition of a public water system or a state small water system.

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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- Any individual lot(s), where the intended use meets the definition of a public water system that falls under the provisions of §116282 or that is attempting to use hauled water to meet the provision for exclusion under §116280 (b).

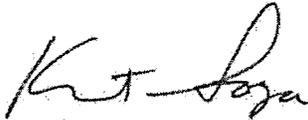
The existing DHS/CCDEH policy is not a regulatory requirement and does not carry the force of law. If the county does decide to allow hauled water as a source of domestic water in new construction, DDW would recommend that the following provisions be considered in the development of county ordinances regulating this practice:

- The property owner be required to demonstrate, by attempting to develop an on-site individual domestic water source, that water is unavailable on the property or is of a quality that renders it unsuitable for domestic use.
- That a suitable recording be made as part of the property title, regarding the limitations of the individual water supply, so that the property owner and successors, lenders and insurance providers are fully aware of the constraints and potential liability created by a hauled water supply. Such a recording should include a limitation that the residence only be allowed to be "owner occupied".
- That owners and their successors be required to connect to a public water system when or if one becomes available without undue delay. The county should consider whether or not to require that a cash bond be held in trust by the county, and be sufficient to cover estimated future connection charges.
- That owners and their successors be provided with an informative fact sheet, acceptable to the county, that informs them about the risks and responsibilities associated with hauled water usage.
- That the owner release the state and county of any liability associated with their use of hauled water.

The DDW and the County of Los Angeles are aware of private wells serving single-family residences in the Agua Dulce area that have run dry. The homes are forming a water system, Scenic Estates Mutual Water Company to serve the Agua Dulce homes, and they are seeking a connection to Newhall CWD. The reliability of obtaining hauled water during drought conditions is very difficult and obtaining hauled water from a potable source is also very expensive. Many water systems are not allowing haulers access to the distribution water supply due to lack of water supply during the drought. **The DDW is opposed to the County allowing new development for single-family residences using hauled water.**

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (805) 566-1326.

Sincerely,



Kurt Souza, P.E.
Action Southern California Branch Chief
Division of Drinking Water
State Water Resources Control Board

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Drinking Water

May 7, 2015

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
ATTN: Mr. Dale Sakamoto/Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Dear Mr. Dale Sakamoto

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The State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) (formerly CDPH or DHS) has received and reviewed your Notice of Preparation of a Draft EIR for the proposed single-family residential hauled water initiative for new development. The DDW along with California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH) have opposed the use of hauled water as a primary source of drinking water for new construction. CCDEH also considers utilizing hauled water for this purpose as a poor land use practice for over a decade. A joint DHS/CCDEH policy and letter are attached. California, and a number of other states, through the regulation of haulers, has sought to reduce the risk associated with using hauled water as the primary source of drinking water through the regulation of haulers and through recommendations to local jurisdictions.

One of DDW's concerns regarding water hauling is a practical one. USEPA has published a legal finding (signed 11/26/1976, revised 11/1998), stating that once a hauler serves 15 or more houses, the operation falls under the provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act as a "constructed conveyance" (copy attached). Due to the small number of licensed haulers and small number of residences they serve, USEPA-Region 9 has not focused on this issue. However, should the use of water hauling expand to a community level, as could potentially happen in the Antelope Valley and others areas in Los Angeles County, USEPA may require DDW to enforce the more stringent requirements of the SDWA on water haulers. The DDW is not anxious to see the role of water haulers expand to the point where Region 9 would be forced to re-examine this issue.

The final decision on the use of hauled water for use by individual new homes on existing lots of record is a local land use decision. However, to ensure that a public water system (PWS) is not created, the county must not approve any land development utilizing hauled water as a source of supply that would serve 15 or more connections or result in water being provided to 25 or more persons at least 60 days out of the year (see definition of PWS). There should also be no formation of any State Small Water Systems as part of this process, i.e., serving 5 to 14 service connections. Based on this, hauled water should **not** be an option in the following circumstances:

- Any parcel map or sub-division map which identifies hauled water as a source of supply for the lot(s) being formed – particularly those that create 5 or more lots of record.
- Any lot of record within the boundary or service area of a public water system.
- Any individual lot(s), where the intended use can reasonably expected to result in a water system meeting the definition of a public water system or a state small water system.

- Any individual lot(s), where the intended use meets the definition of a public water system that falls under the provisions of §116282 or that is attempting to use hauled water to meet the provision for exclusion under §116280 (b).

The existing DHS/CCDEH policy is not a regulatory requirement and does not carry the force of law. If the county does decide to allow hauled water as a source of domestic water in new construction, DDW would recommend that the following provisions be considered in the development of county ordinances regulating this practice:

- The property owner be required to demonstrate, by attempting to develop an on-site individual domestic water source, that water is unavailable on the property or is of a quality that renders it unsuitable for domestic use.
- That a suitable recording be made as part of the property title, regarding the limitations of the individual water supply, so that the property owner and successors, lenders and insurance providers are fully aware of the constraints and potential liability created by a hauled water supply. Such a recording should include a limitation that the residence only be allowed to be "owner occupied".
- That owners and their successors be required to connect to a public water system when or if one becomes available without undue delay. The county should consider whether or not to require that a cash bond be held in trust by the county, and be sufficient to cover estimated future connection charges.
- That owners and their successors be provided with an informative fact sheet, acceptable to the county, that informs them about the risks and responsibilities associated with hauled water usage.
- That the owner release the state and county of any liability associated with their use of hauled water.

The DDW and the County of Los Angeles are aware of private wells serving single-family residences in the Agua Dulce area that have run dry. The homes are forming a water system, Scenic Estates Mutual Water Company to serve the Agua Dulce homes, and they are seeking a connection to Newhall CWD. The reliability of obtaining hauled water during drought conditions is very difficult and obtaining hauled water from a potable source is also very expensive. Many water systems are not allowing haulers access to the distribution water supply due to lack of water supply during the drought. **The DDW is opposed to the County allowing new development for single-family residences using hauled water.**

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (805) 566-1326.

Sincerely,



Kurt Souza, P.E.
Acting Southern California Branch Chief
Division of Drinking Water
State Water Resources Control Board

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Services



California
Department of
Health Services

DIANA M. BONTÁ, R.N., Dr. P.H.
Director



GRAY DAVIS
Governor

AND



California Conference
of Directors of
Environmental Health

February 7, 2003

County Planning and Building Departments

Dear Directors of Planning and Building Departments:

Re: Federal Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments Affecting Potable Water

In 1996, the reauthorization of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) included requirements designed to ensure the viability of new public water systems. The California Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management (DDWEM) has since incorporated these requirements into the California Health and Safety Code and notified all Directors of Environmental Health. A copy of these regulations and guidance for the implementation of these new State laws was provided to Planning and Building Departments in a letter from the State Department of Health Services dated February 4, 2000 (attached).

The purpose of this letter is to advise you that local planning and development policies and State laws may overlap, and in some instances, may conflict with these recently mandated requirements for potable water supplies as specified in the Uniform Plumbing Code. In addressing this issue, the DDWEM has sought the advice and concurrence of the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health in order to jointly recommend a review of your land use policies to assure that adequate public health protection is provided to new facilities.

For planning and development projects reviewed at the local level that may result in the formation of a new public water system or change the ownership of an existing public water system, the project applicant must be informed of the new mandates for Technical, Managerial and Financial requirements (attached). In addition, when reviewing projects for new residential or commercial construction, the Uniform Plumbing Code requires that new construction be served by an acceptable source of potable water.

To avoid conflict with the recently adopted Federal mandates and existing State Codes, it may be necessary for County General Plans to be amended to provide proper land use planning policy relative to new construction and safe potable drinking water supplies. By doing so, this will allow for local decision makers to discourage the proliferation of small water systems that may not be able to provide the necessary technical, managerial or financial requirements to maintain such a system and may produce substandard conditions as those found in some jurisdictions where hauled water was needed to provide remedy to homeowners faced with an unreliable and potentially, unsafe alternative water supply.

Providing information to project proponents

For proposals you review which may result in the formation of a new public water system or a change in ownership of an existing public water system, we request that you inform the project proponent of the Technical, Managerial and Financial (TMF) requirements. Please also refer the individual to our local District office or your local Environmental Health Department. We have provided information summarizing the TMF requirements as well as a list of contacts for each County.

We have also learned that some new construction is being allowed where the source of the domestic water supply has been identified by the project proponent as hauled water. The use of hauled water for domestic purposes should only be allowed to serve existing facilities where the original supply is no longer adequate due to a loss of quantity or quality and where an approved source cannot be acquired. **The Department of Health Services and the Directors of Environmental Health do not support the use of irrigation ditch water, hauled water (from any source), or similar unacceptable sources of water for any new construction and request that this practice be eliminated.**

Some counties have already effectively addressed this problem by amending the County General Plan to actively discourage the formation of new public water systems and they prohibit the use of hauled water for new construction.

We believe that by working together, we can effectively implement these requirements and thereby protect the public health while following sound planning practices.

Sincerely,



David Spath, Ph.D., P.E., Chief
Division of Drinking Water
and Environmental Management

Sincerely,



Mel Knight, R.E.H.S., President
California Conference of Directors
of Environmental Health

Attachments:

1. Copy of letter from February, 2000
2. General information on TMF requirements
3. Copy of TMF Regulatory Requirements
4. List of contacts
5. Definition of Public Water System
6. Locations & contact information for DHS District Offices

cc: County Board of Supervisors

County Environmental Health Departments
State Department of Real Estate
Mr. Tom Hensley, Assistant Commissioner of Subdivisions
PO Box 187005
Sacramento, CA 95818

Local Agency Formation Commission Officers (LAFCO)
REs and DEs, DDWEM
Clifford A. Sharpe, Chief, NCDWFOB
Cindy A. Forbes, Chief, SCDWFOB
Norm Knoll, Staff Counsel, DWP

Bulk Hauled Water Policy

September 19, 2002

Issue:

With the implementation of the recently adopted federal regulations, the California Department of Health Services staff has worked with numerous Environmental Health Agencies and Irrigation Districts to address several water-conveyance systems where older homes were served historically by older irrigation districts in remote areas where potable water was not readily available or is limited. To allow for a more seamless integration of these new regulations and to ensure that close collaboration occurs between State and local agencies involved in permitting of new construction, it is desirable to adopt a policy restricting or eliminating the utilization of these outdated non-conforming systems for development purposes.

Recommendation:

The California Department of Health Services' Drinking Water Program and the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health concur that local governmental agencies ensure that local policies are in effect that prohibit the construction of new commercial and industrial facilities and residential dwellings that would be served by non-conforming systems which include, but are not limited to: irrigation ditch water; bulk hauled water (regardless of the source); and public water systems that do not meet the current standards of the California Safe Drinking Water Act.

Background:

Typically, most local regulations and the California Government Code require that subdivisions provide proof of an adequate water supply (private or public utilities) and suitability of wastewater disposal (onsite wastewater treatment systems on each parcel or public sewer service) prior to the subdivision map being recorded. When community services are not available, common practice is to require that a water well which produces adequate water quality and quantity be developed and that approved onsite wastewater treatment systems be approved before building permits are issued.

In instances where existing private water systems and or water wells fail to produce water in an adequate quantity or quality (permanently or seasonally), the landowner seeks approval from the local permitting agency for construction of a new water well to serve the water system. If this is unsuccessful, local authorities may find a temporary resolution by allowing bulk hauled water from a potable water source as an interim measure to allow the homeowner sufficient time to obtain a permanent and reliable source of potable water.

The California Department of Health Services' Drinking Water Program and the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health concur that bulk hauled water does not provide the equivalent level of public health protection nor reliability as that provided from a permanent water system from an approved onsite source of water supply. This position is based on the following public health risks:

1. The potential for contamination exists when water is transferred from tanker trucks to onsite storage facilities (water storage tanks). Improper handling of the piping used to transfer the water by accidental bacterial contamination easily occurs by personnel handling the delivery. Fittings and hoses used in the transfer process between the truck and onsite storage facilities can easily become contaminated during transport or from a prior delivery where adequate disinfection between uses does not occur.
2. Storage tanks often are demonstrated to be the source of bacterial contamination. Frequent opening and closing of hatches and transfer pipe openings increase the potential for contamination. Contaminants often enter through poorly constructed and maintained roofs, lids and hatches, vents and other openings.
3. Although water hauling companies must be licensed by the Food and Drug Branch of State Department of Health Services, this does not ensure that the licensed hauler will at all times follow the State guidelines. In addition, trucks may inadvertently haul materials other than potable water and failure to recognize the potential for contamination may result in unsafe water being delivered to the consumer.
4. Although an individual may be able to demonstrate that they have the financial resources to purchase bulk hauled water at a given time, economic conditions from an individual, regional or national level can deteriorate rapidly. A potable water supply must be reliable for not only the initial owner, but also for successors, heirs and future owners of the property. The costs associated with bulk hauled water for all domestic needs may be insurmountable and jeopardize future reliability of such a source.
5. As demonstrated by a number of waterborne disease outbreaks from the use of water not intended for drinking water purposes, there is generally a higher risk for contamination that may result in serious illness or death.

Local authority:

Local agencies have authority to set policy on bulk hauled water based on Uniform Plumbing Code Sections 101.2, 202.0, and 601.0. These sections state:

Section 101.2, "Purpose: ...this Code is an ordinance providing the minimum requirements and standards for the protection of public health, safety and welfare."

Section 202.0, "Definition of Terms: Potable water is water which is satisfactory for drinking, culinary, and domestic purposes and meets the requirements of the health authority having jurisdiction."

Section 601.0, "Running Water Required: Except where not deemed necessary for safety of sanitation by the Administrative Authority, each plumbing fixture shall be provided with an adequate supply of potable running water piped thereto in an approved manner, so arranged as to flush and keep it in a clean and sanitary condition without danger of backflow or cross-connection."

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WSG 6A

Date Signed: November 26, 1976

Revised: November 1998

Revised by: Wendy Warren

MEMORANDUM

TO: Victor J. Kimm
Deputy Assistant Administrator
for Water Supply (WH-550)

FROM: Thomas A. Largen (signed by T. A. L.)
Attorney-Advisor
Water Quality Division (A-131)

THRU: Roger D. Lee, Chief
Drinking Water Regulations Implementation Branch
Office of Water Supply (WH-550)

SUBJECT: Applicability of the Safe Drinking Water Act to Water Haulers

Region V has requested an interpretation as to whether water haulers are public water systems under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

A "public water system" is defined by Section 1401(4) as:

...a system for the provision to the public of water for human consumption, through pipes or other constructed conveyances if such system has at least fifteen service connections or regularly¹ serves an average of at least twenty-five individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year.

Although the term "piped water" is not defined by the Act or the NIPDWR, hauled water is piped into the carrier vehicle, withdrawn by similar mechanism into the user's cistern, and in most cases, piped again from cistern to faucet. Therefore, a hauler presumably provides piped water.

¹The regulations under the SDWA explain the term "regular" by stating that a public water system must have at least fifteen service connections or regularly serve an average of twenty-five individuals daily at least sixty days out of the year. 40 CFR 35.603(c), 41 F.R. 2913, Jan. 20, 1976.

This interpretation is reinforced by the legislative history of the SDWA which clearly intends a broad meaning for "public water system" to insure comprehensive protection of public health. (See House Report No. 93-1185, at 1).

The broad purpose of the SDWA "is to assure that water supply systems serving the public meet minimum national standards for protection of public health". (House Report No 93-1185, at 1). Whether water for public use is withdrawn from a transport vehicle, a river, or a well is irrelevant under the comprehensive regulatory scheme.

Thus, a water hauler, whether independent or owned or operated by a public water system, is itself a public water system under the NIPDWR if it meets minimum standards for number of outlets or customers served.

Furthermore, if the water hauler serves at least fifteen service connections used by year-round residents or regularly serves at least twenty-five year-round residents, then the hauler is a "community water system" as defined by Section 141.2(a)(i). Otherwise, it is a non-community system which would be subject to less stringent monitoring requirements than a community system.

The coverage section of NIPDWR, Section 141.3, includes any public water system, unless it satisfies all of the following conditions:

- (a) Consists only of distribution and storage facilities (and does not have any collection and treatment facilities);
- (b) Obtains all of its water from, but is not owned or operated by, a public water system to which such regulations apply;
- (c) Does not sell well water to any person; and
- (d) Is not a carrier which conveys passengers in interstate commerce.

If independently owned or operated, a water hauler's business presumably is to sell water. Therefore, condition (c) is not met. To "sell" water is given broad meaning under the Act. For example, a sale transaction cannot be disguised as a service charge to circumvent condition (c). Note the House Committee's interpretation:

Thus, for example, a municipal system which imposes water and sewage taxes or charges would not be exempt, because it sells water within the meaning of the section. Any distributor of water for human consumption, whether public or private, would be subject to the primary regulations unless he can show that he receives his water supplies from a system which is subject to the regulations and he does not charge consumers for the water that he provides. The purpose of this provision is to exempt from Federal regulation those facilities such as hotels, which

merely by virtue of having a storage tank and acting as a conduit from public water system to consumer would otherwise be subject to Federal regulation as a public water system.

By this provision the Committee intends that primary regulations would apply to housing developments, motels, restaurants, trailer parkers, and other businesses serving the public, if the business in question maintains its own well or water supply. The Committee intends to exempt business which merely store and distribute water provided by others, unless that business sells water as a separate item or bills separately for water it provides. (Emphasis added). House Report No. 93-1185, at 17.

In the case of a water hauler which is owned or operated by a public water system to which the NIPDWR apply, and from which the hauler obtains all its water, condition (b) of the coverage in Section 141.3 is not satisfied. Neither, presumably, is the non-sale condition of subparagraph (c) satisfied. The broad meaning of to "sell" water under SDWA does not intend to permit circumvention of condition (c) by resort to accounting devices, e g., arranging to have users make direct payments to the source supplier and be billed separately by the hauler for a "service charge". (See above quoted passage from House Report No 93-1185, at 17.)

Note, however, the effect of Section 141.29 of the NIPDWR, which provides for modifications in monitoring requirements for "consecutive public water systems" to the extent that the interconnection of the systems justifies treating them as a single system for purposes of monitoring. Thus, if a water hauler qualifying as a "public water system" obtains all of its water from another "public water system," then the state may treat the two as a single system for purposes of monitoring, where the state finds the interconnection of the two systems is justified for this limited purpose, and the modified monitoring is conducted pursuant to a schedule specified by the state and concurred in by the Administrator of EPA. See Section 141.29 of the NIPDWR.



Castaic Area Town Council

Post Office Box 325, Castaic, California 91310 (661) 295-1156 www.castaic.org

March 21, 2015

From: The Castaic Area Town Council
PO Box 325, Castaic CA 91384

Dear: Mr. Dale Sakamoto
dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov

Re: Hauled Water EIR scoping comments

I am writing this letter at the request and consent of the Castaic Area Town Council (5-20-2015 unanimous vote). The Council's concerns are more directed at the water supply, and not the expanded use of hauled water and those requiring it.

Expanding the hauled water availability and demand carries a need for expanded supply. With the limited water resources in California, and in areas that are proposed for any expansion approval, there will need to be safeguards, in the form of restrictions and enforcement oversight, to prevent privateers from turning the water supply in to a "gold rush" mentality (as stated by one of my fellow Councilmen). We have seen in recent years, in areas such as Aqua Dulce, where a private water supplier has pumped the local aquifer lowering the water table, thus leaving neighbors high and dry.

Established water companies, such as the Castaic Lake Water Agency (CLWA) or the Newhall Water District, have the ability to import and take from numerous sources. They are accountable. It is the Council's request that only these established companies be the supplier of the proposed hauled water. This regulation would hopefully limit the possibility of over pumping a given aquifer. The Council also recommends that private suppliers only be used in extreme cases, and that the county would have critical oversight and licensing conditions in place to prevent the over pumping or damaging of our local water resources.

It is also recognized that a County hot-line and enforcement agency be put in place to oversee both the suppliers and the resource development of hauled water supplies.

Best Regards,

Lloyd Carder II
Treasurer, Castaic Area Town Council.

cc: NWD, CLWA, Supervisor Antonovich

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
FEMA Region IX
1111 Broadway, Suite 1200
Oakland, CA. 94607-4052



FEMA

November 5, 2014

Dale Sakamoto
County of Los Angeles/Department of Public Works
Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

This is in response to your request for comments regarding the Notice of Preparation of Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development and Notice of Four Scoping Meeting Dates and Locations.

Please review the current effective countywide Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for the County of Los Angeles (Community Number 065043), Maps revised September 26, 2008. Please note that the County of Los Angeles, California is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The minimum, basic NFIP floodplain management building requirements are described in Vol. 44 Code of Federal Regulations (44 CFR), Sections 59 through 65.

A summary of these NFIP floodplain management building requirements are as follows:

- All buildings constructed within a riverine floodplain, (i.e., Flood Zones A, AO, AH, AE, and A1 through A30 as delineated on the FIRM), must be elevated so that the lowest floor is at or above the Base Flood Elevation level in accordance with the effective Flood Insurance Rate Map.
- If the area of construction is located within a Regulatory Floodway as delineated on the FIRM, any **development** must not increase base flood elevation levels. **The term *development* means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings, other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations, and storage of equipment or materials.** A hydrologic and hydraulic analysis must be performed *prior* to the start of development, and must demonstrate that the development would not cause any rise in base flood levels. No rise is permitted within regulatory floodways.

