

Planning and Development Services

9/1/2015

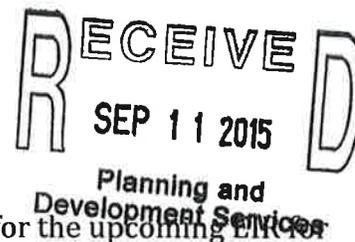
Reference

PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

Attention: Jim Bennett

5510 Overland Ave, Suite 310

San Diego, CA 92123



Dear Mr. Bennett,

I have several environmental issues that need to be considered for the upcoming EIR for the El Monte Sand Mining And Nature Preserve.

Inversions, short morning type and the prolonged all day inversions can lead to high levels of fine particulate pollution, or PM2.5. These high pollutant levels raise significant health and air quality concerns. Here in the El Monte Valley we have Radiation inversions, Advection inversions, Regional Subsidence inversions and Large-Scale Subsidence inversions. When a temperature inversion occurs, it will trap the pollutants against the mountain slopes. Already the valley suffers from incoming pollutants from the populated coastal plain plus the sand mine activity (if permitted). Everybody suffers especially the young and the elderly.

Also, there is concern with the summertime ground-level ozone. Which will form after the sand mine trucks and equipment release reactive gases and unburned hydrocarbons. These pollutants cook in heat and sunlight to form ozone, a corrosive gas. Breathing ozone can harm children's lungs, trigger respiratory problems such as asthma, bronchitis, worsen heart and lung disease and a risk of premature deaths increases.

The pollution also affects the view. Airborne particles are a primary component of mining operations and will obscure visibility in the scenic valley.

I'm concerned with the prevalence of arsenic, lead, cadmium, nickel, mercury and copper from the Julian-Banner mining districts. The mining district is part of the upper San Diego River drainage and may have deposited heavy metal contaminates in the sand of proposed sand mine. Several serious health problems can follow, including cardiovascular and neurological disorders as well as kidney and liver damage.

Noise from sand mining activities in the El Monte Valley will be amplified. Any noise reverberates across the valley side to side. I can hear someone weed whacking a ¼ of a mile away. An adequate setback will be needed between noise-related activities associated with extractive uses to protect sensitive residential land from noise that exceeds the allowable limits of the County Noise Ordinance. Generally a 1300' set back is adequate, but in this valley with the narrow corridor giving a severe "echo effect", 1300' will not be enough.

Please send confirmation of receipt, thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Rob Foster".

Rob Foster
14806 El Monte Rd
Lakeside, CA 92040