

APPENDIX A NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND SCOPING LETTERS



County of San Diego

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NOTICE OF PREPARATION DOCUMENTATION

DATE: August 13, 2015

PROJECT NAME: EL MONTE SAND MINING AND NATURE PRESERVE

PROJECT NUMBER(S): PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001

PROJECT APPLICANT: El Monte Nature Preserve LLC, 1335 San Lucas Court, Solana Beach, CA 92075; Attn: Mr. Bill Adams

ENV. REVIEW NUMBER: PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed project would extract up to 18 million tons (12-million cubic yards) of mineral resource over a 15-year period with an additional four years required to complete the reclamation activities. As mining is completed in phases, the site will be progressively reclaimed and restored to an end use of open space with an open water pond and recreational trail easements. The combined mineral extraction and reclamation project will affect approximately 188.6 acres. This includes a 167-acre mining footprint, 18 acres of previously excavated golf course pond areas that would be backfilled, and the remaining acreage for haul roads and trails. The total Major Use Permit boundary is nearly 530 acres on land currently owned by Helix Water District. The proposed sand mining operation would include an aggregate processing facility, all support structures and buildings in the form of scales, scale house module and storage containers. Setbacks of 100 feet in width will be established along El Monte and Willow Roads prior to commencing operations. A maximum production limit of 1,000,000-cubic yards of Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) grade aggregate is proposed in any calendar year; however, annual production from the site is anticipated to average 667,000-cubic yards.

The project will be developed in four mining phases of approximately 26, 56, 48, and 36 acres (each number is rounded to the nearest acre), respectively, and will generally proceed in an east to west direction. The first phase will involve mining to create a sub-grade pad approximately 10 feet below the existing ground surface for location of a portable processing plant, development of the initial extraction area and the installation of a channel erosion control structure (drop structure) on the eastern edge of the project site. This drop structure will be located approximately 300 feet west of the property line shared with residences located next to

El Monte Road and will serve as an erosion control device to prevent head cutting of the San Diego River channel to the east. Extractive operations would include the use of wheeled, front-end-loaders to mine the materials to approximately five feet above the water table at which time a dragline will be used to mine the remaining materials to full depth of approximately 90 feet below current grade. The wheeled loaders will move the mined materials directly to the processing plant which will be located near the active cut. The processing plant will be re-located occasionally as the project proceeds west. Wash fines (silt and clay) will be used to fill three surface depressions created during initial grading activities for golf course ponds. These pond areas are located to the east of the extraction area and will be backfilled with slightly more than 500,000 cubic yards of wash fines which will be transported by truck and/or pumped using a slurry pipe beginning with phase 1. Extraction activities on each phase are anticipated to last three to five years.

Reclamation will be completed for each specific phase after completion of mining in that area. Reclamation will include establishment of all final slopes, placement of fill to create a series of benches adjacent to the extraction pond, revegetation, weed control, and monitoring. A series of three, 36-foot wide benches progressing outward from the water edge would be established to support wetland and upland vegetative habitats that are present in the area. Benches will also allow the habitats to expand or contract as natural fluctuation in the water elevation occurs over time. Each bench will be approximately 36 feet wide, total, with 30 feet of a gently sloped to flat surface separated by a 3-foot high slope at a 2H: 1V ratio. These benches will be constructed on a continuing basis from wash fines produced during the processing of the mined materials, and will follow the mining operation as it proceeds west. After final grading, a top dressing will be applied and each bench planted with a specific native seed mix identified in the Reclamation Plan. Final grading will begin after mining is complete within a given area and extractive operations proceed to the west. Planting of graded areas will be conducted as final landforms are established and become available for revegetation. This procedure will result in the majority of the disturbed lands being reclaimed by the time extractive operations are complete. Following the cessation of extractive operations, all equipment and temporary structures will be removed from the project site. Remaining access road segments and operational related disturbance will be scarified and graded to the final reclamation contours and then revegetated.

Sand excavation and processing operations and sales of aggregate would be conducted on weekdays between 7 A.M. and 5 P.M. Sales of aggregate would also be conducted on Saturdays between 7 A.M. and 1 P.M.

Water usage depends on production volume; however, the project's estimated water usage assumes the maximum annual production of 1.5-million tons. Water required for dust control, watering of outgoing loads, and for the processing equipment is estimated at 132 acre-feet annually for this production rate. The project would obtain its water from onsite wells and ponds once sand extraction activities extend below the water table. The project will have portable toilets and no sewer and/or septic systems are required. No extension of sewer or water utilities will be required by the project.

PROJECT LOCATION:

The project is between El Monte Road and Willow Road approximately 0.5 to 2.25 miles northeast of the El Monte Road and Lake Jennings Park Road intersection, in the Lakeside Community Planning Area within the unincorporated area of San Diego County.

PROBABLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:

The County has determined that a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) will be prepared for the proposed El Monte Sand Mining and Nature Preserve. This SEIR will build off of the EIR that was certified for the El Capitan Golf Course on the same project site. Section 15162(a)(1) of the CEQA Guidelines states that a Subsequent EIR should be prepared if substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects.

The SEIR will be prepared in accordance with the requirements of CEQA Statutes and Guidelines, as amended. Based on the County's preliminary analysis of the project, the following environmental issues will be examined in the SEIR::

- Aesthetic Resources
- Agricultural Resources
- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Recreation
- Transportation/traffic

Additional detail and rationale for requiring analysis of the above issues is provided in the attached Environmental Review Update Checklist Form.

Attachments:

- Project Regional Location Map
- Project Detailed Location Map
- Plot Plan
- Environmental Review Update Checklist Form
- El Capitan Golf Course Final Environmental Impact Report
- Project Description – El Monte Sand Mining and Nature Preserve Project (August, 2015)

Re, Alice

From: Kathy Downs <kathydowns51@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 06, 2015 7:19 AM
To: Jacob, Dianne
Subject: El Monte Valley Sand Mine

Supervisor Jacob, I just received something from a former East County resident about the proposed sand mining in the El Monte Valley. You have supported us for so many years and have been so concerned about the back country and the environment. So I hope you vote no on this. Below is a letter that Change.org has posted on Facebook. They have it going to Supervisor Horn, but I wanted to forward it to you also. Thank you.

Kathy Downs
Alpine, CA

Dear Supervisors:

The El Monte Valley is one of the treasures of San Diego County.

I am writing to let you know how important I think the recreational, historic, habitat, and water resources are in El Monte Valley. The proposed sand mining plan (El Monte Nature Preserve) would threaten the third largest aquifer in San Diego County as a trade off for sand. I think it is far more important to protect the water, habitat, recreational and the agricultural values of El Monte Valley.

The State of California, the County of San Diego, various communities and local citizen donors have contributed 10's of millions of dollars to create the San Diego River Park. This 52-mile, park from the mountains to the sea, is being developed for everyone to enjoy. The El Monte Valley has always been envisioned as the crown jewel in this park system because of its proximity to the urban centers of San Diego. Known for its stunning beauty, the historic flume trail, its equestrian uses, and diverse wildlife, this sand mine would compromise the beauty of the El Monte Valley and the San Diego River Park effort forever.

I am also concerned about the threat of Valley Fever (*Coccidioides immitis* or *Coccidioides posadasii*) posed by the proposed sand mine in El Monte Valley. The valley is a hotspot for this illness in East County. Because schools, ball fields, homes and urban centers are located within the prevailing wind patterns of the valley, many people would be

Re, Alice

From: J Perez <jpjudy@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 07, 2015 4:34 PM
To: Jacob, Dianne
Subject: El Monte Valley - Please Supervisors, Can You Save It?
Attachments: ElMonteValley.docx

Hello Dianne,

I hope that I am allowed to give my opinion on this project as a resident of Lakeside, please forgive me if I am not, attached is my letter.

Thank you,
Jitka

Jitka Perez, 8260 Linden Rd, Lakeside, CA 92040

RE: El Monte Valley – Mining Project – Priceless Area of Character and Beauty – Can It Be Properly Set Aside For Public Use Instead of Irreversibly Destroyed?

Dear Dianne,

Clearly this letter is to express my opposition to the “El Monte Nature Preserve LLC” (what a name for a mining company) surface and/or strip mining project to destroy the El Monte Valley, damage equestrian businesses, the aquifer in the valley, and way of life in this representative portion of Lakeside. The jewel of Lakeside is this valley (San Diego’s own backyard Yosemite) filled with eagles and precious endangered wildlife, trails, and the agricultural community compatible and living in harmony with nature there. Each spring, I take friends to this area to see the verdant and bucolic setting. This El Monte Valley is another rare area on the chopping block, a pristine feature that will be irreversibly destroyed many ways due to the voracious and powerful economic interests at hand beginning its destruction. The gobbling up of land and creation of eyesores, without respect for sustainability of rural values in areas or their current way of life is something I am very familiar with. I came to Lakeside to from Del Mar.

I grew up in Del Mar and rode horses for decades in east Del Mar, (now mostly Carmel Valley). I saw farms, and ranch after ranch closed and moved by economic interests and development in the area. East Del Mar is now highly urbanized (with more to come – like One Paseo- it doesn’t stop) despite many developer’s claims for providing “open space”. The charm of the area as it was is no longer there, I believe.

Horses, loud noises, dust, environmental damage, and sand truck traffic of this volume do not mix. This 15-30 year project will forever create an eyesore and damage the wildlife and way of life in the valley despite the project leaders claiming to “restore” the area. Ha! Only destruction will occur as the industry will have a toxic effect in more than one way on neighboring ranches and rural life. The area will never be “restored”, people will sell out, and the character of Lakeside as a semi-rural and equestrian community will suffer a major blow and may eventually even go by the wayside, I have seen it happen blow by blow in east Del Mar.