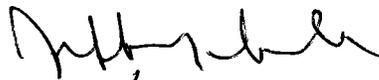
- All buildings constructed within a coastal high hazard area, (any of the “V” Flood Zones as delineated on the FIRM), must be elevated on pilings and columns, so that the lowest horizontal structural member, (excluding the pilings and columns), is elevated to or above the base flood elevation level. In addition, the posts and pilings foundation and the structure attached thereto, is anchored to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement due to the effects of wind and water loads acting simultaneously on all building components.
- Upon completion of any development that changes existing Special Flood Hazard Areas, the NFIP directs all participating communities to submit the appropriate hydrologic and hydraulic data to FEMA for a FIRM revision. In accordance with 44 CFR, Section 65.3, as soon as practicable, but not later than six months after such data becomes available, a community shall notify FEMA of the changes by submitting technical data for a flood map revision. To obtain copies of FEMA’s Flood Map Revision Application Packages, please refer to the FEMA website at <http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/forms.shtm>.

Please Note:

Many NFIP participating communities have adopted floodplain management building requirements which are more restrictive than the minimum federal standards described in 44 CFR. Please contact the local community’s floodplain manager for more information on local floodplain management building requirements. The Los Angeles County floodplain manager can be reached by calling George De La O, Senior Civil Engineer, at (626) 458-7155.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call Michael Hornick of the Mitigation staff at (510) 627-7260.

Sincerely,



Gregor Blackburn, CFM, Branch Chief
Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch

cc:

Floodplain Manager, City of Lancaster
George De La O, Senior Civil Engineer, Los Angeles County, Public Works Department
Chuck Heffernan, City Engineer, City of Palmdale
Christina Monde, Associate Engineer, City of Santa Clarita
Garret Tam Sing/Salomon Miranda, State of California, Department of Water Resources,
Southern Region Office
Michael Hornick, NFIP Planner, DHS/FEMA Region IX
Alessandro Amaglio, Environmental Officer, DHS/FEMA Region IX



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294

DARYL L. OSBY
FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

October 27, 2014

Dale Sakamoto, Civil Engineer
Department of Public Works
Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, "PROPOSED SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL HAULED WATER INITIATIVE FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT," NOTICE OF FOUR SCOPING MEETING, TO ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY OF THE ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOW HAULED WATER AS THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF POTABLE WATER FOR NEW SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION, IN EFFECT SIX CITIES ALL IN THE 5th DISTRICT, LOS ANGELES COUNTY (FFER #201400161)

The Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report has been reviewed by the Planning Division, Land Development Unit, Forestry Division, and Health Hazardous Materials Division of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department. The following are their comments:

PLANNING DIVISION:

1. We have no comments at this time.

LAND DEVELOPMENT UNIT:

1. Chapter 5, Section 507.1, of the Fire Code specifies that an approved water supply capable of supplying the required fire flow for fire protection shall be provided to premises upon which buildings are constructed. Additionally,

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

AGOURA HILLS	CALABASAS	DIAMOND BAR	HIDDEN HILLS	LA MIRADA	MALIBU	POMONA	SIGNAL HILL
ARTESIA	CARSON	DUARTE	HUNTINGTON PARK	LA PUENTE	MAYWOOD	RANCHO PALOS VERDES	SOUTH EL MONTE
AZUSA	CERRITOS	EL MONTE	INDUSTRY	LAKEWOOD	NORWALK	ROLLING HILLS	SOUTH GATE
BALDWIN PARK	CLAREMONT	GARDENA	INGLEWOOD	LANCASTER	PALMDALE	ROLLING HILLS ESTATES	TEMPLE CITY
BELL	COMMERCE	GLENORA	IRVINDALE	LAWNDALE	PALOS VERDES ESTATES	ROSEMEAD	WALNUT
BELL GARDENS	COVINA	HAWAIIAN GARDENS	LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE	LOMITA	PARAMOUNT	SAN DIMAS	WEST HOLLYWOOD
BELLFLOWER	CUAHDY	HAWTHORNE	LA HABRA	LYNWOOD	PICO RIVERA	SANTA CLARITA	WESTLAKE VILLAGE
BRADBURY							WHITTIER

Fire Code Chapter 5, Section 507.4, states the fire-code official shall be provided with approved documentation of the water supply test prior to final approval of the water supply system.

2. If a project does not have a public water supply, an "alternate means of fire protection" can be requested, and it shall comply with the Fire Department's Regulation #19. The water tank is required to be supplied from a private on-site well that is certified sustainable by the Department of Public Health and meet all required health standards.
3. Should there be any questions regarding the Land Development Unit's comments, please contact FPEA, Wally Collins at (323) 890-4243 or at Wally.Collins@fire.lacounty.gov.

FORESTRY DIVISION – OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:

1. The statutory responsibilities of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department's Forestry Division include erosion control, watershed management, rare and endangered species, vegetation, fuel modification for Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones or Fire Zone 4, archeological and cultural resources, and the County Oak Tree Ordinance. Potential impacts in these areas should be addressed in the Final Environmental Document.

HEALTH HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION:

1. The Health Hazardous Materials Division has no objection to the proposed project.

If you have any additional questions, please contact this office at (323) 890-4330.

Very truly yours,



FRANK VIDALES, CHIEF, FORESTRY DIVISION
PREVENTION SERVICES BUREAU

FV:jl

Sakamoto, Dale

From: Sarda, Juan
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 8:06 AM
To: Sakamoto, Dale
Cc: Hui, Tony; Esfahani, Massoud; Dubiel, Matthew
Subject: 2014-10-20, Hauled Water Initiative, LDD Comments.

Hi Dale,

Thanks for the opportunity to review the NOP-DEIR for the Single-Family Residence Hauled Water Initiative.

Land Development Division agrees with the findings on the NOP-DEIR. However, we have a water comment for your consideration:

- The environmental document shall address the entitlement of the water sources, and the methodology of the water-holding infrastructure to meet both the domestic and fire protection.

If you have any question regarding the water comment, please contact Tony Hui of your Land Development Division, Water Unit at (626) 458-4921 or thui@dpw.lacounty.gov

If you have any additional questions, please contact me.

Regards,

JUAN M SARDA, P.E.

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Land Development Division, Subdivision Mapping Section,
CUP/CEQA/B&T Planning Unit

☎ (626) 458-4921 📠 (626)458-4949

[Please click here to take our customer service survey](#)





COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

"Parks Make Life Better!"

Russ Guiney, Director

John Wicker, Chief Deputy Director

October 8, 2014

Sent via e-mail: dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov

TO: Dale Sakamoto, Civil Engineer
Department of Public Works

FROM: *Cl* Clement Lau, AICP, Departmental Facilities Planner I
Planning & CEQA Section

SUBJECT: **PROPOSED SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL
HAULED WATER INITIATIVE FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT
INITIAL STUDY**

The above Initial Study has been reviewed. Please find below our comments:

Page 3.15-3, REGULATORY FRAMEWORK, Local

- Please add the following description of the "County of Los Angeles Park Design Guidelines and Standards":

The Park Design Guidelines and Standards document is intended to give design professionals, County staff, and other agencies guidance on how to design and develop parks that meet County standards and expectations. It incorporates input from DPR staff, other County departments, as well as outside partners such as non-profit organizations and private developers which have an interest in park design. This manual addresses topics such as: spatial organization; buildings; circulation; recreational facilities; landscaping; storm water management; utilities; preferred manufactured products to be used at the parks; and preferred plant lists for both potable and recycled water.

The Park Design Guidelines and Standards document is available online at: http://file.lacounty.gov/dpr/cms1_216063.pdf

- Please add the following description of the "County of Los Angeles Trails Manual":

In May 2011, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted the County of Los Angeles Trails Manual (Trails Manual), which provides guidelines and standards sources of information for trail planning, design, development, and maintenance of Los Angeles County Trails. The Trails Manual is intended to be used by County Departments, primarily the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), and agencies associated with, or working in conjunction with DPR, or

engaged in the planning, design, construction and maintenance of multi-use (equestrian, hiking, and mountain bicycling) trails within the County of Los Angeles.

The Manual is available online at: http://file.lacounty.gov/dpr/cms1_208899.pdf

- Please add a brief description of the Draft Antelope Valley Area Plan (August 2014) and include parks and recreation policies listed under Goal PS 8 on page PS-5. Examples of policies include:

Policy PS 8.3: Provide new parks as additional development occurs or as the population grows, with a goal of four acres of parkland for every 1,000 residents.

Policy PS 8.4: Prioritize new parks for existing park deficient communities.

The Public Safety, Services and Facilities Element of the Draft Plan is available online at: http://planning.lacounty.gov/assets/upl/project/tnc_ch_05_public-safety-20140822.pdf

Pages 3.15-10 to 3.15-13, AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

- Please use the correct acreages (shown below) for the following County parks referenced in the document:

Dr. Richard H. Rioux Memorial Park	16.7 acres
Apollo Park	54.5 acres
Veterans Memorial Park	96.7 acres
Phacelia Wildlife Sanctuary	160.5 acres
Devil's Punchbowl	1,299.9 acres
Vasquez Rocks Natural Area Park	912.9 acres
El Cariso Regional Park	79.7 acres
El Cariso Golf Course	128.8 acres

Pages 3.15-13 to 3.15-14, IMPACT ANALYSIS

- This section uses an average single-family residence household of 3.5 people in unincorporated Los Angeles County to calculate the additional number of residents per year over an estimated 20-year period of time. Please note that based on the latest American Community Survey (ACS) data from the Census Bureau, the average household size for single-family residences actually ranges from a low of 2.45 to a high of 3.69 in the affected Park Planning Areas (PPA). For a complete listing of average household sizes by PPA, please refer to Section 21.24.340 of the Los Angeles County Code.

Mr. Sakamoto
October 8, 2014
Page 3

- The analysis correctly points out that the individual construction of single-family residences is not subject to the County's Quimby requirements. We concur that the proposed initiative could result in significant impacts to recreation, including contribution to cumulative impacts, as a result of generating demand for local parks in excess of the available supply of such facilities. Specifically, this would exacerbate existing parkland deficiencies and generate a demand for expansion or construction of local parks. To address the significant impacts to recreation, please provide mitigation measures and alternatives in the environmental impact report.
- The analysis does not address County trails. Please evaluate potential impacts to County trails in the affected communities.

Thank you for including this Department in the review of this document. If we may be of further assistance, please contact me at (213) 351-5120 or clau@parks.lacounty.gov.

CL/ Response SF Residential Hauled Water Initiative IS

c: Parks and Recreation (N. E. Garcia, K. King)

Los Angeles  Department of Water & Power

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MARCIE L. EDWARDS
General Manager

October 14, 2014

Mr. Dale Sakamoto
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

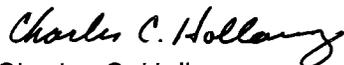
Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) appreciates this opportunity to submit comments on the draft EIR for Los Angeles County's Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development. Upon reviewing the County's proposed project description, the LADWP has determined that the implementation of the project, as described, would impose impacts on the City's water supply.

The draft EIR identifies the Metropolitan Water District and its member agencies as possible sources for potable water for a total of approximately 26,880 additional residents from proposed single-family residential development in unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. The proposed project area is composed of roughly 285,500 acres located in unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, which the LADWP currently does not serve. The lands identified in this project are outside of the boundaries of the City of Los Angeles, and was not considered in the Water System's 2010 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). Since this development has not been included in the UWMP, the LADWP requests that the EIR consider a source of water supply other than those originating from the LADWP.

For any questions regarding the above comments, please contact Ms. Stephanie Eatinger of my staff at (213) 367-0968. Also, please add Ms. Eatinger to your direct mailing list for any future notices regarding this project and others

Sincerely,



Charles C. Holloway
Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment

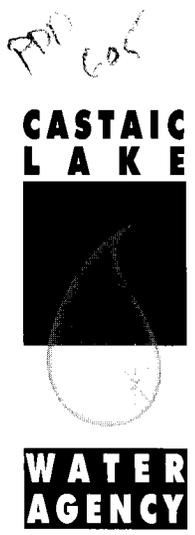
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Enclosure
c: Stephanie Eatinger

Los Angeles Aqueduct Centennial Celebrating 100 Years of Water 1913-2013

111 N. Hope Street, Los Angeles, California 90012-2607 Mailing address: Box 51111, Los Angeles, CA 90051-5700
Telephone: (213) 367-4211 www.LADWP.com

October 20, 2014

Mr. Dale Sakamoto
County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803



Re: Castaic Lake Water Agency's Comments on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Impact Report for the Hauled Water Initiative for New Development

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

The Castaic Lake Water Agency (CLWA) submits the following comments in order to provide guidance to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works consistent with the intent of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) regarding NOP responses (CEQA Guidelines Section 15082(b)). Although CLWA will not be a responsible agency as defined in CEQA, CLWA is an interested agency. Therefore, we have included a discussion of potentially significant environmental issues for water utilities that should be addressed in the DEIR.

Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts

The evaluation of the proposed project and any alternatives in the DEIR should address the following potential impacts to Water Service Utilities:

1. The project is proposing allow up to 42,677 parcel owners within the unincorporated county area to use trucked water for single-family detached residential units. This would represent a sizable water demand in an area that has extremely limited water resources. In fact, CLWA has been approached by community members in the Bouquet Creek and Aqua Dulce areas whose local wells are no longer producing and have to rely on expensive hauled water that they report to be unreliable as well as economically unsustainable.

Others have raised concerns that recharge from septic systems are comprising too large a portion of local groundwater from which local wells withdraw water, including those that are likely to provide sources for hauled water. The DEIR should identify the likely water sources to be used if the ordinance is approved and evaluate the impacts to the area where the water would be acquired as well as adjacent areas that are hydrologically connected. This evaluation should include the ability of the affected water supply to meet demand in the long-term including at the time of build-out for the communities in the vicinity/water utility service area. Additionally, the quality of the water supply to be provided, and impacts to those areas that the

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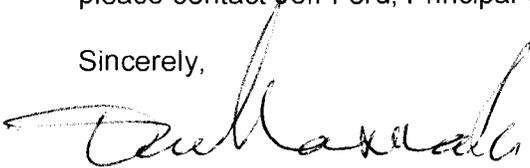
website address: www.clwa.org

water would be extracted from, needs to be evaluated. Also, variations in water quality due to drought should be a part of the analysis.

2. Trip generation increases that would result from truck traffic the ordinance would generate needs to be determined so that noise, air quality and traffic impacts are disclosed and mitigation measures to reduce potentially significant impacts can be analyzed for effectiveness.
3. Consistent with the requirements of CEQA regarding cumulative analysis, the impact categories above need to be evaluated in conjunction with the impacts of related projects to determine if the ordinance would have significant cumulative impacts. For instance, no drinking water supplier had the opportunity in forecasting long term demand to calculate the additional demands that would result from the ordinance nor was any water supplier able to evaluate the ordinance's impacts to future demand in its 2010 Urban Water Management Plan.
4. All domestic water suppliers with over 3,000 connections must document a strategy for compliance with SBX7-7, which requires that they achieve a twenty percent per capita reduction in potable water demand by the year 2020. The strategy includes reliance on all new development using water conservation technology and meeting new code requirements and the efficient use of irrigation in any outdoor landscaped areas. The DEIR needs to document how the ordinance would not interfere with meeting the goals of the law and how the new development served by hauled water would be conditioned for the maximum amount of water conservation.

CLWA appreciates having the opportunity to respond to the NOP and looks forward to reviewing the Draft EIR. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Jeff Ford, Principal Water Resources Planner, at (661) 513-1281.

Sincerely,



Dan Masnada
General Manager

cc: Adam Ariki, District Engineer, Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

May 29, 2015

File: Environmental Doc Review
Los Angeles County

Dale Sakamoto
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Ave., 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803
dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL HAULED WATER INITIATIVE FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOS ANGELES COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Water Board) received a copy of the County of Los Angeles's (Project Proponent's) May 1, 2015 Notice of Preparation for the above-referenced Project. The Notice of Preparation and Initial Study was distributed on September 17, 2014.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is a program to provide hauled water as the primary source of potable water for new single-family residential construction. This program would serve unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County where there is no available service from a public or private water purveyor and where it has been demonstrated that an on-site groundwater well is not feasible. On account of identifying additional parcels that could qualify to use hauled water, the project proponent distributed the Notice of Preparation again. As a state agency responsible for protecting water quality with the Lahontan region and CEQA "responsible" agency, we have reviewed the information submitted and have the following general and specific comments. Please assure that these comments are addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR).

GENERAL COMMENTS

The Lahontan Water Board staff requests the project proponent to:

- Evaluate the cumulative effect of the project's potential to disrupt watershed processes and degrade water quality related effects of the Antelope Valley watershed as a whole;
- Participate as an active stakeholder role in the development and implementation plans to managing the water resource and quality within the Antelope Valley watershed;

- Evaluate the cumulative effects of TDS, nitrate, and trihalomethanes loading into groundwater from dwelling units covered under the project, and consider a monitoring program for tracking this loading. The expectation is that wastewater disposal is through private onsite (septic) systems, and wastewater from these systems will eventually reach groundwater.

SPECIFIC COMMENTS

Notice of Preparation

1. Eligible number of parcels. Please describe the unexplained difference in the number of parcels:

Initial study Sept 17, 2014	42,827 parcels
Net gain of additional parcels	195
Unexplained difference	-150

 Notice of preparation May 1, 2015 42,872 parcels

2. Healthy watersheds are sustainable. Watersheds supply drinking water, provide for recreational uses, and support ecosystems. Watershed processes include the movement of water (i.e. infiltration and surface runoff), the transport of sediment, and the delivery of organic material to surface waters. These processes create and sustain the streams, lakes, wetlands, and other receiving waters of our region, including groundwater.

In the Lahontan Region, Los Angeles County occupies the southern half of the Antelope Valley watershed, a closed drainage basin whereby all surface runoff flows towards the interior playas. Big Rock Wash, Little Rock Wash, and Amargosa Creek are the primary hydrologic features of this area. These surface waters drain to the north and east and terminate at Rosamond Dry Lake. The majority of groundwater recharge occurs in these streams at the head of the alluvial fan systems, with Big Rock Creek and Little Rock Creek contributing a combined 80% of the total groundwater recharge of the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin. Increased development as a result of the proposed Ordinance has the potential to disrupt watershed processes and degrade the overall health of the Antelope Valley watershed as a whole. These cumulative effects are potentially significant and will need to be evaluated in the DEIR.

3. The watershed approach for managing water resource quality and quantity is a collaborative process that focuses public and private efforts on the highest priority problems within a drainage basin and must be a critical component in development projects, particular during times of drought and in arid areas where water quantity is naturally limited. The Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Group is a collaborative group of stakeholders, both public and private, that address both water quantity and water quality within the Antelope Valley watershed. A number of water management plans have been developed to date through that stakeholder collaboration process, and strategies continue to be developed and refined to sustain water quantity (i.e. imported water, storm water recharge, recycled water uses, etc.) and to manage salts and nutrients to maintain the quality of water within the watershed. The project

proponent is encouraged to play an active stakeholder role in the development and implementation of these plans and to incorporate applicable implementation strategies into their proposed Ordinance.

4. The beneficial uses of water resources in the Lahontan Region are listed either by watershed (for surface waters) or by groundwater basin (for groundwater) in Chapter 2 of the Basin Plan. The DEIR should identify and list the beneficial uses of the water resources within the Project area and include an analysis of the potential impacts to water quality and hydrology with respect to those beneficial uses.
5. Water quality objectives and standards, both numerical and narrative, for all waters of the State within the Lahontan Region, including surface waters and groundwater, are outlined in Chapter 3 of the Basin Plan. Water quality objectives and standards are intended to protect the public health and welfare, and to maintain or enhance water quality in relation to the existing and/or potential beneficial uses of the water. It is these objectives and standards that should be considered when evaluating thresholds of significance for Project impacts.
6. A number of activities associated with land development of the parcels that will be covered under the proposed Ordinance appear to have the potential to impact waters of the State and, therefore, may require permits issued by either the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) or Lahontan Water Board. The required permits may include:
 - a. Streambed alteration and/or discharge of fill material to a surface water may require a CWA, section 401 water quality certification for impacts to federal waters (waters of the U.S.), or dredge and fill waste discharge requirements for impacts to non-federal waters, both issued by the Lahontan Water Board; and
 - b. Land disturbance of more than 1 acre may require a CWA, section 402(p) storm water permit, including a NPDES General Construction Storm Water Permit, Water Quality Order (WQO) 2009-0009-DWQ, obtained from the State Water Board, or individual storm water permit obtained from the Lahontan Water Board, and
 - c. Water diversion and/or dewatering activities may be subject to discharge and monitoring requirements under either NPDES General Permit, Limited Threat Discharges to Surface Waters, Board Order R6T-2008-0023, or General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land with a Low Threat to Water Quality, WQO-2003-0003, both issued by the Lahontan Water Board.

Should land development result in activities that will trigger these permitting actions, the project proponent must consult with Water Board staff. Information regarding these permits, including application forms, can be downloaded from our web site at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/>

Initial Study, Section 3.9.1, Hydrology and Water Quality Regulatory Framework

7. Page 3.9-7. The bullets listed under the heading "Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region" are applicable to the State Water Resources Control Board (State

Water Board) and do not pertain directly to the Lahontan Water Board. Our roles and responsibilities are similar to those outlined for the Los Angeles Water Board on pages 3.9-7 and 3.9-8. The DEIR should accurately reflect the roles and responsibilities of the State Water Board and the Lahontan and Los Angeles Regional Water Boards.

To be more specific, the Division of Financial Assistance of the State Water Board administers water quality loans and grants. Other State and Federal agencies may also have loans and grants for water quality related projects. Appropriate water rights of surface waters are regulated under the State Water Board Division of Water Rights.

8. In the Initial Study, there is a reference to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Construction Storm Water Discharges, Water Quality Order (WQO) No. 98-08-DWQ on Page 3.9.8. WQO No 98-08-DWQ was rescinded in 2010 when the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities, WQO No. 2009-0009-DWQ was adopted and became effective July 1, 2010. The DEIR must make correct reference to WQO No. 2009-0009-DWQ (as amended) when discussing NPDES storm water regulations.

