

Hingtgen, Robert J

To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: RE: PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

From: William Buzzell [<mailto:wrbuzzell@gmail.com>]
Sent: Sunday, September 13, 2015 7:13 PM
To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: Fwd: PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

Mr. Jim Bennett,

I am writing to express my opposition to the El Monte Valley Strip Sand Mining Project. Please support me and the entire San Diego community by objecting to, and saying "NO" to the El Monte Valley Nature Preserve LLC strip sand mining project.

I have made my career out of both selling real estate and building single family homes. I am licensed as both a Realtor for 35 years, and a general contractor for 15 years. I have developed land in most parts of San Diego County. I have designed and repaired septic systems, drawn up grading plans for submittal to the County of San Diego, and I have studied, contracted for, and attended several water well drilling operations. I consider myself quite familiar all phases of residential construction. I have built and lived in homes that will be affected by the above referenced plans. I have sold dozens of homes and ranches in the area to be affected. Peoples lives and the values of their investments will be forever affected. In a very negative way.

The main concern I have though is the effect this project will have on the communities of Lakeside, El Cajon, and Santee. Traffic patterns will be disrupted. Children will be in danger more than ever before. The air quality will be changed because of the dust created by the mining and the large trucks moving in and out of the project area. The polluted air will damage the health of people, livestock, and wildlife could be damaged by 15 years of foul air. But more than the air quality is the damage that the project could do to the quality of the water.

As I am sure you know the water table is very high in this area. Not as high as it once was because of the severe drought, but it is high. If the project is not put to a halt large earth moving equipment will be moving sand and other earth to a depth of

90

feet deep. Because the sand and other soils have never been compacted by heavy equipment, especially to a depth of

90 feet

, no one really knows just how stable the soils are at that depth. Will these unstable soils cause a collapse of the earth that has previously provided a protective shield to the ground water in this region? Will the quality of the ground water that every living thing in this region counts on be permanently affected by this unnecessary and harmful action?

Possibly

. If the ground water in that region of San Diego County is irreparably harmed by the sand mining proposal is there a back up plan ready to provide hundreds if not thousands of homes potable water for the next fifty years?

The answer to that question is no.

Mr. Bennett, this proposal is entirely unnecessary and is being proposed by a private concern for the sole purpose of making a huge profit. Is other sand nearby available to provide San Diego with concrete and other building materials for which sand is a major component? Yes. Sand is regularly transported from the Imperial Valley, Riverside, San Bernardino, and even the country of Mexico. While this other material may be more expensive, what is a little extra cost to a home or commercial builder if that means that other home and ranch owners, whose only source of drinkable water comes from the ground via a well, have clean drinkable water from here on. As I stated earlier in my letter I am a home builder. I am not an environmentalist whose sole purpose is to try to dissuade you from approving this project for political reasons. No, I am a builder of homes that likes to make a profit when I build. But I am also a seller of homes. A man with a career and clients and friends to protect. And I have the specific knowledge, because of my 35 years of training and license

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, to be able to state my opinion through an objective and learned opinion. It is most earnest opinion that this is a

very

bad plan, ill considered and prepared, and will cause decades of harm to a beautiful and very productive part of our county. Please do everything in your power to stop it.

Sincerely,

William R. Buzzell

Realtor BRE license number 00888792

Licensed General Contractor (B-1) CSLB # 789781

619-972-9352