Dianne, I view you as a champion of mother nature and will always support you as you continue to support these values. You represent a top notch, stellar leader of the rural community. You are the chosen one over and over for the job of representing District 2. No one else could represent it as effectively. Please, if there is anything that you can do to stop or limit this project, can you please do it? I am glad San Diego County has saved Torrey Pines State Park, La Jolla Cove, Seagrove/Powerhouse Park, Crest Canyon, all beautiful areas. Can we please add one more area El Monte Valley to the list and save it?

Thank you for your time,

Jitka Perez.

Re, Alice

From: barbara sessions <barbehi3@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2015 6:00 PM
To: Jacob, Dianne
Subject: El Monte Valley in Lakeside..

Hi Dianne,

My name is Barbara Sessions. This is the 1st time I've attempted to contact any political branch! Please forgive my un educated attempt to do so. I am contacting you because I feel the need to speak up about this sand mining proposal of what I consider, "The Jewel of Lakeside" which is our El Monte Valley. I recently attended a meeting at our Lakeside community center and what I learned there was that there is a plan to dig up most of the Valley for the sand. This is a very bad idea Dianne! There are Valley Fever spores all over the proposed area! Many more people will get very sick and some will even die if the spores are set free in the dust! There is no adequate solution to keeping this from happening if the land is subjected to this mining. I have several other concerns that I desperately want to share with you about this. I am hoping and praying that you care enough to educate yourself on this matter. Billy Ortiz can tell you about the wildlife that will suffer and will be in danger of extinction like the Gnat catcher. I see that he is a friend of yours on FB. He is a great resource of information on the topic and I highly recommend that you ask him about it. Please Dianne help Lakeside protect it's Jewel! Feel free to contact me by phone at 619-561-1055 or E-mail at barbehi3@hotmail.com
Sincerely, ~ Barbara Sessions

Re, Alice

From: Ron Jon <patriotguard007@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2015 9:05 AM
To: Jacob, Dianne
Subject: For Matthew. El Monte Sand Proposal
Attachments: no-on-el-monte-sand-mines-in-lakeside-bill-horn-sdcounty-ca-gov-we-urge-the-county-board-of-supervisors-to-vote-no.htm

Matthew, this is one of many, many, petitions at this time. I trust this long hyperlink will open.

Respectfully,

Ron Kasper

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Ron Kasper

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Petition shared on Facebook!

[Petitioning Chair of San Diego County Board Of Supervisors Bill.Horn@sdcounty.ca.gov](#)

We urge The County Board of Supervisors to Vote No on El Monte Sand Mines in Lakeside



Preserve El Monte Action Coalition



Preserve El Monte Action Coalition

943

Supporters

Dear Supervisors:

The El Monte Valley is one of the treasures of San Diego County.

I am writing to let you know how important I think the recreational, historic, habitat, and water resources are in El Monte Valley. The proposed sand mining plan (El Monte Nature Preserve) would threaten the third largest aquifer in San Diego County as a trade off for sand. I think it is far more important to protect the water, habitat, recreational and the agricultural values of El Monte Valley.

The State of California, the County of San Diego, various communities and local citizen donors have contributed 10's of millions of dollars to create the San Diego River Park. This 52-mile, park from the mountains to the sea, is being developed for everyone to enjoy. The El Monte Valley has always been envisioned as the crown jewel in this park system because of its proximity to the urban centers of San Diego. Known for its stunning beauty, the historic flume trail, its equestrian uses, and diverse wildlife, this sand mine would compromise the beauty of the El Monte Valley and the San Diego River Park effort forever.

I am also concerned about the threat of Valley Fever (*Coccidioides immitis* or *Coccidioides posadasii*) posed by the proposed sand mine in El Monte Valley. The valley is a hotspot for this illness in East County. Because schools, ball fields, homes and urban centers are located within the prevailing wind patterns of the valley, many people would be exposed to this potentially fatal disease including many children.

Letter to

Chair of San Diego County Board Of Supervisors Bill.Horn@sdcounty.ca.gov

We urge The County Board of Supervisors to Vote No on El Monte Sand Mines in Lakeside

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No on El Monte Sand Mines in Lakeside Bill.Horn@sdcounty.ca.gov: We urge The County Board of Supervisors to Vote NO

Share this petition

Thanks for signing. Now help this campaign succeed by getting your friends to sign!