Initial Study, Section 3.9.3, Hydrology and Water Quality Impact Analysis

9. Table 3.9.3-1, Page 3.9.21. Please clarify the expected wastewater flow. Based on the project number of building units, and sewage flow per unit, the average wastewater flow for a planning population of 26,880 should be 1,996,800 gallons per day. This value should replace the value of 99,840 gallons per day in Table 3.9.3-1.

Please clarify the expected volume of pumped septic tanks per year. The volume of pump septic tanks per year for 7680 units, where one-third of the septic tanks are pumped each year, and the size of each septic tank is 1200 gallons, is about 3,072,000 gallons per year. This should replace the value of 30,368 gallons pumped per year in Table 3.9.3-1. A three year septic tank pumping cycles is ideal for preserving the soil infiltration system but many times owners wait 6 to 8 year.

10. The proposed method of wastewater disposal is through private onsite septic tank systems. Water infiltrating into groundwater from these systems contain nitrate concentrations that typically exceed the drinking water standard. Please evaluate the cumulative impacts from nitrate loading into the groundwater from these onsite systems, and propose mitigation measures to lessen the impact. Please evaluate as a mitigation measure to sewer and provide wastewater treatment for unincorporated communities, including Lake Los Angeles, Little Rock, Pear Blossom, Quartz Hill, and Neenach. The discharge from any wastewater treatment plant will require the provider to submit a report of waste discharge, pay fees, and receive waste discharge requirements adopted by the Lahontan Water Board.
11. Please clarify the expected quality range of the hauled water quality with respect to total dissolved solids (TDS) and trihalomethanes (TTHM). TTHM are byproducts of chlorine disinfection, and they are carcinogens. Please evaluate the cumulative impacts from TTHM and TDS loading into groundwater. Please propose mitigation measures. One possible mitigation measure for TDS is to provide water softener cartridge change-out

service as part of the water hauling service. This eliminates the discharge of water softener brine into onsite systems.

12. The *Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region* (Basin Plan) allows no more than 2 equivalent dwelling units per acre (500 gal/acre-day). The State onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS) policy will replace the onsite system requirements in the Basin Plan no later than May 13, 2018. The Policy requires local agencies to develop a Local Agency Management Plan (LAMP) to implement criteria different than the conservative siting criteria of the Policy. A LAMP must include performance based regulatory and monitoring programs. Therefore, please evaluate as a mitigation measure a performance monitoring program to track the salt, nutrient, and TTHM byproduct loading to groundwater. This information could be used to justify a different density than presently allowed in the Basin Plan.

Regarding Water Board waste discharge requirement permits for new onsite system under the project, the State Water Board has waived the requirement for submitting a report of waste discharge, paying fees, receiving waste discharge requirement for onsite systems that meet the OWTS policy and are less than or equal to 10,000 gal per day.

13. Page 3.9-22. All waters of the State fall under the jurisdiction of the State Water Board and nine Regional Water Boards. Some waters of the State are also waters of the United States. Dredging, filling, or otherwise alteration to a water of the State (including a water of the United States) requires authorization from either the State Water Board or the applicable Regional Water Board in addition to other pertinent federal, state and local authorizations and/or permits. The DEIR must make correct reference to the State Water Board and Regional Water Boards as having regulatory authority over all waters of the State.

If you have any questions, please contact either me at 760-241-7353 or Jehiel Cass, P.E., Senior Engineer, at 760-241-2434. Please send all future correspondence regarding this Project to the Water Board's email address at Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov and be sure to include the WDID No. in the subject line.

for
Mike Coony, P.E.
Water Resources Control Engineer

Jehiel W. Cass P.E. UNIT CHIEF - South Lahontan
Regulatory Unit

cc: Cindy Forbes, SWRCB-DDW Cindy.Forbes@waterboards.ca.gov
Barbara Evoy, SWRCB-DWR Barbara.Evoy@waterboards.ca.gov
Bill Orem, SWRCB-DWQ Bill.Orme@waterboards.ca.gov



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

October 27, 2014

Via E-Mail and Regular Mail

Mr. Dale Sakamoto
County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Dear Mr. Dale Sakamoto:

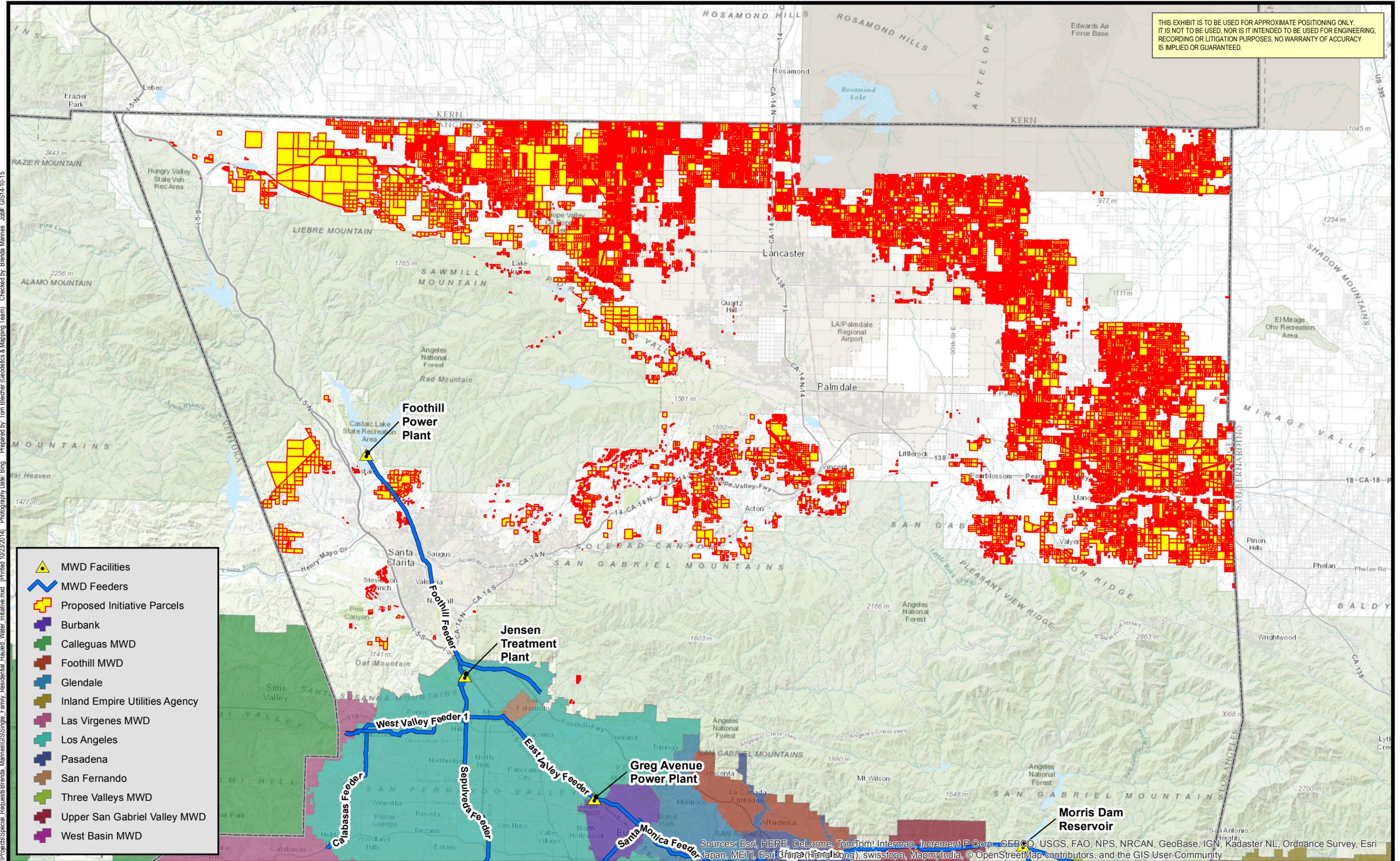
Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report
for the Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) received a copy of the Notice of Preparation/Initial Study (NOP/IS) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development (Project). The County of Los Angeles (County) is acting as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the project. The Project proposes to assess the feasibility of approving hauled water as the primary source of potable water for new single-family residential construction in unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. The Project would affect approximately 42,677 parcel owners. The Project is located in the northern third of Los Angeles County: north and east of the San Gabriel Mountains in the Antelope Valley, northeast of the city of Santa Clarita, southwest of the city of Palmdale, in the Kagel Canyon area in the Angeles National Forest, and areas north and south of State Route 14. Metropolitan would like to thank Dale Sakamoto, Project Manager, for providing us a seven day extension for review and comments to the Project. This letter contains Metropolitan's comments on the proposed Project as a potentially affected public agency.

Metropolitan has been coordinating with the County and was provided with assessor parcel locations for the Project. The County indicated that the information provided is preliminary data and could be refined during the CEQA process for the Project. As such, Metropolitan's comments on the Project contained herein reflect current information and Metropolitan reserves the right to submit further comments if there are changes in the project.

Metropolitan reviewed the NOP/IS and determined that the proposed Project is not within Metropolitan's service area (see attached map). The parcels nearest to Metropolitan's service area are those located approximately 2.0 miles northeast of the city of San Fernando and are identified in the Castaic/Santa Clarita/Agua Dulce subarea. Under Metropolitan's Administrative Code section 3100, property adjacent to a member agency will require annexation prior to water being served. Section 3104(b) states, "water sold and delivered by the

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- MWD Facilities
- MWD Feeders
- Proposed Initiative Parcels
- Burbank
- Calleguas MWD
- Foothill MWD
- Glendale
- Inland Empire Utilities Agency
- Las Virgenes MWD
- Los Angeles
- Pasadena
- San Fernando
- Three Valleys MWD
- Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD
- West Basin MWD

Affected Sites and Facilities

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

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Mr. Dale Sakamoto

Page 2

October 27, 2014

District shall not be used in any manner which intentionally or avoidably results in the direct or indirect benefit of areas outside the District including use of such water outside the District or use thereof within the District in substitution for other water used outside the District.”

The NOP/IS states that water service would be provided to the Project area by potential water suppliers such as Metropolitan, Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency (AVEK) member agencies, and other neighboring water suppliers. As noted, pursuant to Metropolitan’s Administrative Code sections 3104(b) and 3100, Metropolitan’s water may not be used outside of its service area and all references to use of Metropolitan water should be removed from the document. This includes hauling water to non-Metropolitan service areas.

Should the County consider using Metropolitan water for these parcels, the Draft EIR will need to clearly identify the parcels and state the need for a proposed annexation to Metropolitan, its Metropolitan member agency, and LAFCO, including water standby charges, ad velorum tax, and other required conditions for annexation in the project description. Please contact Ethel Young at eyoung@mwdh2o.com or (213) 217-7677 should further information about Metropolitan service area or annexation to the service areas be required.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide input to your planning process and we look forward to further coordination on this Project. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Brenda S. Marines at bmarines@mwdh2o.com or (213) 217-7902.

Very truly yours,

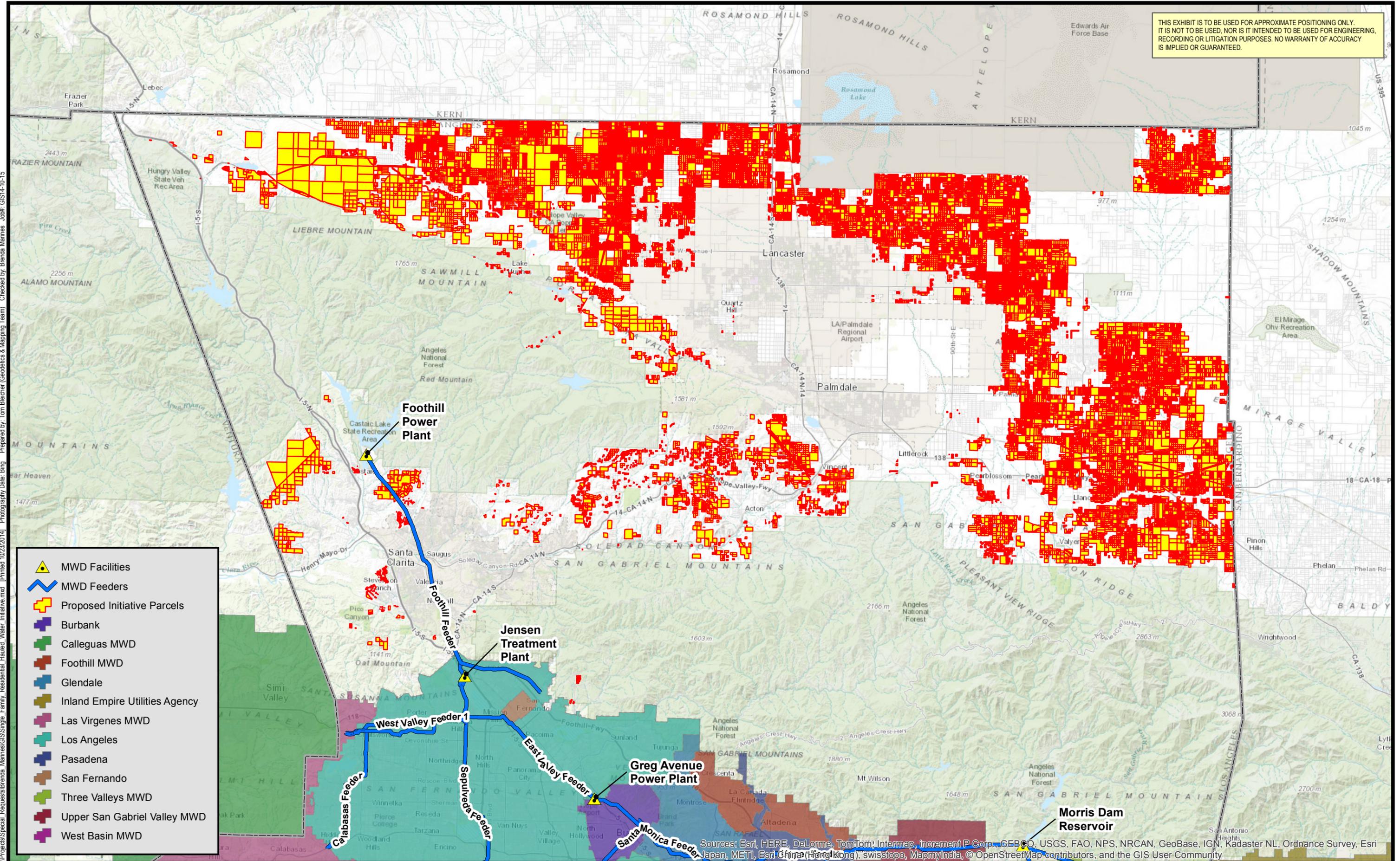


Deirdre West
Manager, Environmental Planning Team

BSM/bsm
(EPT No. 20141016MIS)

Enclosure: map

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Affected Sites and Facilities

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Office of the General Manager

June 1, 2015

Via E-Mail and Federal Express

Mr. Dale Sakamoto
County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

Revised Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report,
For the Single Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) reviewed the revised Notice of Preparation/Initial Study (revised NOP/IS) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for The Single Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development (Project).

The Project proposes to assess the feasibility of adopting an initiative to allow hauled water as the primary source of potable water for property owners in northern Los Angeles County (County) applying for permission to develop their property where there is no local water supply. The County proposes to adopt the initiative and permit the new development in reliance on hauled water, but the property owners would be responsible for contracting and paying for water to be trucked to their property. The revised NOP/IS will add an additional 195 parcels/homeowners (a new total of 42,872 parcels/homeowners) eligible for the hauled water initiative. Metropolitan previously submitted comments as a Responsible Agency on the original NOP for the Project during the public comment period on October 27, 2014 (see attachment); these comments are incorporated by reference.

Metropolitan is a public agency and regional water wholesaler, providing an essential public service, and drinking water. It is comprised of 26 member public agencies serving approximately 19 million people in portions of six counties in Southern California, including Los Angeles County. Metropolitan's mission is to provide its 5,200 square mile service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

As a fundamental matter, Metropolitan is concerned that the revised NOP/IS proposes to permit new development relying solely on hauled water when it does not identify the source of the water and it is not clear whether a viable long-term supply exists for locations in the remote areas of the north county. The County suggests that Metropolitan or other suppliers in the area may be potential sources, without addressing whether these are viable sources. *See, e.g., IS at 3.9-15,*

Mr. Dale Sakamoto

Page 2

June 1, 2015

3.17-16. There is no way to assess potential water supply impacts without identifying the source of the water. The County's proposed Project is in conflict with the State's policy requiring identification of sufficient water supplies for any new development, as enacted in 2001 in Senate Bills 221 and 610.

As you are aware, the state is in the midst of a historic drought. The Governor has declared the drought an emergency and instituted mandatory water reductions. Additionally, in April 2015, Metropolitan approved a Water Supply Allocation Plan to implement reduced water use within its service area. For all these reasons, it is not clear that the County will be able to identify a long-term viable source of supply for these remote areas.

Furthermore, even if the State were not in the midst of a drought and regardless of availability of supply, as a matter of policy, Metropolitan does not allow its water supplies to be used outside its service area. *See* Metropolitan's Administrative Code § 3100. Metropolitan's ratepayers pay for its imported supplies and the extensive facilities to import these supplies, and are the beneficiaries of the system. Furthermore, there are state and federal contractual restrictions on the use of Metropolitan's imported supplies outside its service area. The Project sites are not located within Metropolitan's service area and Metropolitan only provides water service to its member public agencies through its existing pipeline distribution system and under its current rate structure. Metropolitan does not operate any kind of "water hauling" system, nor does it address such a method of "water hauling" in its rates. Any use or benefit provided from Metropolitan's imported supplies either directly or indirectly to the Project sites would require annexation, which is within the discretionary approval of Metropolitan's board. If the proposal is to annex to Metropolitan, this would have to be addressed in the DEIR.

Additionally, according to the IS, the County indicates Metropolitan would have a water supply surplus based on the 2010 Regional Urban Water Management Plan (RUWMP). *See* IS at 3.17-17, 3.17-23. This statement is incorrect and Metropolitan clarifies that any availability of surplus water is for the benefit of Metropolitan's member agencies and sub-agencies within our service area. The "surplus" pertains to potential Metropolitan supply programs that may be exercised to meet demands within the service area. Also, the County incorrectly states that Metropolitan will have a surplus of 620,000 acre-feet per year in 2020 and 371,000 in 2035 with its existing water supplies in an average dry year. *See* IS at 3-17-17. These numbers are for a single dry year, not an average year. The supply reliability analysis from the 2010 RUWMP takes into account projected demands within Metropolitan's service area only.

Metropolitan is currently updating its RUWMP to incorporate changed conditions and recently experienced hydrologic uncertainties. Metropolitan cautions that in times of severe drought, the possibility of an annexation for development will need to be reviewed and considered by the water conservation teams in the local and regional jurisdictions, and Metropolitan's board. To this end, the reliance on the surplus water identified in Metropolitan's 2010 RUWMP as a source for trucked water for this Project is not correct.

Finally, according to the IS, the County includes a statement on Metropolitan's various water sources including the State Water Project, the Colorado River Aqueduct, financial support of

Mr. Dale Sakamoto

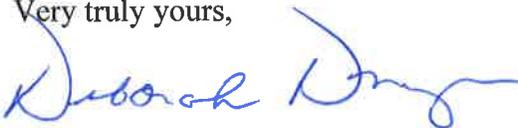
Page 3

June 1, 2015

local water supply project developments such as groundwater replenishment and extraction, local stormwater capture and storage, water recycling and storage, water conservation, and brackish and seawater desalination. *See IS at 3.7-17.* This statement can be misinterpreted and requires clarification. Metropolitan's foremost function is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high quality drinking water. Metropolitan assists its member agencies with financial incentives through its Local Resources Program for the development of recycled water and recovered groundwater with incentives for local seawater desalination development and research, and with funding of technical studies and pilot projects related to recycled water, seawater desalination, stormwater, and groundwater enhancement. However, Metropolitan does not own or operate any facilities related to these programs, with ownership and operation remaining as responsibility of partnering member agencies and their sub-agencies. Metropolitan does encourage and support tiered pricing structure, outreach and education programs, new plumbing codes and other regulations that facilitate water savings. To this end, the statement regarding Metropolitan's various water sources requires additional clarification and the inclusion of Metropolitan's support role in the development of such other water sources.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide input to your planning process and look forward to receiving the Draft EIR and future environmental documentation on this Project. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Ms. Brenda S. Marines at (213) 217-7902.

