

Hingtgen, Robert J

To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: RE: Sandming in El Monte Valley, Lakeside, Ca

From: Sue Atlas [<mailto:satlas2237@sbcglobal.net>]
Sent: Sunday, September 13, 2015 6:15 PM
To: Bennett, Jim
Cc: Horn, Bill; Roberts, Dave; diane.jacob@sdcountry.ca.gov; Cox, Greg
Subject: Sandming in El Monte Valley, Lakeside, Ca

14732 El Monte Rd.
Lakeside, Ca 92040
September 13, 2015

Jim Bennett
County of San Diego
Planning and Development Services
5510 Overland Ave. Suite 310
San Diego, Ca 92123
PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

Dear Mr. Bennett:

My husband and I have lived on El Monte Rd since February of 1981. The reason we bought the property was because of the beauty of the road. It was like going back in time, with farms and ranches all the way to the Reservoir. The valley floor was beautiful and scenic. It reminded us of a country road from Pennsylvania where we were born.

We moved in soon after the rains of 1980 when Channel Rd was washed out and people were stranded along Moreno Rd. The view of the valley was flat because 10 feet of land from both sides on the San Diego River had washed out. There was nothing in the riverbed and it was flat across to Willow Rd. The Dam was overflowing. It is very different now. Today, I took a picture of El Capitan Reservoir. I have never seen it so low.

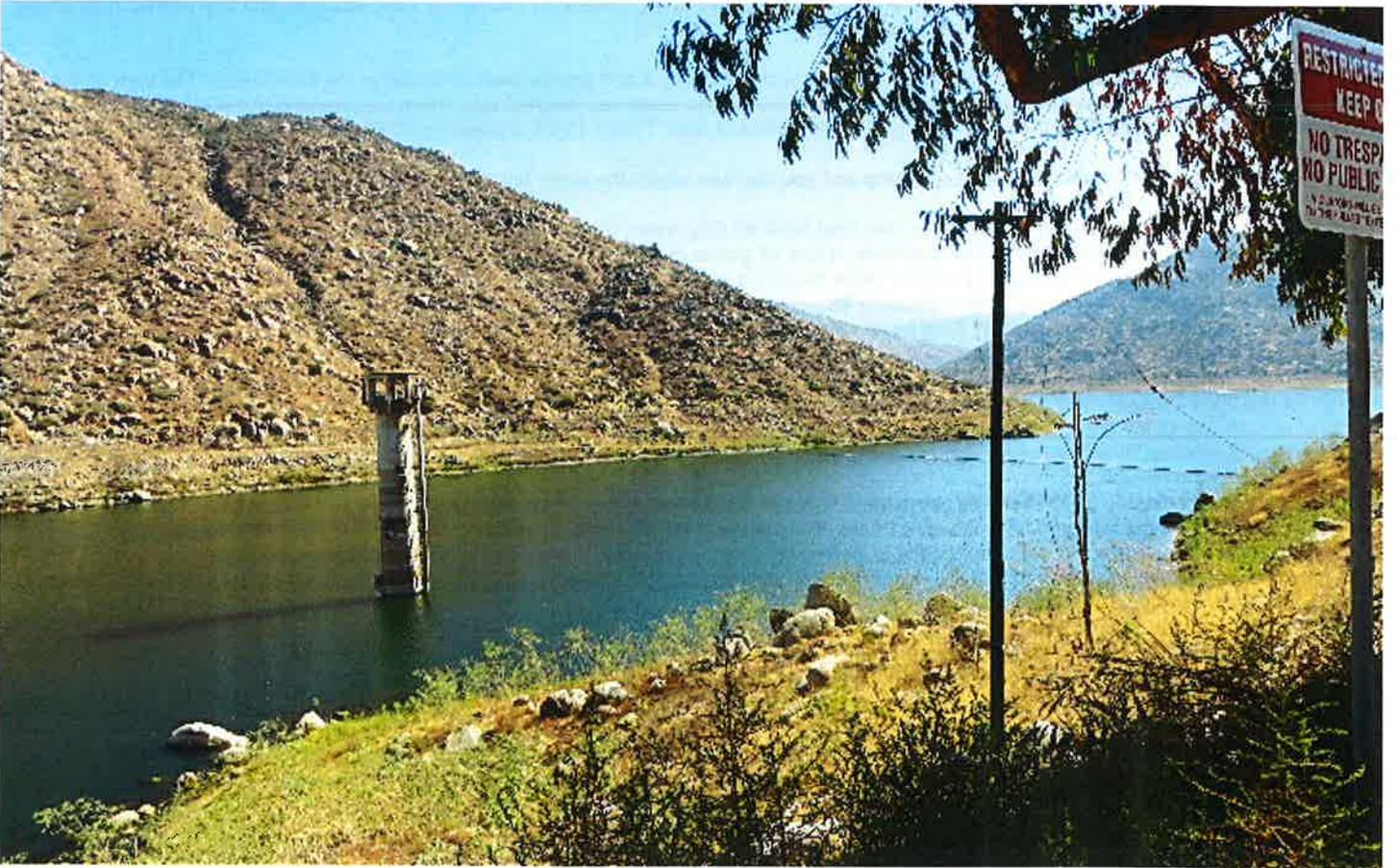
This is looking toward I-8. It used to be the boat ramp and you can see where the water level use to be.

I've include these pictures because the people on this road have no City water, most of us are on wells. We spend quite a bit of money on equipment to make it soft and then to make it drinkable. It has 44 grains of hardness. I'm not sure what other people do. This project is planning to use about 143,000,000 gallons a water a year to water the roads and keep the dust down from the mining. And they are going to need to keep the dust to be down to lessen the threat of Valley fever spores in this valley. Who knows where the spores will end up when we have Santana Ana winds blowing from the east? This could effect many people living not just in this valley but in all the East County area. Is there going to be a person from the county inspecting the use of water, the spores in the air, if this company is following the rules? How often? This company has put berms all over this area so people cannot see what is being done. We no longer have a view of the valley floor. After they put them in for the "Golf Course", they started mining the sand. This is a picture of the 90 ft. hole the left after taking the sand and one of the berms they built all over the valley floor.. It doesn't look so deep here, but it is about 90 ft. deep.. This will be filled with water in the which will increase the risk of West Niles Disease which are carried by mosquitoes.

Were you here for the fires in 2003? How do you plan to fight the fires if the wells aren't functioning? My house would have been lost if the Van Ommering's hadn't had the ability to fill their water trucks. They saved many house's by stopping the fire at the edge of our property. This also happens to be dead end road. All the people have to go out the way they came in. There was a lot of livestock to be moved out in the 2003 fires. We knew at 5:00 AM that we had to evacuate. What happens if it's in the afternoon with traffic from the sand trucks and people using Hwy. 67 and the 52 and the boats from the dam.

I've seen pumas and deer on this road, rabbits, frogs (after a rain sometimes the frogs would fill the road and there was no way you could avoid hitting them), coyotes, voles, and many varieties of birds. What happens to their habitat?

I would really urge you to come look at what this company has done to the valley before you decide anything. I have many other concerns about this plan but I'm trying to only include the environmental concerns. Please take a very close look at this and stop this sand mining project.





Thank you,

Susan and Steven Atlas