Very truly yours,

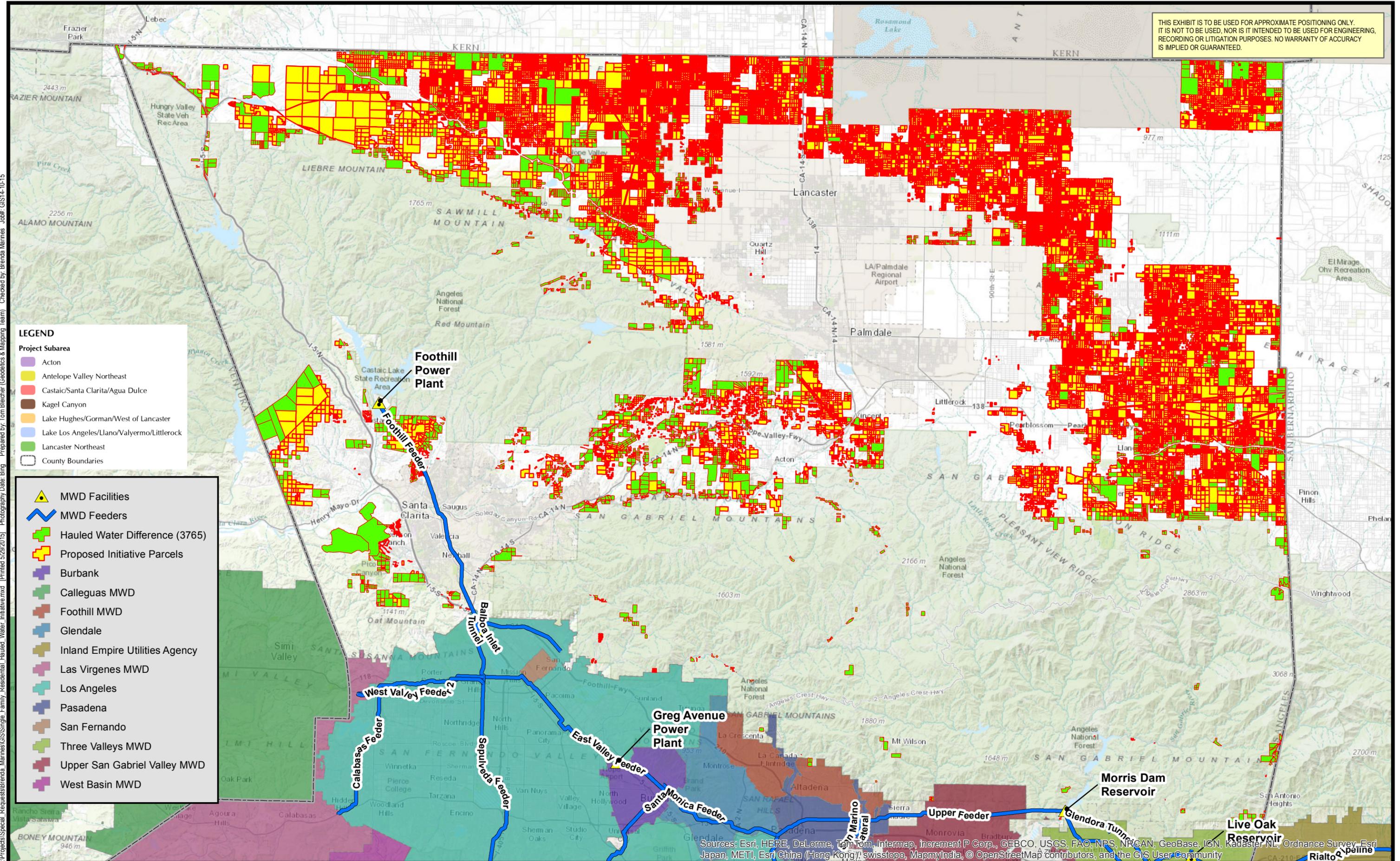


Deborah Drezner
Interim Team Manager

BSM/bsm
(EPT Project No.20150504EXT)

Enclosures: Letter to NOP/IS for the DEIR, dated October 27, 2014
Map

THIS EXHIBIT IS TO BE USED FOR APPROXIMATE POSITIONING ONLY. IT IS NOT TO BE USED, NOR IS IT INTENDED TO BE USED FOR ENGINEERING, RECORDING OR LITIGATION PURPOSES. NO WARRANTY OF ACCURACY IS IMPLIED OR GUARANTEED.



- LEGEND**
- Project Subarea**
- Acton
 - Antelope Valley Northeast
 - Castaic/Santa Clarita/Agua Dulce
 - Kagel Canyon
 - Lake Hughes/Gorman/West of Lancaster
 - Lake Los Angeles/Llano/Valyermo/Littlerock
 - Lancaster Northeast
 - County Boundaries

- MWD Facilities
- MWD Feeders
- Hauled Water Difference (3765)
- Proposed Initiative Parcels
- Burbank
- Calleguas MWD
- Foothill MWD
- Glendale
- Inland Empire Utilities Agency
- Las Virgenes MWD
- Los Angeles
- Pasadena
- San Fernando
- Three Valleys MWD
- Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD
- West Basin MWD

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Z:\Projects\Special_Requests\Brenda_Marines\GIS\Single_Family_Residential_Hauled_Water_Initiative.mxd (Printed 5/29/2015) Photography Date: Bing Prepared by: Tom Bleicher (Geodetics & Mapping Team) Checked by: Brenda Marines Job#: GIS14-10-15



PDD
48

September 25, 2014

Dale Sakamoto
Los Angeles County
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

RE: SCH# 2014091048 Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development, Los Angeles County.

Dear Mr. Sakamoto,

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) has reviewed the Notice of Preparation (NOP) referenced above. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) states that any project that causes a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource, which includes archeological resources, is a significant effect requiring the preparation of an EIR (CEQA Guidelines 15064(b)). To comply with this provision the lead agency is required to assess whether the project will have an adverse impact on historical resources within the area of project effect (APE), and if so to mitigate that effect. To adequately assess and mitigate project-related impacts to archaeological resources, the NAHC recommends the following actions:

- ✓ Contact the appropriate regional archaeological Information Center for a record search. The record search will determine:
 - If a part or all of the area of project effect (APE) has been previously surveyed for cultural resources.
 - If any known cultural resources have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE.
 - If the probability is low, moderate, or high that cultural resources are located in the APE.
 - If a survey is required to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.
- ✓ If an archaeological inventory survey is required, the final stage is the preparation of a professional report detailing the findings and recommendations of the records search and field survey.
 - The final report containing site forms, site significance, and mitigation measures should be submitted immediately to the planning department. All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum, and not be made available for public disclosure.
 - The final written report should be submitted within 3 months after work has been completed to the appropriate regional archaeological Information Center.
- ✓ Contact the Native American Heritage Commission for:
 - A Sacred Lands File Check. **USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle name, township, range, and section required**
 - A list of appropriate Native American contacts for consultation concerning the project site and to assist in the mitigation measures. **Native American Contacts List attached**
- ✓ Lack of surface evidence of archeological resources does not preclude their subsurface existence.
 - Lead agencies should include in their mitigation plan provisions for the identification and evaluation of accidentally discovered archeological resources, per California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §15064.5(f). In areas of identified archaeological sensitivity, a certified archaeologist and a culturally affiliated Native American, with knowledge in cultural resources, should monitor all ground-disturbing activities.
 - Lead agencies should include in their mitigation plan provisions for the disposition of recovered cultural items that are not burial associated, which are addressed in Public Resources Code (PRC) §5097.98, in consultation with culturally affiliated Native Americans.
 - Lead agencies should include provisions for discovery of Native American human remains in their mitigation plan. Health and Safety Code §7050.5, PRC §5097.98, and CEQA Guidelines §15064.5(e), address the process to be followed in the event of an accidental discovery of any human remains and associated grave goods in a location other than a dedicated cemetery.

Sincerely,

Katy Sanchez
Associate Government Program Analyst

CC: State Clearinghouse

Native American Contacts
Los Angeles County
September 25, 2014

Tongva Ancestral Territorial Tribal Nation
John Tommy Rosas, Tribal Admin.

tattnlaw@gmail.com
(310) 570-6567

Gabrielino Tongva

Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe
Bernie Acuna, Co-Chairperson

Contact information unavailable Gabrielino

Last attempted verification 9/5/14

(310) 428-5690 Cell

Gabrielino/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indian
Anthony Morales, Chairperson

P.O. Box 693
San Gabriel, CA 91778

GTTribalcouncil@aol.com
(626) 483-3564 Cell
(626) 286-1262 Fax

Gabrielino Tongva

Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe
Linda Candelaria, Co-Chairperson

Contact information unavailable Gabrielino

Last attempted verification 9/5/14

(626) 676-1184 Cell

Gabrielino /Tongva Nation
Sandonne Goad, Chairperson

106 1/2 Judge John Aiso St. Gabrielino Tongva
Los Angeles, CA 90012

sgoad@gabrielino-tongva.com
(951) 807-0479

Gabrielino Band of Mission Indians
Andrew Salas, Chairperson

P.O. Box 393 Gabrielino
Covina, CA 91723

gabrielinoindians@yahoo.
(626) 926-4131

Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council
Robert F. Dorame, Tribal Chair/Cultural Resources

P.O. Box 490
Bellflower, CA 90707

gtongva@verizon.net
(562) 761-6417 Voice/Fax

Gabrielino Tongva

Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe
Conrad Acuna

Contact information unavailable Gabrielino

Last attempted verification 9/5/14

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed SCH # 2014091048 Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development, Los Angeles County.

**Native American Contacts
Los Angeles County
September 25, 2014**

Gabrielino /Tongva Nation
Sam Dunlap, Cultural Resources Director
P.O. Box 86908 Gabrielino Tongva
Los Angeles , CA 90086
samdunlap@earthlink.net
(909) 262-9351

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed SCH # 2014091048 Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development, Los Angeles County.

Sakamoto, Dale

From: Daniel McCarthy <DMcCarthy@sanmanuel-nsn.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2014 12:21 PM
To: Sakamoto, Dale
Subject: Single Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative

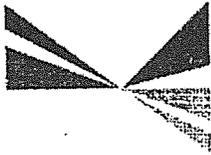
Mr. Sakamoto,

Thank you for the NOP for the DEIR for the Proposed Single-Family Residential hauled Water initiative. The Tribe appreciates the opportunity to review and respond with comments. In reviewing this proposed initiative, the Tribe does not have any concerns and does not see a need to consult at this time.

Daniel McCarthy, MS, RPA
Director
Cultural Resources Management Department
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
26569 Community Center Drive
Highland, CA 92346
Office: 909 864-8933 x 3248
Cell: 909 838-4175
dmccarthy@sanmanuel-nsn.gov

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this electronic transmission in error, please delete it from your system without copying it and notify the sender by reply e-mail so that the email address record can be corrected. Thank You

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



October 20, 2014

Mr. Dale Sakamoto, Civil Engineer
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803
Telephone: (626) 458-3915
E-mail: dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Main Office

818 West Seventh Street
12th Floor

Los Angeles, California
90017-3435

t (213) 236-1800
f (213) 236-1825

www.scag.ca.gov

RE: SCAG Comments on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development [SCAG NO. IGR8195]

Dear Mr. Sakamoto,

Thank you for submitting the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development ("proposed project") to the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) for review and comment. SCAG is the authorized regional agency for Inter-Governmental Review (IGR) of programs proposed for federal financial assistance and direct development activities, pursuant to Presidential Executive Order 12372. Additionally, SCAG reviews the Environmental Impact Reports of projects of regional significance for consistency with regional plans pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.

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SCAG is also the designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency under state law, and is responsible for preparation of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) including its Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) component pursuant to SB 375. As the clearinghouse for regionally significant projects per Executive Order 12372, SCAG reviews the consistency of local plans, projects, and programs with regional plans.¹ Guidance provided by these reviews is intended to assist local agencies and project sponsors to take actions that contribute to the attainment of the regional goals and policies in the RTP/SCS.

SCAG staff has reviewed the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development. The proposed project, if adopted, would make approximately 42,677 parcel owners in the northern one-third of the unincorporated Los Angeles County eligible to seek authorization for use of hauled water to support issuance of a building permit for a single-family residence.

Policy Committee Chairs

Community, Economic and Human Development
Margaret Finlay, Duarte

Energy & Environment
Deborah Robertson, Rialto

Transportation
Alan Wapner, San Bernardino Associated Governments

When available, please send environmental documentation to SCAG's office in Los Angeles or by email to sunl@scag.ca.gov providing, at a minimum, the full public comment period for review. If you have any questions regarding the attached comments, please contact Lijin Sun, Senior Regional Planner, at (213) 236-1882 or sunl@scag.ca.gov. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ping Chang,
Program Manager, Land Use and Environmental Planning

¹ SB 375 amends CEQA to add Chapter 4.2 Implementation of the Sustainable Communities Strategy, which allows for certain CEQA streamlining for projects consistent with the RTP/SCS. Lead agencies (including local jurisdictions) maintain the discretion and will be solely responsible for determining "consistency" of any future project with the SCS. Any "consistency" finding by SCAG pursuant to the IGR process should not be construed as a finding of consistency under SB 375 for purposes of CEQA streamlining.

**COMMENTS ON THE NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF
A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR
THE PROPOSED SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL HAULED WATER INITIATIVE
FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT [SCAG NO. IGR8195]**

CONSISTENCY WITH RTP/SCS

SCAG reviews environmental documents for regionally significant projects for their consistency with the adopted RTP/SCS.

2012 RTP/SCS Goals

The SCAG Regional Council adopted the 2012 RTP/SCS in April 2012. The 2012 RTP/SCS links the goal of sustaining mobility with the goals of fostering economic development, enhancing the environment, reducing energy consumption, promoting transportation-friendly development patterns, and encouraging fair and equitable access to residents affected by socio-economic, geographic and commercial limitations (see <http://rtpscs.scag.ca.gov>). The goals included in the 2012 RTP/SCS may be pertinent to the proposed project. These goals are meant to provide guidance for considering the proposed project within the context of regional goals and policies. Among the relevant goals of the 2012 RTP/SCS are the following:

SCAG 2012 RTP/SCS GOALS	
RTP/SCS G1:	<i>Align the plan investments and policies with improving regional economic development and competitiveness</i>
RTP/SCS G2:	<i>Maximize mobility and accessibility for all people and goods in the region</i>
RTP/SCS G3:	<i>Ensure travel safety and reliability for all people and goods in the region</i>
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RTP/SCS G5:	<i>Maximize the productivity of our transportation system</i>
RTP/SCS G6:	<i>Protect the environment and health for our residents by improving air quality and encouraging active transportation (non-motorized transportation, such as bicycling and walking)</i>
RTP/SCS G7:	<i>Actively encourage and create incentives for energy efficiency, where possible</i>
RTP/SCS G8:	<i>Encourage land use and growth patterns that facilitate transit and non-motorized transportation</i>
RTP/SCS G9:	<i>Maximize the security of the regional transportation system through improved system monitoring, rapid recovery planning, and coordination with other security agencies</i>

For ease of review, we encourage the use of a side-by-side comparison of SCAG goals with discussions of the consistency, non-consistency or non-applicability of the policy and supportive analysis in a table format. Suggested format is as follows:

SCAG 2012 RTP/SCS Goals		
Goal		Analysis
RTP/SCS G1:	Align the plan investments and policies with improving regional economic development and competitiveness.	Consistent: Statement as to why Not-Consistent: Statement as to why or Not Applicable: Statement as to why DEIR page number reference
RTP/SCS G2:	Maximize mobility and accessibility for all people and goods in the region.	Consistent: Statement as to why Not-Consistent: Statement as to why or Not Applicable: Statement as to why DEIR page number reference
etc.		etc.

RTP/SCS Strategies

To achieve the goals of the 2012 RTP/SCS, a wide range of strategies are included in SCS Chapter (starting on page 152) of the RTP/SCS focusing on four key areas: 1) Land Use Actions and Strategies; 2) Transportation Network Actions and Strategies; 3) Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Actions and Strategies and; 4) Transportation System Management (TSM) Actions and Strategies. If applicable to the proposed project, please refer to these strategies as guidance for considering the proposed project within the context of regional goals and policies. To access a listing of the strategies, please visit <http://rtpscs.scag.ca.gov/Documents/2012/final/f2012RTPSCS.pdf> (Tables 4.3 – 4.7, beginning on page 152).

Regional Growth Forecasts

At the time of this letter, the most recently adopted SCAG forecasts consists of the 2020 and 2035 RTP/SCS population, household and employment forecasts. To view them, please visit <http://scag.ca.gov/Documents/2012AdoptedGrowthForecastPDF.pdf>. The forecasts for the region and applicable jurisdictions are below.

Forecast	Adopted SCAG Region Wide Forecasts		Adopted Unincorporated County of Los Angeles Forecasts	
	Year 2020	Year 2035	Year 2020	Year 2035
Population	19,663,000	22,091,000	1,159,100	1,399,500
Households	6,458,000	7,325,000	336,100	405,500
Employment	8,414,000	9,441,000	266,100	318,100

Forecast	Adopted City of Palmdale Forecasts		Adopted City of Santa Clarita Forecasts		Adopted City of Lancaster Forecasts	
	Year 2020	Year 2035	Year 2020	Year 2035	Year 2020	Year 2035
Population	179,300	206,100	201,100	237,100	174,800	201,300
Households	51,300	58,800	70,100	81,900	52,200	58,800
Employment	38,900	47,200	108,700	122,600	51,900	54,200

October 20, 2014
Mr. Sakamoto

SCAG No. IGR8195
Page 4

MITIGATION

SCAG staff recommends that you review the SCAG 2012 RTP/SCS Final Program EIR Mitigation Measures for guidance, as appropriate. See Chapter 6 (beginning on page 143) at:
<http://rtpscsc.scag.ca.gov/Documents/peir/2012/final/Final2012PEIR.pdf>

As referenced in Chapter 6, a comprehensive list of example mitigation measures that may be considered as appropriate is included in Appendix G: *Examples of Measures that Could Reduce Impacts from Planning, Development and Transportation Projects*. Appendix G can be accessed at:
http://rtpscsc.scag.ca.gov/Documents/peir/2012/final/2012FPEIR_AppendixG_ExampleMeasures.pdf



June 1, 2015

Mr. Dale Sakamoto, Civil Engineer
County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Los Angeles, California 91803
Phone: (626) 458-3915
Email: dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov

RE: SCAG Comment on the Recirculated Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development [SCAG NO. IGR8195]

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818 West Seventh Street
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First Vice President
Michele Martinez, Santa Ana
Second Vice President
Margaret Finlay, Duarte
Immediate Past President
Carl Morehouse, San Buenaventura

**Executive/Administration
Committee Chair**
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Human Development
Bill Jahn, Big Bear
Energy & Environment
Deborah Robertson, Rialto
Transportation
Alan Wapner, San Bernardino
Associated Governments

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When available, please send environmental documentation to SCAG's office in Los Angeles or by email to sunl@scag.ca.gov providing, at a minimum, the full public comment period for review. If you have any questions regarding the attached comments, please contact Lijin Sun, Esq., Senior Regional Planner, at (213) 236-1882 or sunl@scag.ca.gov. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Ping Chang'.

Ping Chang,
Program Manager II, Land Use and Environmental Planning

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**COMMENTS ON THE RECIRCULATED NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF
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THE SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL HAULED WATER INITIATIVE FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT
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etc.	etc.

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Employment	8,414,000	9,441,000	4,558,000	4,827,000

MITIGATION

SCAG staff recommends that you review the SCAG 2012 RTP/SCS Final Program EIR Mitigation Measures for guidance, as appropriate. See Chapter 6 (beginning on page 143) at: <http://rtpscs.scag.ca.gov/Documents/peir/2012/final/Final2012PEIR.pdf>

As referenced in Chapter 6, a comprehensive list of example mitigation measures that may be considered as appropriate is included in Appendix G: *Examples of Measures that Could Reduce Impacts from Planning, Development and Transportation Projects*. Appendix G can be accessed at: http://rtpscs.scag.ca.gov/Documents/peir/2012/final/2012fPEIR_AppendixG_ExampleMeasures.pdf



South Coast
Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

September 23, 2014

Mr. Dale Sakamoto/Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803

**Notice of Preparation of a CEQA Document for the
Hauled Water Initiative for New Development Project**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) staff appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. The SCAQMD staff's comments are recommendations regarding the analysis of potential air quality impacts from the proposed project that should be included in the draft CEQA document. Please send the SCAQMD a copy of the Draft EIR upon its completion. Note that copies of the Draft EIR that are submitted to the State Clearinghouse are not forwarded to the SCAQMD. Please forward a copy of the Draft EIR directly to SCAQMD at the address in our letterhead. **In addition, please send with the draft EIR all appendices or technical documents related to the air quality and greenhouse gas analyses and electronic versions of all air quality modeling and health risk assessment files. These include original emission calculation spreadsheets and modeling files (not Adobe PDF files). Without all files and supporting air quality documentation, the SCAQMD will be unable to complete its review of the air quality analysis in a timely manner. Any delays in providing all supporting air quality documentation will require additional time for review beyond the end of the comment period.**

Air Quality Analysis

The SCAQMD adopted its California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Air Quality Handbook in 1993 to assist other public agencies with the preparation of air quality analyses. The SCAQMD recommends that the Lead Agency use this Handbook as guidance when preparing its air quality analysis. Copies of the Handbook are available from the SCAQMD's Subscription Services Department by calling (909) 396-3720. More recent guidance developed since this Handbook was published is also available on SCAQMD's website here: [http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/ceqa-air-quality-handbook-\(1993\)](http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/ceqa-air-quality-handbook-(1993)). SCAQMD staff also recommends that the lead agency use the CalEEMod land use emissions software. This software has recently been updated to incorporate up-to-date state and locally approved emission factors and methodologies for estimating pollutant emissions from typical land use development. CalEEMod is the only software model maintained by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) and replaces the now outdated URBEMIS. This model is available free of charge at: www.caleemod.com.

The Lead Agency should identify any potential adverse air quality impacts that could occur from all phases of the project and all air pollutant sources related to the project. Air quality impacts from both construction (including demolition, if any) and operations should be calculated. Construction-related air quality impacts typically include, but are not limited to, emissions from the use of heavy-duty equipment from grading, earth-loading/unloading, paving, architectural coatings, off-road mobile sources (e.g., heavy-duty construction equipment) and on-road mobile sources (e.g., construction worker vehicle trips, material transport trips). Operation-related air quality impacts may include, but are not limited to, emissions from stationary sources (e.g., boilers), area sources (e.g., solvents and coatings), and vehicular trips (e.g., on- and off-road tailpipe emissions and entrained dust). Air quality impacts from indirect sources, that is, sources that generate or attract vehicular trips should be included in the analysis.

The SCAQMD has also developed both regional and localized significance thresholds. The SCAQMD staff requests that the lead agency quantify criteria pollutant emissions and compare the results to the recommended regional significance thresholds found here: <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/handbook/scaqmd-air-quality-significance-thresholds.pdf?sfvrsn=2>. In addition to analyzing regional air quality impacts, the SCAQMD staff recommends calculating localized air quality impacts and comparing the results to localized significance thresholds (LSTs). LST's can be used in addition to the recommended regional significance thresholds as a second indication of air quality impacts when preparing a CEQA document. Therefore, when preparing the air quality analysis for the proposed project, it is

recommended that the lead agency perform a localized analysis by either using the LSTs developed by the SCAQMD or performing dispersion modeling as necessary. Guidance for performing a localized air quality analysis can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/localized-significance-thresholds>.

In the event that the proposed project generates or attracts vehicular trips, especially heavy-duty diesel-fueled vehicles, it is recommended that the lead agency perform a mobile source health risk assessment. Guidance for performing a mobile source health risk assessment ("*Health Risk Assessment Guidance for Analyzing Cancer Risk from Mobile Source Diesel Idling Emissions for CEQA Air Quality Analysis*") can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/mobile-source-toxics-analysis>. An analysis of all toxic air contaminant impacts due to the use of equipment potentially generating such air pollutants should also be included.

In addition, guidance on siting incompatible land uses (such as placing homes near freeways) can be found in the California Air Resources Board's *Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Perspective*, which can be found at the following internet address: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/handbook.pdf>. CARB's Land Use Handbook is a general reference guide for evaluating and reducing air pollution impacts associated with new projects that go through the land use decision-making process.

Mitigation Measures

In the event that the project generates significant adverse air quality impacts, CEQA requires that all feasible mitigation measures that go beyond what is required by law be utilized during project construction and operation to minimize or eliminate these impacts. Pursuant to state CEQA Guidelines §15126.4 (a)(1)(D), any impacts resulting from mitigation measures must also be discussed. Several resources are available to assist the Lead Agency with identifying possible mitigation measures for the project, including:

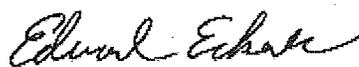
- Chapter 11 of the SCAQMD *CEQA Air Quality Handbook*
- SCAQMD's CEQA web pages at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/mitigation-measures-and-control-efficiencies>.
- CAPCOA's *Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures* available here: <http://www.capcoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/CAPCOA-Quantification-Report-9-14-Final.pdf>.
- SCAQMD's Rule 403 – Fugitive Dust, and the Implementation Handbook for controlling construction-related emissions
- Other measures to reduce air quality impacts from land use projects can be found in the SCAQMD's Guidance Document for Addressing Air Quality Issues in General Plans and Local Planning. This document can be found at the following internet address: <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/planning/air-quality-guidance/complete-guidance-document.pdf?sfvrsn=4>.

Data Sources

and relevant air quality reports and data are available by calling the SCAQMD's Public Information Center at (909) 396-2039. Much of the information available through the Public Information Center is also available via the SCAQMD's webpage (<http://www.aqmd.gov>).

The SCAQMD staff is available to work with the Lead Agency to ensure that project emissions are accurately evaluated and mitigated where feasible. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at Eeckerle@aqmd.gov or call me at (909) 396-3128.

Sincerely,



Ed Eckerle
Program Supervisor
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources



*protecting and restoring natural ecosystems and imperiled species through
science, education, policy, and environmental law
submitted via email and USPS*

10/20/2014

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Dale Sakamoto/Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803
dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov

RE: Comments on Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development – September 17, 2014

Mr. Sakamoto,

These comments are submitted on behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity (Center) regarding the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development dated September 17, 2014. At the Center for Biological Diversity, we believe that welfare of human beings is deeply linked to nature – to the existence in our world of vast diversity of wild animals and plants. Because diversity has intrinsic value, and because its loss impoverishes society, we work to secure a future for all species, great and small, hovering on the brink of extinction. We do so through science, law and creative media, with a focus on protecting lands, waters and climate that species need to survive. We want those that come after us to inherit a world where the wild is still alive. Many of our 800,000 staff, members and on-line activists in California and throughout the United States, live in, know and enjoy the biological diversity and world class landscape of northern Los Angeles County, including the proposed project area that includes the northern one-third of the County, including areas located north and east of the San Gabriel Mountains in the Antelope Valley; areas located northeast of the City of Santa Clarita, north and south of California State Route 14; areas that are southwest of the City of Palmdale in the communities of Agua Dulce and Acton; and in the Kagel Canyon area in the Angeles National Forest (NOP at pg.1).

Los Angeles County (County) is a globally unique county which spans incredible topographic diversity – from the Pacific Ocean to Mount San Antonio (Mt. Baldy) at 10,068 feet and back down to the Mojave Desert. Because of the topographic diversity often coupled with significant development, many rare, threatened and endangered species occur within the County. While much of the coastal basin has been developed, the mountainous areas and desert areas remain ecologically intact and home to numerous rare species. The Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development is an outdated, antiquated proposal that will only exacerbate unsustainable development, fragmentation of the landscape, and impacts to wildlife and our world class natural heritage. It is actually unimaginable that during

this time of unprecedented drought¹, that the County would uptake such an unsound and unsustainable proposal. Indeed, the National Science Foundation confirms that California's drought is linked to climate change caused by emissions of greenhouse gases². Trucking water to individual parcels is an anathema to smart planning and should not be pursued.

“Smart” Development

While the Center's focus is protecting rare and common species and their habitats, one key aspect to achieve habitat protection and ensure ecological sustainability is to avoid sprawl development. The County needs to concentrate growth in compact walkable urban centers where water supply infrastructure is in place and avoid sprawl development, especially with no access to sustainable water supplies. It also needs to plan compact, transit-oriented, walkable, bicycle-friendly land use, near existing development to maximize the efficiencies of County infrastructure including water supplies and emergency services.

Environmental Review

If the County chooses to continue with this ill-conceived proposal, the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) needs to comprehensively evaluate the potential impacts from development of approximately 285,500 acres or approximately 450 square miles (NOP at pg.1) that would be enabled by this proposal. The Initial Study indicates that the proposal would have potentially significant impacts on biological resources throughout the proposed project area (IS at pgs. 2-4 to 2-5). In order to provide comprehensive impact analyses baseline biological data needs to be collected and presented. In order to present a full picture of the biological baseline, thorough, seasonally-appropriate surveys must be performed for sensitive plant species and vegetation communities, and animal species. The Center requests that thorough, seasonal surveys be performed for sensitive plant species and vegetation communities, and animal species under the direction and supervision of the County and resource agencies such as the US Fish and Wildlife Service³ and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife⁴. For those species that have agency-identified survey protocols, those protocol level surveys must be required, implemented and disclosed in the DEIR.

Surveys for the plants and plant communities should follow California Native Plant Society (CNPS)⁵ and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) floristic survey guidelines⁶ and should be documented as recommended by CNPS⁷ and California Botanical Society policy guidelines. A full floral inventory of all species encountered needs to be documented and included in the EIR. Surveys for animals should include an evaluation of the California Wildlife Habitat Relationship System's (CWHR) Habitat Classification Scheme. All rare species (plants or animals) need to be documented with a California Natural Diversity Data

1 <http://ca.gov/drought/>

2 http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=132709

3 http://www.fws.gov/ventura/species_information/protocols_guidelines/

4 http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/nongame/survey_monitor.html

5 <http://www.cnps.org/cnps/rareplants/inventory/guidelines.php>

6 http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/pdfs/Protocols_for_Surveying_and_Evaluating_Impacts.pdf

7 <http://www.cnps.org/cnps/archive/collecting.php>

Base form and submitted to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife using the CNDDDB Form⁸ as per the State's instructions⁹.

In order for the public to properly evaluate the data, the vegetation maps must be at a large enough scale to be useful for evaluating the impacts. Vegetation/wetland habitat mapping should be at such a scale to provide an accurate accounting of wetland and adjacent habitat types that will be directly or indirectly affected by the proposed activities. A half-acre minimum mapping unit size is recommended, such as has been used for other development projects. Habitat classification should follow CNPS' *Manual of California Vegetation* and should follow the CDFW protocol¹⁰. Adequate surveys must be implemented, not just a single season of surveys, in order to evaluate the existing site conditions.

In addition, the EIR must provide detailed, quantitative data on groundwater and surface water supply as well as quality in its baseline analysis. Data at this level of detail is necessary in order to provide a full and accurate representation of existing conditions in order for the County and the public to assess the feasibility and reliability of hauling water to the proposed project area.

Impact Analysis

The EIR must evaluate all direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to sensitive habitats, including impacts associated with the establishment of intermitted recreational activities, the introduction of non-native plants, the introduction of lighting, noise, and the loss and disruption of essential habitat due to edge effects. A number of rare resources are known to occur or have high potential to occur in the proposed project area and all must be identified and addressed in the EIR. The EIR must propose effective ways to avoid, minimize, and mitigate the impacts to these resources through a series of alternatives including reduced project, limiting the number of parcels served, and limiting the amount of water hauled. Many of the rare species are in decline despite decades of state and federal protection. The EIR must analyze how the proposed project complies with the recommendations of all federal Recovery Plans for threatened and endangered species¹¹.

The EIR must also analyze the indirect impact on species from development growth induced by the proposed project.

The proposed project would allow the development of 8,685 parcels in areas that have been designated as High or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, including (IS at page 3.8-15). The IS concludes that since the project would use fire-resistant materials no further mitigation action is required (IS at pg. 3.8-15). However, this conclusion is simply unacceptable as a means of minimizing or reducing potential loss of human life, property, and surrounding ecosystems. The EIR should analyze the risks of placing development in these dangerous fire zones to people as well as the risks to wildlife habitat or injury or death for species due to increased potential for fire hazards. Additionally, the EIR must take into account the additional water supply that would be necessary to alleviate wildland fires in the proposed project area.

8 http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/pdfs/CNDDDB_FieldSurveyForm.pdf

9 http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/submitting_data_to_cnddb.asp

10 http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/pdfs/Protocols_for_Surveying_and_Evaluating_Impacts.pdf

11 <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/species/recovery-plans.html>

The EIR must demonstrate it would be able to supply firm water to the projected 26,880 individual people (IS at pg. 3.9-18) it projects to serve over the 20-year planning period and beyond. The proposed project would use a combination of groundwater, imported water, surface water, and other sources from nearby water districts and the State Water Project (SWP) (IS at pg. 3.9-14). The IS recognizes the proposed project will increase over all water demand, and would likely result in additional pumping of existing wells and development of new wells in existing groundwater districts that could supply water to the water haulers (*Id.* at pgs. 3.9-14 & 15). At the same time the IS points out that potential groundwater resources are unreliable, acknowledging that groundwater the Santa Clarita planning area is already being pumped at near capacity (IS at pg. 3.9-13) and that the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin may be in over draft (IS at pg. 3.9-15). The IS alone suggests that groundwater resources would likely not be feasible sources for hauled water. The EIR should assess this feasibility in more detail and explain the cumulative impacts of this proposed project in connection with other projects and plans in the area on groundwater resources. Additionally, the EIR must demonstrate the feasibility of obtaining and the reliability of other imported water sources including from the SWP.

As part of its impact analysis the EIR must assess project impacts on surface and groundwater resources, and the quality of these resources, and the impacts on biological resources.

Locally Rare Species

The Center requests that the EIR evaluate the impact of the proposed permitted activities on locally rare species (not merely federal- and state-listed threatened and endangered species). The preservation of regional and local scales of genetic diversity is very important to maintaining species. Therefore, we request that all species found at the edge of their ranges or that occur as disjunct locations be evaluated for impacts by the proposed permitted activities.

Greenhouse Gases

The EIR must include a thorough analysis of the increase in greenhouse gas production from the proposed project through the complete process of procuring/delivering the water as well as additional increases directly from enabling new remote development and the requisite commuting for jobs, goods and services. As stated above, the proposed project is an anathema to compliance with the strong greenhouse gas reduction policies in place at the federal, state and local level.

Air Quality

The EIR must include a thorough analysis of the increase in the air pollution associated with heavy trucking and increased development, including PM10 and other pollutants. Another concern relative to human and wildlife health that needs to be included is the potential increase the incidence of Valley Fever, resulting from soil disturbance and soil particles to get airborne from additional development and traffic on unpaved roads. Soil disturbance is a documented cause of a recent Valley Fever outbreak in the Antelope Valley associated with development.¹²

¹² <http://www.kcet.org/news/rewire/solar/solar-development-linked-to-valley-fever-outbreak.html>

Alternatives

The EIR must include a robust analysis of alternatives, including but not limited to the ones listed above. The stated objectives of the project must not unreasonably constrain the range of feasible alternatives evaluated in the EIR. The County must establish a set of objectives that do not unreasonably limit the EIR's analysis of feasible alternatives. At a minimum, alternatives including the no-action alternative, an environmentally preferred alternative, a reduced project, limiting the number of parcels served, and limiting the amount of water hauled, and piped water service to all the parcels or a subset of the parcels - all need to be included, as well as other alternatives.

Cumulative Impacts

Because of the number of projects that are currently being built or proposed in the proposed project's vicinity, a thorough analysis of the cumulative impacts from all of these projects on the resources needs to be included. Please include an analysis of projects, not just in Los Angeles County, but in the Kern and San Bernardino Counties adjacent to the proposed project area.

The EIR must also clarify how this project will affect and be coordinated with the Antelope Valley Area Wide General Plan amendment, also known as the Town and Country Plan¹³ which is currently under revision.

Conclusion

We urge the County to abandon the costly and unnecessary development of an Environmental Impact Report for this ill-conceived proposal, and withdraw the proposal. Instead the County should be encouraging sustainable development where water infrastructure is available while protecting our incredible diversity and natural heritage in Los Angeles County for future generations.

Respectfully submitted,



Heene Anderson
Senior Scientist
Center for Biological Diversity
8033 Sunset Blvd., #447
Los Angeles, CA 90046
ianderson@biologicaldiversity.org



Chelsea Tu
Staff Attorney
Center for Biological Diversity
351 California St, Suite 600,
San Francisco, CA 94104-2404
ctu@biologicaldiversity.org

cc:

Scott Harris, CDFW Scott.P.Harris@wildlife.ca.gov

Julie Vance, CDFW Julie.Vance@wildlife.ca.gov

¹³ <http://planning.lacounty.gov/tnc>



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)? FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? I pay much interest on my parcel but it cannot be claimed on my federal income tax because it does not have a house on it. I cannot afford to put one on because of water.
Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? excessive debt

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.) YES NO

Your Contact Information :

Alinda G. Edwards
46711 Paseo Fortuna
Calmdale, CA 93551

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

Reason? DO NOT WANT WATER HAULED IN + DIRTING UP THE AIR WITH THE TRUCKS,
DO NOT WANT THE LAND TORN UP OR THE TREES TORN
DOWN FOR HOUSES. KIDS + ADULTS WITH THEIR ATVs ETC
DO NOT WANT THE WELL DRAINED BY SOMEONE DRILLING FOR WATER

FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.) YES NO

Your Contact Information : CHRISTINE KEEL
11031 Cima Mesa Rd
Little Rock Wa 95543

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? Property owner must be able to develop SFR in their parcel

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative?

YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue?

YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property?

YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property?

YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.)

YES NO

Your Contact Information :

YOUNG PAK
33000 106th St E.
Juniper Hills, CA 93543

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)? FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? *I do not know how deep we would be required to drill before declaring water is unreachable. It could be prohibitively expensive.*

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

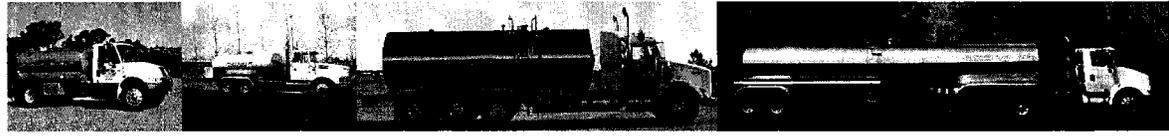
If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.) YES NO

Your Contact Information : **Mac and Connie Perkins**
7310 Golden Jubilee Lane
Littlerock, CA 93543-3001

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)? FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? Life long dream To build a house on property

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

Domestic Water Delivery 26213 East Ave. WR Llano Ca 93544
760.868.3007

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? Every other month
3400 gal

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.)

YES NO

Your Contact Information : David Webb 32403 228th St. Llano Ca 93544
760 617 2856
324mrh03@gmail.com

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? Not enough info

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative?

YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water?

NA

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue?

NA

YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue?

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property?

YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located?

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery?

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property?

NA
YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.)

YES NO

Your Contact Information :

Mariellanni NA
12748 Le Page Ranch Rd
Juniper Hills 93553 6619443096

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)? FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? ownership of property the has limited development potential.

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.) YES NO

Your Contact Information :

US Borax/Rio Tinto Attn: Nathan Francis
14486 Borax Road.
Boron, CA 93516
nathan.francis@riotinto.com

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? *I live on a well - if it goes dry - then what?*

I also have a 5 AC undeveloped parcel. If I drill for a well (which is expensive/40K+) and it does not have the required amt. - then what?

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? *mentioned above. Drilling a well is taking a big risk. Money lost if lack of gpm. Can't even sell to future buyers.*

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property?

YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.)

N/A at this time YES NO

Your Contact Information :

Olina Brill
9333 Escondido Canyon Rd
Santa Clarita, CA 91390-4813

Thank you

for participating in the hauled water initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? Less Development

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? C/O C CHAW WATER LITTLE ROCK Ca.

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? 3,000 GALLONS / 2 WEEKS DURING SUMMER MONTHS HAVE WELL

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only) YES NO

Your Contact Information : Leah Frankenberg
661 623 3197



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? I hope this might increase my properties value.

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative?

YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water?

YES NO

partially

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue?

YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue?

Market timing & lack of water.

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property?

YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located?

property is vacant land

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? NONE

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property?

YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.)

YES NO

Your Contact Information :

RUSSELL L. WELCH
(805) 640-9867 1195 S. LALUNA OSAI, LA 93023
OWNER 23 PARCELS IN AGUA DULCE AREA

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)? FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? Not all parcels in our area have sufficient water tables.
Hauled water is excellent for that reason. We all need water.

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? n/a YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? n/a YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? n/a

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

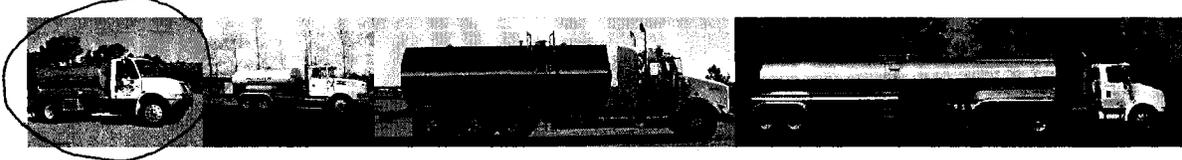
If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

Acton Water - Acton

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

4,000 gallons approximately ever 6-8 weeks

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.)

YES NO

Your Contact Information :

Linda Harbeson

661-435-1780

LHarbie@aol.com

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? I'm in favor because you have to have water, home without water, is not a Home.

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative?

YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue?

YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property?

YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property?

YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.)

YES NO

Your Contact Information :

Tarlene Owens

661-2801377

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? _____

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.) YES NO

Your Contact Information :

HOWARD JACKSON
9115 YUCCA HILLS RD.
AGUA DULCE CA. 91370

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)? FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? There is no reason why water should not be delivered via truck. Some pipelines have become contaminated but there is no known instance of a truck

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE *having this issue.*

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? LUNDE - ACTON

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? 2-3 wks.

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.) YES NO

Your Contact Information : SANDRA RICKARDS
661-476-0727

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? WITH FLUXUATING WATER TABLES, TRUCKED WATER IS A MANDATORY FOR THIS AREA, GOVERNMENT STAY OUT!

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative?

YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue?

YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property?

YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

ACTON WATER ACTON CA

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property?

YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.)

YES NO

Your Contact Information :

S. HARBESON
HARBIE911@AOL.COM

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SPANISH

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Do you own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue?

YES NO

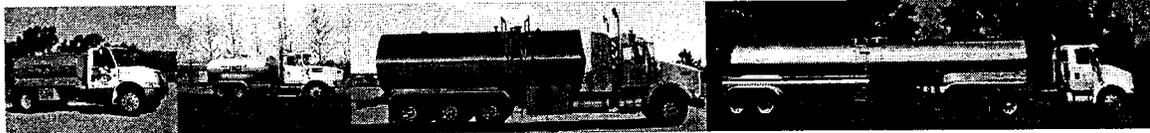
If YES, can you describe that issue? NO COST DELIVERY

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor and location of your potable hauled water? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water? _____



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed ordinance passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property?

YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further info about your property to County staff?

YES NO

Your Contact information

Ms. NIMIA MARTINEZ 818-345-3400
18320 HARV ST, RESEDA CA 91335 APN: 3064-010-027

Are you in favor of or opposed to the ~~ordinance~~ initiative?

FAVOR OPPOSE

Reason? IT WILL BE GREAT FOR DEVELOPMENT.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Spanish

Do you own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue?

YES NO

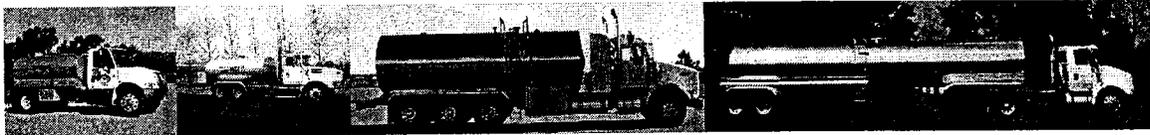
If YES, can you describe that issue? Code Book Requirements

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor and location of your potable hauled water? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water? _____



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed ordinance passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property?

YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further info about your property to County staff?

YES NO

Your Contact information AMANDA RIVERO 559-559-9202
200 N. E. ST - PORTERVILLE, CA 93257 Apr 318

Are you in favor of or opposed to the new ordinance initiative? FAVOR OPPOSE

Reason? WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO SEE THIS
APPLICABLE TO PROPERTY.

Art - ^{JOSE JUAN} LAURA GARCIA
Please call Aurora

LOS ANGELES



HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Do you own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

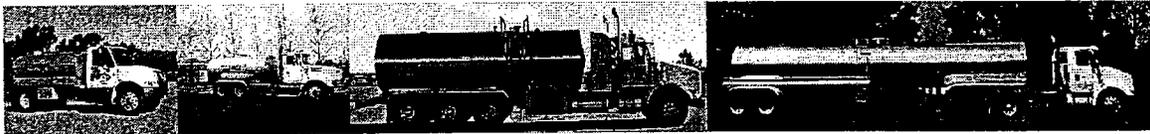
If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor and location of your potable hauled water? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water? _____



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed ordinance passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property?

YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further info about your property to County staff? YES NO

Your Contact information JOSE J & LAURA GARCIA 323-889-9647
17827 LAKE SPRINGS AVE, LAKE L.A. 93591

Are you in favor of or opposed to the ~~ordinance~~ move initiative FAVOR OPPOSE INDEFERENT

Reason? ALREADY HAULE WATER @ HOME
SERVICE BY COUNTY WATER.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Spanish

Do you own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue?

YES NO

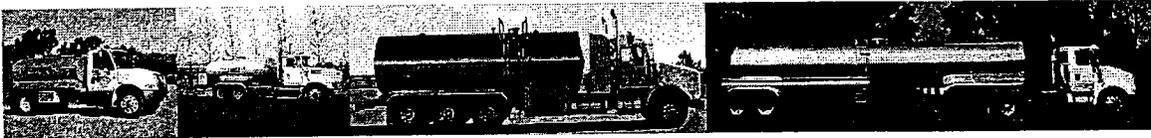
If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor and location of your potable hauled water? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water? _____



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed ordinance passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property?

YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further info about your property to County staff?

YES NO

Your Contact information

Mrs. MARIA C. LIZARRAGA 714-994-6709
6802 NAOKI AV. BUENA PARK, CA, 90620

Are you in favor of or opposed to the ordinance?

more initiative

FAVOR OPPOSE

Reason?

POSSIBLE INCREASE IN LAND VALUE.

APN: 3326-004-094



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SPANISH

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Do you own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue?

YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor and location of your potable hauled water? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water? _____



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed ordinance passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property?

YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further info about your property to County staff?

YES NO

Your Contact information MS. MIREYA CRUZ 818-982-2947
11316 KESWICK ST, L.A. 91352

Are you in favor of or opposed to the ~~ordinance~~ new initiative FAVOR OPPOSE

Reason? To be able to construct in the future.

ROBERT DALSON - GRANDSON
818-671-8519



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Spanish

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Do you own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water?

YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue?

YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue?

LIVES OUTSIDE AREA AND
WAITING FOR WATER PIPES TO BE CONSTRUCTED.

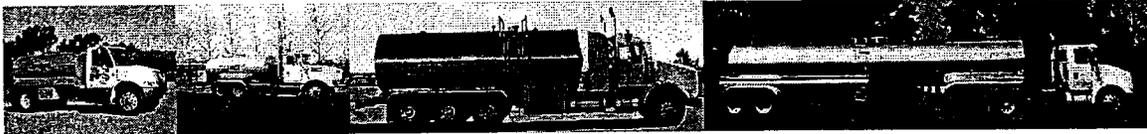
Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property?

YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor and location of your potable hauled water? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water? _____



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed ordinance passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property?

YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further info about your property to County staff?

YES NO

Your Contact information

BLANCA CALVO AON: 3082-018-011
760-367-0435

Are you in favor of or opposed to the ordinance?

more initiative

FAVOR OPPOSE

Reason?

NEUTRAL



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)? FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? to allow parcels to have value that now can only be used for your needs.

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



I sell real estate
If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.) YES NO

Your Contact Information : Victoria Taylor, Broker
PO Box 146
Acton, CA 93510

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.

See Back

The rights of property owners are being trampled to death! People have a right to be able to develop their property. LA County imposes such strict rules no one can build but huge developers such as KB or Lennar.

Just because you could have hauled water does not automatically mean you will have a building boom!!

You will have to do the following:

5th Amendment Rights

- ① get financing - good luck with that! (no one is doing construction financing!)
- ② get a building permit from LA County!
- ③ have a strong marriage & character to go thru all the trials & headaches dealing with the County!
- ④ met all the deadlines & filing requirements LA requires -

Personally, I don't know why anyone would build a house now. Buy one & fix it up - BUT the government should not impose restrictions on water if all the above are met!

Victoria Deylon



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

COMMENT FORM

Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development
Scoping Meeting
September 24, 2014

Agua Dulce Women's Club
33201 Agua Dulce Canyon Road
Agua Dulce, CA 91390

This form allows you to make comments regarding the Notice of Preparation / Initial Study for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development. The County is soliciting comments from agencies and the public. You may submit your comments at this scoping meeting or by mail to the Lead Agency (contact information listed below). Written comments will be accepted until **October 20, 2014**.

Name: DAN HOUSTON
Organization (if applicable): _____
Address: 27540 CAMP DLENTY RD.
City/State/ZIP: CANYON COUNTRY, CA. 91351

Comments: MY UNDERSTANDING OF ONE OF THE
PARAMETERS OF THIS INITIATIVE IS: "ADEQUATE
PROOF" THAT WATER WELL SUPPLY IS NOT SUFFICIENT
OR NOT FEASIBLE TO SUPPORT A ^{RESIDENCE AND} OBTAINING A BUILDING
PERMIT MUST BE SUPPORTED BY WATER WELL DRILLED
WITHIN LAST THREE YEARS. MY PARCEL HAS OLD WELL
THAT WAS NOT ADEQUATE AT TIME OF ITS DRILLING.
SO, I WOULD HAVE TO DRILL AGAIN? ###

Send Comments to: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Dale Sakamoto
Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803
E-mail: dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)? FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? EASIER TO DEVELOP PARCEL AND VACANT PARCELS'
VALUE GREATER

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

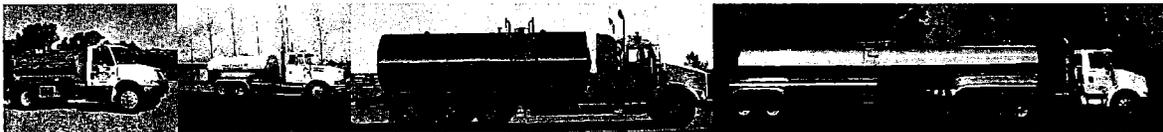
If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.) YES NO

Your Contact Information : DAN HOUSTON
661-252-4135

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

COMMENT FORM

**Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development
Scoping Meeting
October 8, 2014**

**Acton Community Club
3748 West Nickels Avenue
Acton, CA 93510**

This form allows you to make comments regarding the Notice of Preparation / Initial Study for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development. The County is soliciting comments from agencies and the public. You may submit your comments at this scoping meeting or by mail to the Lead Agency (contact information listed below). Written comments will be accepted until **October 20, 2014**.

Name: Wendy Moore
Organization (if applicable): Real Estate Broker
Address: 2210 Soledad Cyn Unit E
City/State/ZIP: Acton CA 93510

Comments: We need to be able to haul water for
parcels that don't have water, many parcels
cannot meet the 3 GPM requirement and those
parcels become useless and not sellable.

Send Comments to: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Dale Sakamoto
Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803
E-mail: dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? people could build their dream homes and
useless pieces of land become valuable again

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.) YES NO

Your Contact Information : _____

Wendy Moore
Real Estate Broker
2210 Soledad Cyn Unit E
Acton CA 93510 _____
_____ in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

COMMENT FORM

**Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development
Scoping Meeting
October 15, 2014**

**General William J. Fox Airfield
4555 West Avenue G
Lancaster, CA 93536**

This form allows you to make comments regarding the Notice of Preparation / Initial Study for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development. The County is soliciting comments from agencies and the public. You may submit your comments at this scoping meeting or by mail to the Lead Agency (contact information listed below). Written comments will be accepted until **October 20, 2014**.

Name:

Joseph Jones

Organization (if applicable):

Address:

22712 Canyon

City/State/ZIP:

West Hills, Ca 91357

Comments:

An OK for KB Homes
to develop.

Send Comments to: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Dale Sakamoto
Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803
E-mail: dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? Progress for The Community

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? The information

The Joshua Trees Can't be Removed

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property?

YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.)

YES NO

Your Contact Information : _____

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



November 5, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Carl Nadela, AICP
Regional Planner
Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
320 W. Temple Street, Room 1356
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Email: tnc@planning.lacounty.gov

Connie Chung, AICP, Supervising Regional Planner
Department of Regional Planning
320 West Temple Street, Room 1356
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Email: genplan@planning.lacounty.gov

RE: **Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for Town and Country –
Antelope Valley Area Plan Update (AVAP)**

**2014 Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Los Angeles County
General Plan Update (GPU)**

Dear Mr. Nadela and Ms. Chung:

Endangered Habitats League (EHL) appreciates the opportunity to provide additional comments on the above-referenced projects and the adequacy of their environmental documentation. EHL is concerned over the complete failure of both of these related DEIRs to disclose and analyze the impacts of the Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development (“Initiative”).¹

The Initiative potentially affects 42,677 existing legal, now vacant, parcels (including those subject to a certificate of compliance) over a study area of approximately 285,500 acres or 450 square miles in the 5th District, including areas in the Antelope Valley. The Initiative would allow hauled water as the primary source of potable water for new single-family residential construction in unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles, where there is no available service from a public or private water purveyor, and where it has been demonstrated that an on-site groundwater well is not feasible.

The Initial Study for the Initiative found potentially significant impacts to:

¹ See <<http://planning.lacounty.gov/hauled>>. NOP, Initial Study, and other documents incorporated by reference.

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG)
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation/Traffic
- Utilities and Service Systems

The Initiative dates from at least 2003. According to the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning website:

“The Task Force prepared an informational report on the feasibility of using hauled water and presented the report to the Board of Supervisors in 2009.

From 2010 to 2012, at the direction of the Board of Supervisors, the Task Force presented the informational report’s conclusions at a series of community meetings in Juniper Hills, Lancaster, and Acton, and met with community members to discuss their concerns with the report. Based on community input and consideration of other potential impacts, the Task Force revised the informational report and several of its recommendations.

The Task Force’s recommendations were compiled into a revised report, which the CEO presented to the Board on August 17, 2012. On September 4, 2012, the Board instructed the Task Force to prepare the appropriate environmental documentation analyzing the potential environmental impacts of a hauled water policy, and to prepare an ordinance for a single-family residential hauled water use policy for new development. The Task Force determined that an environmental impact report (EIR) is required for the ordinance.”

The Public Works Department of the County of Los Angeles has since issued an Initial Study for the Initiative and a Notice of Preparation for an EIR dated September 17, 2014 for the project. The County has also held several public workshops and scoping meetings during September and October 2014.

The Initiative and its potential impacts should be disclosed and analyzed in the DEIRs for the AVAP and GPU. The Initiative will have wide-reaching impacts to these plans which must be discussed in these informational documents in order to provide a real forecast and assessment of their anticipated environmental effects.

CEQA requires an EIR discuss the cumulative impacts of a project with other projects which, when considered together, may compound or increase environmental effects. (State CEQA Guidelines §§ 15065, 15130, 15355) The purpose of the cumulative impact analysis is to avoid considering projects in a vacuum so that projects with related impacts are not separately considered in a manner that may lead to severe environmental harm. (*Whitman v. Board of Supervisors* (1979) 88 Cal. App.3d 397, 408; *San Joaquin Raptor/Wildlife Rescue Ctr. v. County of Stanislaus* (1994) 27 Cal.App.4th 713, 720.) Past, present, and probable future projects which produce related impacts should be considered. (State CEQA Guidelines § 15130(b)(1)(A).)

While an EIR's analysis of impacts may be based on a summary of projections, as has been done with the DEIRs for the GPU and AVAP, projections must be adequate (i.e. not outdated or inaccurate) and, if inadequate, may be supplemented with additional information. (Pub. Res. C. § 21100(e); State CEQA Guidelines § 15130(b)(1)(B), (d); *Bakersfield Citizens for Local Control v. City of Bakersfield* (2004) 124 Cal.App.4th 1184, 1217; *Citizens to Preserve the Ojai v. County of Ventura* (1985) 176 Cal.App.3d 421.) While minor inaccuracies will not render an EIR inadequate, significant information should not be ignored. (*Ibid.*, *See also, Schaeffer Land Trust v. San Jose City Council* (1989) 215 Cal.App.3d 612, 630)

The projections relied upon for the cumulative impact analyses in the DEIRs did not include the Initiative. As the Initiative would allow hauled water as the primary source of potable water for single-family residences on up to 42,677 undeveloped parcels on 285,000 acres of Los Angeles County; and is imminently foreseeable; the DEIR's projections are inaccurate and inadequate for purposes of forecasting absent consideration of the Initiative.

The DEIRs do not address a multitude of reasonably foreseeable environmental effects which would be cumulative with the Initiative, and as a result inadequately address water supply issues. The, "ultimate question under CEQA is not whether an EIR establishes a likely source of water, but whether it adequately addresses the reasonably foreseeable impacts of supplying water to the project." (*Vineyard Area Citizens for Responsible Growth v. City of Rancho Cordova* (2007) 40 Cal.4th 412, 434, 450.) The DEIRs fail to disclose impacts from the Initiative's potential water hauling with these projects.

Water supplies will be stressed with the Initiative in ways not considered by the DEIRs as a result of additional demand. What will be the source of hauled water? The DEIRs do not discuss this source in their discussions of projected water supplies and demand. New facilities will also need to be developed to supply water for hauling. Public services and public safety will be worsened due to new being built homes without well or municipal water to fight fires. Again, the DEIRs do not evaluate or disclose these potential cumulative impacts.

The Initiative is also likely to induce growth in rural areas which would not otherwise be developable. Population build-out will be consequently altered from the

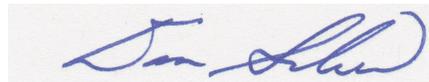
DEIRs' projections, and a host of cascading environmental effects will ensue. This growth inducing impact, and its related effects, should be considered in the DEIRs.

Traffic would also be impacted. The rural housing targeted for service by the Initiative was considered a trip *generator*. With the Initiative, the housing is also a trip *attractor*, particularly for trucks. These new vehicles will be travelling to currently undeveloped areas, creating new impacts to transportation infrastructure as well as circulation.

Furthermore, associated effects to air quality/health risks, noise, and GHGs would occur, since truck trips and traffic are a key factor in determining the scope of each of these impacts. Long-term physical changes to the environment would be caused by the noise, traffic, and air pollution from water trucks. (*See, Riverwatch v. Olivenhain Municipal Water District* (2009) 170 Cal.App.4th 1186.)

In sum, the failure of the DEIRs to disclose and analyze the potential hauling of potable water in the AVAP and GPU renders the majority of their impact evaluations inadequate. We respectfully ask that the DEIRs for the AVAP and GPU be revised and recirculated for public review after the Initiative has been factored into the environmental analyses.

Yours truly,



Dan Silver
Executive Director



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

COMMENT FORM

Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development
Scoping Meeting
October 8, 2014

Acton Community Club
3748 West Nickels Avenue
Acton, CA 93510

This form allows you to make comments regarding the Notice of Preparation / Initial Study for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development. The County is soliciting comments from agencies and the public. You may submit your comments at this scoping meeting or by mail to the Lead Agency (contact information listed below). Written comments will be accepted until **October 20, 2014**.

Name: Penny Gleason
Organization (if applicable): N/A
Address: 5441 Hisey Ranch Rd.
City/State/ZIP: Acton, Ca. 93510

Comments: I feel that people should be allowed to
used hauled water & there single family residence
I dont believe that this would be detrimental to
the community of Acton as long as this doesnt apply
to a track of homes 50/100/200!

Send Comments to: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Dale Sakamoto
Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803
E-mail: dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)?

FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? _____

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

If YES, can you describe that issue? I have a well - But my Neighbors don't. *(Some)*

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.) YES NO

Your Contact Information : _____

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HAULED WATER INITIATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you in favor of or opposed to the proposed Hauled Water Initiative (single-family residence zoned parcels over 2,000 square feet in size located in unincorporated County territory where there is no water purveyor or where there is no access to on-site well water)? FAVOR OPPOSE UNDECIDED

Reason? LACK OF WATER FOR EXISTING PROPERTY/RES.
TRUCKING IN DRYING UP OTHER AREAS IS
FOOLISH?

Do you own property that would be subject to the proposed initiative? YES NO NOT SURE

If YES, have you attempted to develop your parcel in the past? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to a lack of potable water? YES NO

Was your attempt to develop unsuccessful due to another issue? YES NO

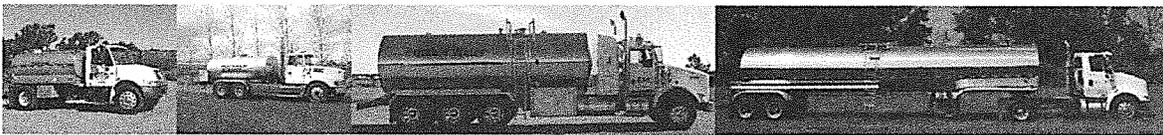
If YES, can you describe that issue? _____

Do you currently use hauled water as the source of potable water for your property? YES NO

If YES: (1) Who is the water purveyor of your potable hauled water and where are they located? _____

(2) What is the frequency and volume of the hauled water delivery? _____

(3) What type of vehicle is used in the delivery of hauled water (circle the most similar vehicle)?



If you do own property that would be subject to the Hauled Water Initiative and the proposed initiative passes, would you be interested in using hauled water to facilitate development of your property? YES NO

Would you be willing to provide further information regarding using hauled water on your property? If so, please provide your contact information below. (This information will be used for study purposes only.) YES NO

Your Contact Information : JASON VELS
3351 ALVA BLVD CHN R12
ALVA BUCCO, CA 91390

Thank you for assisting in the study of the proposed initiative.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

COMMENT FORM

Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development
Scoping Meeting
September 24, 2014

Agua Dulce Women's Club
33201 Agua Dulce Canyon Road
Agua Dulce, CA 91390

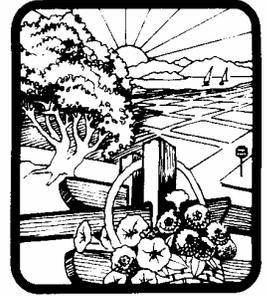
This form allows you to make comments regarding the Notice of Preparation / Initial Study for the Proposed Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development. The County is soliciting comments from agencies and the public. You may submit your comments at this scoping meeting or by mail to the Lead Agency (contact information listed below). Written comments will be accepted until **October 20, 2014**.

Name: JASON VELS
Organization (if applicable): _____
Address: _____
City/State/ZIP: _____

Comments: _____

Send Comments to: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Dale Sakamoto
Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803
E-mail: dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov

SCOPE
Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment
TO PROMOTE, PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT, ECOLOGY
AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY
POST OFFICE BOX 1182, SANTA CLARITA, CA 91386



5-29-15

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Dale Sakamoto
900 S. Fremont 11th Fl
Alhambra, CA 91803

Sent Via Email to dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov

Re: Comments on Notice of Preparation for Hauled Water EIR for New Residential Development

Mr. Dale Sakamoto:

We note that there is a discrepancy between the dates indicated on your Notice of Preparation and the comment period stated on your website as “The second NOP was released on May 4, 2015. There is a 30-day comment period on the second NOP, and a scoping meeting will be held on May 20, 2015, to take public comment on the scope and content of the draft EIR.” These comments are emailed to your office by 5 PM June 1st, 2015 to comply with the time line stated on your written notice and thus are timely filed. But we urge you to accept comments through June 4th, since that is the date stated on you website.

We request that we be provided with a copy of the DEIR when it is released.

Position on Hauled Water for New Residential Units Policy

We believe that it is important to state at the outset that we oppose approving new residential development based on hauled water as the source of water supply. Such a policy precludes good water management because review and availability would not be conducted by a water agency knowledgeable of local water resources. Small systems and haulers often encounter health and/or water quality issues which they are ill-equipped to identify and may not be financially capable of resolving. Any problems with or delays of deliveries could put human health and welfare in danger.

Additionally, such a policy encourages urban sprawl into wild land areas, increasing costs of wildfire protections that must be born by tax payers and requiring additional roads, maintenance which will also both increase costs to tax payers and cause additional impacts to wild life.

Initial Study

It is our understanding after reviewing your website on this matter that a new initial study was not conducted for the current NOP. Therefore, the following comments are made based on the Initial Study dated September 17, 2014.

We begin by stating that we generally concur with the findings of Initial Study and do concur with the finding that an EIR is required, and that there will be significant impacts to the environment.

However, we are unclear as to why the County found no potential impact to geology, especially to soils “incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water.” We would surmise that such soils would be prevalent where sub-surface ground water does occur, those making it probably that lots unable to obtain well water may also be unlikely to support septic facilities or adequately manage waste water. While septic tanks may not affect water supply wells under a hauled water scenario, sewage that cannot be properly disposed underground is certainly an issue to wildlife or potentially other water bodies. Please address this in the DEIR.

We disagree with the finding that there is no significant impact under Hazardous Materials Section h) “Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?”

We believe the County and the DEIR must explore the potential for storage of such regularly used household hazardous materials as paint and other chemicals that may be flammable or toxic, and are found in dwellings in amounts large enough to cause the quick spread of fire or release of toxic chemicals that cannot be abated by a small amount of water on site in a hauled water situation.

We also believe the County must address the noise issue as a potential significant impact, since the whole residence itself would not be possible without the passage of a hauled water ordinance. This includes levels above the ambient noise level for generators, trucks, pumps or other mechanical devices that would be required for a site not immediately accessible to water and thus otherwise unbuildable.

Additional DEIR Information required

The DEIR should include a discussion of the financial burden of services to be provided in outlying areas and who will bare the costs of these services if this ordinance is approved. This analysis should include especially the cost of fire fighting, and emergency health services.

Page 3.10-4 of the Scoping memo states:

“On January 1, 2003, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Environmental Health, Bureau of Environmental Protection Drinking Water Program issued an advisory based on the State Department of Public Health advisory entitled “POTABLE WATER AVAILABILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT.” The letter stated: “Hauled water does not provide the equivalent level of protection of public health or the consistent level of reliability as that permitted by a public water system or an approved on-site water source. Therefore, hauled water does not satisfy the requirements for potable water for new residential or commercial construction. For new residential and commercial construction, only public water systems or approved private water wells satisfy the requirements for potable water.”

The DEIR should state what circumstances have changed that would now enable the Dept of Health Services to provide a new or different viewpoint on this matter. If the Dept. of Health Services has not changed its opinion in this matter, the County should provide information as to why it feels it can proceed with this initiative when it cannot provide public health protection.

While page 3.14-2 seems to indicate that fire protection would be granted with adequate stored supply to defend the property, we note that recent efforts to protect rural structures from fire have resulted in major expense to the County and State, and have even caused the loss of life of both fireman and individuals. The County must therefore carefully analyze its ability to protect such permitted housing, given the increased wildfire potential of climate change. The DEIR should evaluate this impact both from the potential of increased wildfires and the financial cost of these services.

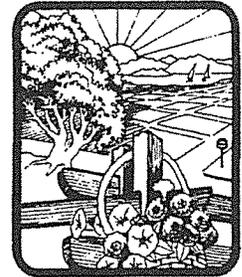
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal in its initial stage. We look forward to reviewing the DEIR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lynne Plambeck".

Lynne Plambeck
President

SCOPE
Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment
TO PROMOTE, PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT, ECOLOGY
AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY
POST OFFICE BOX 1182, SANTA CLARITA, CA 91386



County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Dale Sakamoto
900 S. Freemont 11th Fl
Alhambra, CA 91803

Re: Comments on Notice of Preparation for Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments

Mr. Dale Sakamoto:

These comments are emailed to your office by 5 PM Oct. 20th and thus are timely filed. We request that we be provided a copy of the DEIR when it is released.

Initial Study

We begin by stating that we generally concur with the findings of Initial Study and do concur with the finding that an EIR is required, and that there will be significant impacts to the environment.

However, we are unclear as to why the County found no potential impact to geology, especially to soils “incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water.” We would surmise that such soils would be prevalent where sub-surface ground water does occur, those making it probably that lots unable to obtain well water may also be unlikely to support septic facilities or adequately manage waste water. While septic tanks may not affect water supply wells under a hauled water scenario, sewage that cannot be properly disposed underground is certainly an issue to wildlife or potentially other water bodies. Please address this in the DEIR.

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other mechanical devices that would be required for a site not immediately accessible to water and thus otherwise unbuildable.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal in its initial stage. We look forward to reviewing the DEIR.

Sincerely,



Lynne Plambeck

President

TRANSMITTAL

DATE: October 27, 2014, 4pm

TO: Dale Sakamoto 626-458-3915 dsakamoto@dpw.lacounty.gov
County of Los Angeles, Dept. of Public Works,
900 So. Fremont Ave., 11th Flr., Alhambra, CA 91803
Email Subject Line: Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments

CC: Gloria Molina, LACo Supervisor
Micheal Antonovich, LACo Supervisor
Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter, Water Committee

FROM: Dr. Tom Williams,
Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter, Water Committee
Citizens Coalition For A Safe Community
4117 Barrett Road, Los Angeles, CA 90032-1712
ctwilliams2012@yahoo.com, 323-528-9682

SUBJECT: Single Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development
CHN-2014091048 LACo Notice of Preparation 09/16/14

RE: LA COUNTY, HAULED WATER EIR Scoping Comments

Thank you for the opportunities to comment on the Initial Study and other Scoping Documents related to the proposed LA County Hauled Water Initiative. Also thank you for the extension of the deadline for such comments, I believe it was very helpful for our commenters.

I could have continued for many more pages but I have been exhausted by the lack of real effort on the part of the preparers to make the unconventional water supplies project and initially assess its secondary and tertiary impacts for knowledgeable public reviewers. Unfortunately the current Initial Study and supporting documents appears to be an initial version of the vague program rather than a project level DEIR preparation which is in need of major editing, technical, and other revisions. The Scoping documents are inadequate and incomplete for the purposes of Scoping, and Scoping documents must updated, revised, and reissued.

If you need further clarifications and many more comments, I am available for discussions or correspondence with your staff.

Dr. TW Background: 40 years with water resources, management plans, water supplies, water distribution and transmission systems, and remote water resources development and the preparation, review, and commenting for 300 EIRs/EISs/EAs from 1972-3 to Date through 30+ years with Parsons and URS Corporations, 12+ years with Dubai Govt./Dubai World, and 6-years with Sierra Club Angeles Chapter (Water, Transportation, and Oil and Gas Comtes).

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment. Our comments form two parts: general and specific comments, as shown below for the Section and the two segments.

**I have tried to provide citations in commenting format with section/page. Where appropriate, text has been inserted from documents and emphasis added usually as bolded/underlines.
*Comments/Requests are added in bolded/italics.***

More specific comments are given a short background in plain text with ***bolded/italic comments***.

Dr. Tom Williams
323-528-9682

1. GENERAL COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

1.00 *Written comments with revisions and appropriate requests would exceed the contents of the plan and far exceed the efforts of a reviewer for a proofed/near finished document, simply stated: "Start All Over AGAIN". We offer the following general comments and requests. All comments must be applied to a revised Scoping document and if not revised to the entire Environmental Impact Report (EIR, or to a Programmatic EIR-PEIR or Draft PEIR:*

1.1 *The Project is not a project but is a group of projects and thereby the DEIR must be changed to a Programmatic DEIR (PEIR/PDEIR) with provisions for tiering down to Project DEIRs with appropriate public participation for each of the 30 different zoning/area groups within the program. This gathering is the reverse of "segmentation", and the proposed activities must be dealt with as a "Blanket Project" to avoid detailed assessments required by CEQA.*

1.2 *Scoping Report Provide compilation of all scoping comments and related sections of Table of Contents in the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) within 75 days of closing of comments, e.g., January 15, 2015.*

1.3 *Scoping The Initial Study and Notice of Preparation are incomplete and inadequate for defining what the LA County wishes from agencies and public participation and what are appropriate for Scoping of such a vast area project:, e.g., -*

CEQA requires Scoping to promote and educate:

Expression of Potential Concerns and Information

Develop Project Description

Define Environmental Issues -

Important Resources

Impacts and Determination of Significance

Potential/Prospective Mitigation for Significant Impacts

Range of Feasible alternatives

Establish in a Scoping Report the assignment of comments to the various elements of CEQA's scoping approach.

Provide clear definitions and examples of the typical scoping categories: project description, impacted resources, methods of assessments, establishment of significance, mitigation of significant impacts, and alternatives.

1.4 *Revise and recirculate Scoping Documents and incorporate into the PDEIR the following:*

Project Description - at least one page of Project Purposes and Needs

All CEQA requires a definition of Purpose(s) and Need(s) for a project which is usually submitted as part of the Project Description. CEQA also requires alternatives to be developed based on the Purpose(s) and Need(s) which the proposed project may fulfill. The IS does not include any project purposes and/or needs which the proposed project will fulfill. The IS proposes no alternatives to the proposed project

Without purposes and needs for the proposed project (the only alternative), other alternatives cannot be developed with assurance that they would be adequate and complete. Similarly the reviewers cannot be assured that the proposed project description actually fulfills the incomplete and inadequate project.

Without ANY purposes/needs and alternatives the DEIR scoping become incomplete and totally inadequate. Without these during the Scoping process, review of the proposed project alternative and development and proposal of alternatives cannot be adequately and completely undertaken. These deficiencies render the entire scoping process a violation of the intent and requirements of CEQA for Scoping.

LACounty must withdraw the current IS, provide and include an adequate and complete definition of the project's purposes and needs and at least two alternatives to the proposed project alternative.

Project Description - Clear statement as a tentative Schedule for the project say to the year 2040. Definitions and glossary of Water Quality and Hygienic Hauled Water, Irrigation Water, and Fire Water and related terms.

Identify parcels in proximity to and relations with the recently designated/delineated San Gabriel National Monument

Identify parcels with or adjacent to Sensitive Habitats and Proximity to Critical Habitats and connections with National Monument

Identify parcels with Slopes of >50% above and below all parcels of >7ac Parcels

Provide a projected full-time residential population and age structure, one table says 3.5p/SFR x 42,677 = 149,000 population in 2040.

- 1.5 Based on Purpose(s) and Need(s) demonstrate compliance by the proposed project and then: State the Needs for "Future Without Project" Alternative - Not "Do Nothing" Provide at least one "Build Alternative" as an example of commenters to submit others**
- 1.6 Project Title is misleading, inadequate, and incomplete: "Single Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development" does not appear to be consistent with Project Description provided with regard that more than SFR development has been indicated in Table 1.6-1 and in guidelines of development on properties >2000sqft with <50% grade. New development would include resorts, recreation, light/heavy agricultural, and multi-family residences along with As the Zoning categories include more than just Single Family - R-1, the Scope is unclear as to whether this program would convert existing zoning of all 42,000+ parcels to R-1, as other parcels are not specifically zoned for Single Family residences. Clarify as to how many new single family residences can be developed where parcels vary from 3400sqft to >1,000,000sqft; Clarify as to how many new multi-family residential units can be developed where parcels vary from 3400sqft to >1,000,000sqft; Clarify as to how many new resorts and recreational structure can be developed where parcels vary from 3400sqft to >1,000,000sqft; Clarify as to how the zoning/land use variance process may increase, hold constant, and increase structural development;**
- 1.7 Alternatives - Based on available information, but without Purposes and Needs for the proposed project and thereby alternatives, include the following:**
- 1.7-1 Hauled Water Service-1 - must meet and demonstrate continuing compliance with all water quality and hygienic standards required for piped water supplies from sources to use, including transfers, hauling, delivery, storage, and use for potable, irrigation, and fire water systems;**
 - 1.7-2 Hauled Water Service-2 - must meet and demonstrate continuing compliance with all water quality and hygienic standards required for groundwater supplies from sources to use, including transfers, hauling, delivery, storage, and use for potable, irrigation, and fire water systems;**
 - 1.7-3 Hauled Water Service-3 - must meet and demonstrate continuing compliance with all water quality and hygienic standards required for typical or common current hauled water supplies from sources to use, including transfers, hauling, delivery, storage, and use for potable, irrigation, and fire water systems;**
 - 1.7-4 Hauled Water Service-4 - must meet and demonstrate continuing compliance with all water quality and hygienic standards required for large-parcel (>5ac/250,000sqft) combination of typical or common current hauled water supplies from sources to local/parcel treatment facilities with local deliveries by pipelines to structures including delivery and storage for potable, irrigation, and fire water systems;**
 - 1.7-5 Low Development Scope-5 - Prohibit any up-zoning of existing zoned parcels from 01/01/2014 status - increasing residential structures from current ZERO to an Assumed Target of 21,000 dwelling units (DU) on 250,000+acres (1 DU/ 12 ac);**
 - 1.7-6 Modest Development Scope-6 - Require 43,560sqft development pads for each single family residence (eliminate 2000sqft and/or remove 50% slope) - Assumed Target of 42,000+ dwelling units (DU) with remaining parcel areas beyond fuel modification perimeter as zoned open spaces (about 200,000ac);**
 - 1.7-6 Minimal Development Scope-6 - Down-Zone all zonings from existing zonings providing for excess development over an above that for Zone A-1;**

- 1.7-7 Project Development-7 - Current zoning for >250,000 acres with >250,000 DUs and 1.0 Million population in LA County District 5.**
- 1.7-8 Project Development-8 - Separate all parcels into three major categories: parcels of a. <100,000sqft, b. >100Ksf-<1000Ksf, and c. >1000Ksf and provide programmatic EIRs for each category of development with specific mitigation-monitoring-reporting programs, terms, and conditions for each category.**
- 1.8 Add/Expand the Sector to DEIR for SocioEconomic Conditions and include Costs/Benefits analyses for all County and local agencies costs of services to support new development and any changes in assessed values and resulting revenues to the County and local agencies with a timeframe of ten years from date of approval - 01/01/2016. This is specifically of concern regarding the proposed Measure P on the November 2014 ballot which would relieve the 42,000+ owners of square-footage fees and convert them to single parcel fees, which in turn assigns higher equivalent fees to smaller parcels within the project's 42,000+ but also throughout the County.**
- 1.9 Provide more quantitative and comprehensive description of parcels, zoning category requirements, development potential**
Infrastructure Distance from paved roads, piped water sources, groundwater
Planning Foothills, Ridgelines, Desert
Land elevations, slopes, physiography,
Geology Water resources, Slopes, Mineral resources-oil&gas and sand-gravel.
- 1.10 Provide acre-by-acre Resources Inventory using GoogleEarth or other imagery for all Fragile Desert, Riparian, Wetlands, Steep Slope, and other unique Habitats and connecting corridors established by SEATAC throughout all Project areas.**
- 1.11 Provide acre-by-acre Resources Inventory using GoogleEarth or other imagery for all alluvial and bedrock groundwater sources beneath all parcels of >100,000sqft (2+ac) throughout all Project areas.**
- 1.12 Provide thorough systems analyses for the maximum hauled water activities for the Project and maximum build-out development, as example: $100,000\text{DUs} \times 3.5\text{p/DU} = 350,000\text{pop.} \times 100\text{gal/p-d (potable ONLY)} = 35,000,000\text{gal/day} \times \text{load of } 20,000\text{gal/tanker} = 1750 \text{ tanker roundtrips/day} \times 20 \text{ mile ROT} = 35,000\text{mi/day} - 100,000 \text{ loadings, transfers, and cleanups/day. Estimate air pollution and GHGs from diesel trucks.}$**
- 1.13 Provide Health Impacts Analyses for water-related illnesses for 100,000 residences and 350,000 population served by hauled water.**
- 1.14 Under land-uses assessment in each of the County Areas (5) and their zoning sub-areas (R-1, A-1, R-R, etc: ttl-30), provide a thorough, quantitative review of parcel size distributions and current zoning maximum structural developments without variances.**
- 1.15 Under Biological Resources assessments and mitigation, provide for all losses of habitat and habitat/migration disruption due to structural developments, required fuel modifications and clearing around structures, infrastructure corridors (electricity, sanitary, and water distributon/networks), and roads/parking, and other transport related requirements**
- 1.15 As part of Item 1.8, include a section for clear notification requirements as part of mitigation for socioeconomic impacts for property purchases and untruth/illegal representations to future prospective home buyers requiring full disclosure of constraints and hazards involved with hauled water supplies to future and newly constructed structures in the Project areas.**
- 1.16 As part of Item 1.8, include a section for clear notification requirements as part of mitigation for socioeconomic impacts for property/parcel purchases of larger than one acre (43,560sqft) require full owner transfer and prohibit partial-49% sales which are common practices to avoid changes in property tax assessment for long-held properties.**

- 1.17 **As part of Item 1.8, include a section for clear notification requirements as part of mitigation for socioeconomic impacts for properties/parcels of >2acres/>100,000sqft with more than five(5) structures to require formation of legally binding and responsible Home Owners Associations (HOAs) for operations, maintenances, inspections/monitoring, and remediation for any and all issues related to provision of water supplies for potable, irrigation, and fire-suppression.**
- 1.18 **The DPEIR must include a draft of the Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program and all terms and conditions for each Zoning category and each sub-area of each of the seven areas.**
- 1.19 **Massive editing required - some are provided in specific comments. Total and pervasive lack of consistency in standard term definitions, usage, and comparability which may be purposefully distracting and confusing and appears to avoid technical clarity.**

COMMENTS 2. Summarized Table and Background Information

Proposed Single Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development

Table 1.6-1 Los Angeles County Zoning Designations By Subarea

Averaged at 6ac/parcel but table shows very different

Summary

30 Zoned Areas	Parcel Size Distribution Summary		
8 ZoneTypes	Largest parcels	1.6-0.8Msf	Largest 4/10+% parcels
One text reference: 13 zoning types			7 >7ac each
Zone A-1	19 <7ac>1.1ac	each	
Zone A-2	<1.1ac = 4 ttl		
Zone R-1 -	Smallest parcels	3500-4400sf parcels	3/10%
Zone R-2			
Zone R-A			
Zone R-R Total Range	3,493-1,655,902sqft/parcel		
Zone RPD			
Zone D-2			

2.1 Something is basically WRONG when the project includes an upper 10% of the parcels >800,000 sqft while the lower 10% are less than 4500 sqft with a California typical Single Family Residential lot size of 5000sqft, and equally WRONG when all measures and statements are applied to the full range of parcels, 3500-1,655,000sqft: range of 473x the lowest value.

Concerns arise as to why the grouping together of widely differing sizes (4000/140,000sqft and zoning types (e.g., A-1, R-2, R-R, and D) and potential for masking problems/impacts in one group with those in another.

The PDEIR must include specific analyses and assessments for each zoning type/category and for parcels <10,000sqft, >10K<100Ksqft, >100K<1000K, and >1000Ksqft.

2.2 Use of 2000sqft for structure pad with such a wide range of parcel size is absurd and indicates a wide opportunity for re-interpretations and lack of objectivity in the future development

Detailed Summary

Acton	Units	Area ac	Ave ac	Ave sqft	Ave sqft	Genrl.Cat.
Zone A-1	Light agricultural	124	753.7	6.08	<u>264768</u>	200K
Zone A-2	Heavy agricultural	980	12,037+	12.28	535050	500K
Zone R-A	Residential agricultural	14	32.9	2.35	<u>102366</u>	100K
Zone R-R	Resort and recreation	10	325.7	32.57		1,418,749 Secd. Largest
Zone RPD	Resid.Planned dev	1	5.2	5.20	<u>226512</u>	200K
Castaic/Santa Clarita/Agua Dulce						
Zone A-1	Light agricultural	543	2,678.20	4.93	<u>214848</u>	200K
Zone A-2	Heavy agricultural	535	10,866.00	20.31		884,716 Large
Zone R-1	Single-family residence	193	393.8	2.04	<u>88,880</u>	89K
Zone R-A	Residential agricult.	13	201.7	15.52	675,850	600K
Zone RPD	Resid. planned dev	342	218.3	0.64	27,805	27K <i>Secd.Smallest Group</i>
Antelope Valley Northeast						

Zone A-1	Light agricultural	201	625.5	3.11	<u>135556</u>	<u>100K</u>	
Zone A-2	Heavy agricultural	1,619	10,090.50	6.23	<u>271490</u>	<u>200K</u>	
Kagel Canyon							
Zone A-1	Light agricultural	392	32.3	0.08	3589		Smallest
Zone R-1	Single Fam. resid	106	8.5	0.08	3493		Smallest
Lake Hughes/Gorman/West of Lancaster							
Zone A-1	Light agricultural	5,661	21,021.20	3.71	<u>161753</u>	<u>100K</u>	
Zone A-2	Heavy agricultural	6,592	73,775.10	11.19	<u>487507</u>	<u>400K</u>	
Zone D-2	Desert-Mountain	2,034	9,709.00	4.77	<u>207927</u>	<u>200K</u>	
Zone R-1	Single-family resid.	47	48.4	1.03	<u>44858</u>	<u>48K</u>	
Zone R-A	Residential agricult.	1	0.1	0.10	4356		Small
Zone R-R	Resort&Recreat	21	798.3	38.01			1,655,902 Largest
Lake Los Angeles/Llano/Valyermo/Littlerock							
Zone A-1	Light agricultural	8,906	62,141.70	6.98	<u>303940</u>	<u>300K</u>	
Zone A-2	Heavy agricultural	5,876	34,290.30	5.84	<u>254201</u>	<u>200K</u>	
Zone R-2	Two-family resid.	10	39.3	3.93	<u>171191</u>	<u>100K</u>	
Zone R-A	Residential agricult.	167	930.6	5.57	<u>242736</u>	<u>200K</u>	
Zone R-R	Resort and recreation	77	1,441.30	18.72	815,364	800K	Large
Lancaster Northeast							
Zone A-1	Light agricultural	1,387	6,324.20	4.56	<u>198617</u>	<u>100+K</u>	
Zone A-2	Heavy agricultural	4,446	25,739.30	5.79	<u>252183</u>	<u>200K</u>	
Zone D-2	Desert-Mountain	2,265	9,794.70	4.32	<u>188370</u>	<u>100K</u>	
Zone R-1	Single-family resid.	35	126.1	3.60	<u>156940</u>	<u>100K</u>	
Zone R-A	Residential agricult	169	963.9	5.70	<u>248447</u>	<u>200K</u>	

2.3 As indicated in this table, the wide range of sizes and zoning types strongly refutes the statement elsewhere that each parcels shall only have one single family residence on a 2000sqft structured pad on a portion of a parcel with less than 50% grade. This requires an average density of 1 SFD/>6.6ac if all of the existing R-1 and R-2 (e.g., 385 parcels) are removed from the listing as they are smaller than the averaged value.

The Project must be adequately defined and have assigned residences for each parcel and must be totally objective and reasoned as presented. Clearly indicate the maximum current allowances for any residential structures on each parcel and within each planning area/zoning type. Include prohibitions of any additional residence in excess of those listed in the PDEIR. Provide an estimate of total residences if all development pads of 2000sqft at <50% grades were developed based on one residence per acre after all maximum developments of less than one-acre pad-areas were deducted (e.g., R-1, R-2, etc.).

DETAILED COMMENTS 3.

3-1 Redefine the Project for all, total infrastructure development rather than a single element which will drive all other via supporting the development of single family developments. If not then the entire DEIR process is flawed and subject to segmentation: water isolated from sewerage and roads and from fire, medical, and education services for a development of more than 42,677 residences.

3-2 Project Description shall include:

Establish a clear timeline for near-complete (say 85% build-out) development with phasing - 2025, 2030, 2035, or 2040;

Clear summary and quantification of all system components of Hauled Water Service from source to end uses and specific to each planning area-

Source - Increased demands on Scarce resources straight rates = >Pipelines

Tanker Equipment - Public health protection

Travel Traffic/Accidents - electric

Receivers Health/WQ - Tankers to Tank

Storage - Daily Three Seven Thirty days Cleanouts/Inspection

Uses Personal/DU Irrigation Fire Suppression;

Description and estimates of Septic Tank/Leaching Fields areas, pumpage/septage, and disposal components to serve the total development and for each planning area;

Description and estimates of Fire Fighting System - Tanks-Pipe Network - Sprinklers;

Description and estimates/plans of road extensions and expansions

NOP 1/2 The County has estimated that...approximately 42,677 **parcel owners** in the County could be eligible to seek authorization for use of hauled water to support issuance of a building permit for a single-family residence...'

IS-1/2 The area that would be subject to the Single-Family Residential Hauled Water Initiative for New Development (proposed initiative) consists of 42,677 **parcels** in the unincorporated territory of Los Angeles County...

3-2 con't. Presumes arbitrarily that parcels of >100,000 or even >1,000,000 sqft would only be eligible for "a" = ONE single family residence for each parcel even though numerous (>350) "parcels" of less than 10,000sqft would be eligible for the same residence. This seems absurd and subject to a purposeful gross understatement and re-interpretation during implementation. Therefore this basic statement for the project description requires major revisions or re-definitions.

**3-3 Assessment and Mitigation must be required at all major transfer points and disposal points. Public /Domestic Health - Water Connectors Tanks/Drains Disinfection
Septic Tanks and Leach Fields**

3-4 Assessment and Mitigation must be required for all disposal system components, including Leachate - Septic Tanks and Lawns - accumulating salts and groundwater recharge and the suitability of soils and required leaching rates.

3-5 Land Use Conversions As the project description has focused on single-family residences across a wide range of zoning categories, the assumption must be made that all zoning categories shall be converted to single-family residences. As indicated in the parameters given, a residence may be place on any portion of a parcel that has >2000sqft at less than 50% (1:2 slope) grade.

3-6 The project description must include a typical layout of how a parcel may be developed/converted, including

1000+sqft/foundation

1000+sqft for access, gates, parking, and driveways/tracks

Fire Clearance - 100+ x 20+50+20+50 =>200 x 100 = 20,000+sqft/du

1-6 = 14-84K sqft/ parcel

Fuel Modif. 100 x = 28K-168Ksqft/parcel of 260,000sqft

3.6-18/1 3.6 Geology

The proposed initiative would allow hauled water as the primary source of potable water for new single-family residential construction in unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, where land use designation and zoning allow for development of a single-family residence.

3-7 Project description and alternatives must clearly identify and receive commitment for water supplies and confirmations that the system, volumes, and analyses are reasonable and can be implemented through the designated sources.

The proposed initiative does not allow for development in conflict with the California Building Code or the Safety Element of the Los Angeles County General Plan.

3-8 As the residences and residents shall be in isolated areas and remote from much infrastructure and services, all structures must also meet appropriate Natl.Fire Prevent.Assoc. and Calif. State/LACo. fire and hygenic codes for water supplies and fire prevention and suppression.

The proposed initiative does not allow for development in conflict with the existing zoning, or facilitate rezoning.

3-9 The project description must include full disclosure and analyses for existing zoning allowances, other than water supplies, as of 2003, current-2014, and anticipated on the day of implementation (e.g., July 15, 2015) and any attempts for rezoning during 2013-Date.

3.6-18/2 3.6.4 MITIGATION MEASURES The proposed initiative would not result in significant impacts to geology and soils; therefore, mitigation measures are not required.

3-10 Introduction of significant new sources of waters through leakage, spillage, irrigation, and septic disposal systems into unknown geological conditions renders this assessment as

largely unsupported, unobjective, and basically wrong. Mitigation for such introduction is well known and can be reasonably implemented, inspected, and maintained. The PDEIR must be objective, fully supported by direct observations, studies, and quantitative analyses.

3-11 Mineral Resources Proposed development of 40-100,000 new residences in even a 20-year build-out shall require huge quantities of gravel, sands, and aggregate which must be provided but which have not been located within the development areas.

p.3.9-2 Runoff: Runoff is the water flow that occurs when the soil is infiltrated to full capacity and excess water from rain, meltwater, or other sources flows over the land...surface runoff in urban areas is a primary cause of urban flooding....

3-11 Hydrology -No mention of the "Enhanced Watershed Management Plan" is made throughout the document, although the Department of Public Works is in charge of this project and the "Enhanced Watershed Management Plan". Absence of coordination of these projects is clearly totally inadequate and incomplete for even the Scoping phase of CEQA compliance. The absence of such coordination also reflects upon the competence of preparers and reviewers before circulation of the Scoping documents.

Again we request that the entire Scoping effort and considerations be withdrawn, all scoping information updated, and the Scoping process be restarted with adequate and complete reports and Project Description.

Runoff actually occurs long-before the soil reach "full capacity" (say one foot of "soil" may absorb 0.25 cuft/sqft of rain water, IF water is delivered at the rate of absorption of the clay). In most desert and soil exposed areas especially if not pure sand, the soil surface contains a high percentage of clays and silts which when wetted, expand in the soil, and rapidly seals off any further penetration by rain water after receiving any measurable rainfall. Once sealed the surface runoff approaches 100% of the remaining downfall. Revise the storm/runoff considerations and require "Zero Runoff" from all future rainfalls of 0.05-1.0 in/day in keeping with the requirements of the "Enhanced Watershed Management Plan"

3-12 Population - No consistent build-out population is provided for the entire project area but assuming this table is consistent with other statements for 3.5 persons/DU and 260gal/day of wastewater flows. Our calculations would yield the following:

- a. 42,677 parcels x 3.5p/DU = >149,000+ project population on aver. 6.6ac/parcel**
- b. 42,677 x 6.6ac at 1DU/ac = >536,000 project Population on 1acre parcels**
- c. Given the wide range of reasonably assumed populations the entire section and all issues related to population are inadequate and incomplete and purposefully misleading or confusing for the public.**

3.9-21 TABLE 3.9.3-1 ESTIMATED AVERAGE WASTEWATER FLOW GENERATED PER PLANNING AREA PER YEAR

3-13 This table is in error and confused/confusing to the purpose of the table and associated text. Planning Area and population are not defined and are in error without any background and supporting documents.

Planning Area	Planning Area Population	Avg. Wastewater Flow (gpd)/Planning Area	Avg. Wastewater Volume (gal)Pumped/Year With Septic Only
Total	26,880	99,840	30,368

NOTES: Based on Table1.5.1-1. [see below $42677 = 149,400$ pop]

Based on Avg. of 3.5 people/single family residence. $[42,677 \times 3.5 = 149,400$ ttl pop]

Based on Avg. of 260 gallons per day wastewater used/single family residence according to L.A.C. Sanitation District.

[260gal/3.5 = 74.3 gal/pers./day wastewater without grey water separation = Supply of 100gal/pers./day]

Based on Avg. Septic size of 1,200 gallons (size based on four- bedroom residence).

26,880 would equal = 7680 SFRs, not 42,677, no planning area contained 7680 together or separately.

Referenced Table p.1-4 **TABLE 1.5.1-1 ADOPTED L.A.CO. GENERAL PLAN PLANNING AREAS**

Planning Area [sub-areas]	Number of Subject Parcels in Planning Area	Percentage of Subject Parcels in Planning Area
Antelope Valley/Antelope Valley Northeast	1,820	4.3
Lake Los Angeles/Llano/Valyermo/Littlerock	14,946	35.0
Lancaster Northeast	8,302	19.5
Acton	1,129	2.7

Lake Hughes/Gorman/West of Lancaster	14,356	33.6
Kagel Canyon	498	1.1
Santa Clarita Valley		
Castaic/Santa Clarita/Agua Dulce	1,626	3.8
	[42,677 ttl]	[97%]

13.4-5 Chapter IV, *Planning Policies Relating to Specific Communities*, establishes...relevant policies:

Acton: “the area should remain a rural community to protect the quality of life found there and to avoid the need for additional expensive public service systems.”

- o “In addition to the above issues, the community is concerned about the rate of growth of Acton and, in particular, its impact upon schools, roads, utilities and other services. The Plan calls for a slow, planned, well controlled growth rate to reduce adverse impacts. It is expected that future growth will require **special assessments** to be levied on new development to generate the needed revenues which would allow for expansion of the local schools and other public infrastructure.”

3-14 This is the only reference to "Special Assessment" rather than general assessment to the County as a whole, either based on a parcel or on the area of the parcel. This project must require establishment of up to seven (7) special infrastructure assessment districts for implementation, operations, maintenance, assurance and continuing compliance and public health of water supply, sewage-disposal, stormwater, trash collection, and collector-secondary roads/access for the proposed developments. Similar district would be appropriate also for health, security, and fire services.

3.6-3 **Regional Los Angeles County General Plan** The Los Angeles County General Plan provides growth and development policies by providing a comprehensive long-range view of the County as a whole....Applicable goals and policies that apply to all development within the County include a balanced distribution of land uses, adequate housing for all **income levels, and economic stability**.

3.10-6 Chapter V, Policy Statements, establishes the following relevant policies relevant to land use in consideration of the proposed initiative:

• **Goal: Accommodation of Projected Land Use and Urban Growth**

▪ **Policy 2.** Closely monitor growth in the Antelope Valley to maintain a balance between development and the capacity of the environmental, **economic**, and manmade or social system.

3.16-1 **Congestion Management Plan (CMP):** This is a State-mandated program enacted by the State legislature to address the increasing concern that urban congestion is affecting the **economic** vitality of the State and diminishing the quality of life in some communities.

3-15 Numerous references are made throughout the Scoping documents regarding economics, finance, jobs, employment, and related issues directly or indirectly. The PDEIR must include a full socioeconomic and sustainability impact assessments (including ability to pay, and life-cycle/life-of-project costs for the project and at least for each individual planning area and for at least 20 years. Such assessment must include the full costs of mitigation and compensation for adverse impacts for the life of the project.

3.11-6/3 Mining of sand and gravel began in the Los Angeles area around 1900 when concrete became popular as a building material. **Extraction began in the Arroyo Seco and the Big Tujunga Wash...There are currently no available deposit sites in the proposed initiative area.**

3.16 There are no sites although deposits are available within the supervisorial district because of the more mature development of the area. With 40,000 new residences, leaching fields, roads, parking, etc., the demand for basic building materials may make use of existing resources, perhaps even as a part of the developments. A typical aggregate and related building materials estimate must be provided in order to fully assess the impacts on local geologic mineral resources.

3.11-7/2 However, given that the parcels under consideration are zoned for single-family residential development, it is anticipated that the proposed initiative would not result in impacts to mineral resources, related to the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan. No further analysis is warranted.

3-17 As indicated elsewhere and for other alternatives, an estimate of mineral resources needed per typical residence must be provided to provide a complete and adequate picture of impacts from development of 1 SFR/6.6ac and for 1 SFR/ 1 acre.

3.15-13 The proposed initiative is expected to result in **significant impacts to recreation**...may not be able to be reduced to below the level of significance through the incorporation of mitigation measures, therefore requiring the **consideration of alternatives**....

3-18 The only reason recreational impacts may not be mitigated is insufficient funding for the services required or depreciation of those services and the areas which require such services and assessment thereon.

As indicated elsewhere, the financial and economic aspects of the proposed project must be included in the PDEIR and make the basic assumption that revenues from the proposed project must fully compensate for all direct and indirect costs, otherwise the alternative would be the "Future Without Project".

3.15-14 The proposed initiative would require...**estimated 108 acres of local parks**, over an approximately **20-year period of time**...have the potential to have an adverse physical effect on the environment...

3-19 As this statement clearly indicates - the PDEIR must include all direct/indirect related land conversions from desert habitats to "urban habitats" including those for services and infrastructure required to support >42,000 residences and families, including libraries, clinics, security stations, fire/EMT services, and all other urban services/facilities.

This is the only statement of a planning period, 20 year period (2015-2035), for the propose project.

No concern regarding the need for potable, irrigation, and fire water supplies for related services in remote areas.

3.17-8 **Goal PS/F 3: Increased local water supplies** through the use of **new technologies**.

o **Policy PS/F 3.1:** Increase the supply of water...development of **new sources**...recycled water, gray water, and rainwater harvesting.

o **Policy PS/F 3.2:** Support the increased production, distribution and use of **recycled water, gray water, and rainwater harvesting** to provide for **groundwater recharge**,..., irrigation,...and other beneficial uses.

3.17-9 o **Policy 101.** Develop and use groundwater sources to their safe yield limits....

o **Policy 113.** Identify planned flow paths and groundwater recharge preserves...for the primary water course and for conservation of storm runoff in the rural areas....

3-20 A full groundwater balance and assessment must be prepared for each planning area and larger sub-areas as to pre-project and ongoing project development impacts on local groundwater systems, including all of the above parameters along with appropriate criteria for both positive and negative effects of the Project, current drought, and future climate and water supply changes..

o **Policy 104.** Require a public or private sewerage system for land use densities which, if unsewered, would threaten nitrate pollution of groundwater, or where otherwise required by County regulations....

3-21 Each large sub-areas or even sub-sub-areas must assess and prepare ongoing reports regarding potential for artificial recharging of local groundwater resources as to pre-project and ongoing project development impacts on local groundwater systems, including all of the above parameters along with appropriate criteria for both positive and negative effects of the Project, current drought, and future climate and water supply changes. Documentation must include chemical analyses for nitrogen, salts, and coliforms Similarly remediation measures and their funding must be assessed for individual residences or groups..

o **Policy 105.** Prohibit continued use of septic tanks where a community sewerage system has been installed or if identified groundwater pollution or vector problems exist....

3-22 Small community systems may be considered as options but must be fully maintained forever which is usually beyond the capabilities of small communities. Therefore avoid this unless financially capable.

3-23 Utilities and Services

3.17-15 **Stormwater Drainage**

There are no existing stormwater drainage facilities in the proposed initiative study area.

3-23 Storm water is produced in the project area and is conveyed through an un-improved or incompletely improved drainage system/network including blue/black lined streams.

The seven subareas that would be eligible for development of single-family residences as a result of the proposed initiative are largely located in areas that are not served by municipal stormwater systems. The development of the subject parcels would affect lands...

Parcels lie within drainage basins which eventually enter LACo drainage "facilities" and "municipal stormwater systems" downstream.

Mitigation for stormwater must take the form of "Zero Net Discharge" from any developed area within the project sub-areas or by parcel, in keeping with the Enhanced Watershed Management Plan.

3.17-16 **Water Supply**

...proposed initiative would allow hauled water as the primary source of potable water for new development of single-family residences on existing vacant legal lots, or lots that are eligible for a certificate of compliance, where the property owner has demonstrated that there is no other feasible source of private or municipal potable water, or capability of developing an onsite well to provide potable water to the property, and only if the property lies outside of the boundaries of the local private and municipal water districts, and is not eligible for service by the nearest public-community water purveyor.

The ordinance is proposed for parcels that are larger than 2,000 square feet in size, with slopes under 50 percent (26.6°, 2H:1V). All criteria would need to be met at the effective date of the ordinance.

3-24 Documentation for each of these issues must be provided for each planning area and larger sub-area(s).

Los Angeles County Water Works District (LACoWWD) is a retail water purveyor that operates three districts... Antelope Valley, that are located at a maximum distance of approximately 10 miles from the proposed initiative study area...

3-25 PDEIR must include special assessment district for each plan area subject to the initiative for water supply, wastewater residuals, solid wastes collection and recycling, fire prevention/clearing and suppression, Only one mention of special assessment, but not SA-Districts

Public Services FIRE

3-26 The entire Scoping documents do not mention the fuel clearance and fuel modification requirements for fire prevention, required by the LACo Fire Department and therefore the land and habitat conversion/removal associated with the construction and occupancy of the proposed parcel; however, many there may be. Usual requirements are for 100ft clearance and fuel modifications of up to 200ft. The directly associated impacts of such associated residence activities and requirement greatly increase the risk of fires and the damages to the environment associated with their controls and prevention.

All land areas associated with the development of the parcels must be reviewed as to their aesthetic, wildlife, vegetation, stormwater runoff, etc. impacts on resources and setting, and requires mitigation and/or compensations.

B-i **APPENDIX B GEOLOGY AND SOILS TECHNICAL REPORT**

B-18 **Liquefaction** The three key factors that indicate whether an area is potentially susceptible to liquefaction are severe ground shaking, shallow groundwater, and cohesionless sands. In addition to having ground shaking parameters, quantitative estimates of liquefaction potential require specific data from geotechnical borings and groundwater level information.

3-27 Each area and larger sub-area (e.g., >50 ac) must be documented by geologic studies as to current and wetted conditions and their influence on seismic responses and potentials for liquefaction.

B-21 **Groundwater** Groundwater is highly variable within the affected environment. There are three major groundwater basins underlying the Santa Clarita planning area: the Santa Clara River Valley Groundwater Basin, East Subbasin, and the Acton Valley Groundwater Basin. Groundwater in the East Basin generally flows from east to west, following the movement of the Santa Clara River. Groundwater in the Acton Valley is unconfined and found in alluvium and stream terrace deposits.

3-28 Each area and larger sub-area (e.g., >50 ac) must be documented by geologic studies as to the alluvial and bedrock contacts and units and their influence on seismic responses and potentials for both passive and agitated stability.

Sakamoto, Dale

From: Mar Preston <marpreston@frazmtn.com>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 8:11 AM
To: Sakamoto, Dale
Subject: FW: Comments - NOP Hauled Water Initiative

TriCounty Watchdogs
Box 6436
Pine Mountain Club, CA 93222

October 20, 2014

SENT VIA EMAIL

Mr. Dale Sakamoto
Hauled Water EIR Scoping Comments
Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, 11th Floor
Alhambra, California 91803
Email: dsakamoto@dwp.lacounty.gov

Dear Mr. Sakamoto:

The TriCounty Watchdogs are an environmental organization whose mission is to protect natural and cultural resources, and promote ecotourism and responsible growth in the Frazier Mountain Communities area near the Grapevine Pass that connects the San Joaquin Valley and northern California to Southern California. As such we have been involved in scrutinizing the Draft Environmental Impact Plan for the Antelope Valley Area Plan and now learn of proposals for yet more development.

We note that the “New Development” that is suggested will impact our area as well. We are familiar with this area and have an idea what the land will support. We know very well water must be hauled in to supply some of these outlying areas. Our wells are going dry. Is this a good idea to build more homes?

What is the source of the water that is to be sold? Give us a range of costs for the new home builder—in Year One and by 2035. What happens to unlucky homeowners after 2035 when the guarantee of water ends?

How will you guarantee the purity of that water as it is delivered? How will it stay bacteria free in transit? Can you guarantee the water tanks will be sterilized? How?

What’s the cumulative traffic impact of this truck traffic and “new development” on fragile lands? It will certainly increase traffic on existing streets and freeways. What size tanks will you be using for domestic and fire requirements?

What about sewage and reclamation? Will all 42, 677 parcels use septic tanks? Please explain how this will be dealt with.

The comments made by the CEQA Board are well founded and intelligent and we fully support their positions.

Our conclusions are also stated clearly by the State:

Page 28 1.7 dated January 1, 2003, Under Project Background

“Based on guidance from State Department of Public Health, the department does not recognize hauled water as a reliable source of water that is appropriate for drinking, culinary or domestic purposes. Hauled water does not provide the equivalent level of protection of public health on the consistent level of reliability as that permitted by public water systems or an improved on-site water source. Therefore, hauled water does not satisfy the requirement for potable water for new residential or commercial construction.”

We fully support hauling water to existing homes during an emergency situation like our current drought. Sadly, it is the solution for existing homeowners, but it seems foolish to allow building new single parcel homes which we know must be supplied with hauled water.

Fire is a major concern to everyone in a rural area. All over rural California existing homeowners are being denied fire insurance coverage. It seems to us that insurers will look askance at “new development” on parcels which have no fire department less than many miles away, not many feet to the nearest fire hydrant. How will you get a homeowner’s insurance policy?

Unless the mortgage industry changes its eligibility guidelines significantly, how will you get a loan for these new parcels? No police, no fire department?

Should the County approve this and things go terribly wrong for all the homeowners in these new parcels, it will be human nature to look for the villain. And fingers will be pointed at the County. And law suits will be filed. That is an expense, we as area residents, do not want to be encumbered with.

Would you be kind enough to acknowledge our comments have been received? Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Mar Preston
Vice-President
TriCounty Watchdogs