943 supporters

57 needed to reach 1,000

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No on El Monte Sand Mines in Lakeside Bill.Horn@sdcounty.ca.gov: We urge The County Board of Supervisors to Vote NO

[Post to Facebook](#)

Re, Alice

From: Eric V <endlessperspectiveoflife@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2015 8:08 PM
To: Jacob, Dianne
Cc: Eric V
Subject: Stop The El Monte Sand Mine
Attachments: The El Monte Valley Sand Mine Article_s.docx

Dear Ms. Jacobs,

This morning at breakfast I read how long time farmers with the best water rights in the Central Valley of California have been told to STOP growing certain crops due to the rising severity of the drought and water crisis.

With this in mind I find it a complete absurdity that a sand mine is being planned in the El Monte community near lakeside, with an expected capacity of 18,000,000 tons of sand per day. According to the Department of Energy statistics it requires 5,000 gallons of water to clean the silt from just ONE ton of sand!

Increasing the severity of our water crisis is just one of many reasons why this sand mine will affect many residents of San Diego county in a negative way. When a vital resource for life is depleted for the profit of one company, it is a strong sign that a very serious mistake is about to be made.

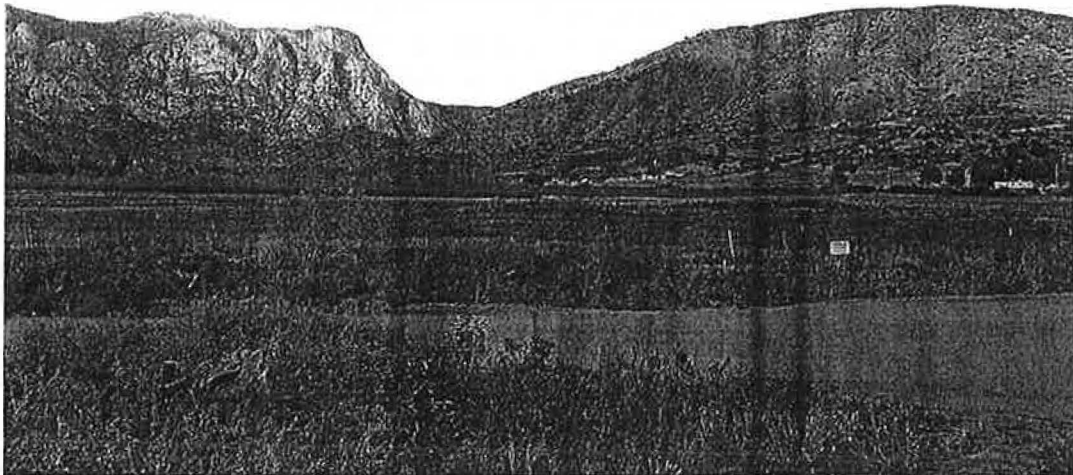
Please read the attached article I have written on this matter, and let me know how I may be of service to you in taking appropriate measures to stop this.

Sincerely,

Eric Visconti

The El Monte Valley Sand Mine: "Where Dollars Make No Sense"

by Eric Visconti



El Monte Valley - Today

El Monte Valley is located near Lakeside, California east of San Diego in a historic area of natural beauty. Though this area has been labeled an "Eyesore" by a member of the Lakeside Planners Group during a recent meeting on June 3rd concerning a proposed sand mine, the valley is actually so beautiful that it was approved as the site of a golf resort back in 1998. The current proposal to create a sand mine amidst the people and wildlife of this community will serve to create potentially irreparable damage to the area for many years to come.

This proposal has been made by an organization based in Laguna Beach, California known as "The El Monte Nature Preserve, LLC" which is a name specifically designed not to be associated with such activities as mining. The spokesman for the organization made a presentation of the plan which was followed by an opportunity for members of the community to voice their opinions. Some of the details of this plan are as follows:

- The creation of a mine area encompassing 565 acres, nearly the length of the valley.
- The removal of local animal and plant wildlife from the mining area.
- The promise to replant 75 acres of the mine site after close of operations.
- The proposed mining production of 18 tons of sand per day.

- The proposed volume of 150-230 dump trucks each with 20-40 ton loads per day.
- The proposed depth of the main mining pit of 90 feet down, which is 50 feet lower than the current water table.
- The proposal to use water spray to keep dust levels down.
- The mining operation is proposed to last 15 years.

(15 years X 365 days X 18 million tons per day = 98.5 billion tons of sand removed!)

- Water will be used to clean silt from the sand. According to the US Department of Energy it takes 5,000 gallons of water to clean silt from one ton of sand. (http://www1.eere.energy.gov/manufacturing/resources/mining/pdfs/water_use_mining.pdf)

(Cleaning 98.5 billion tons of sand will consume 4.62 TRILLION gallons of water in a drought stricken area!!!)

Concerns from residents included the effect of an average of 200 trucks per day traffic being added to a 2 lane narrow road through the valley. Not only was safety a concern, but the vibrations caused by trucks with heavy loads often show up on regional seismographs. As each truck would carry at least 20 tons of sand, and many houses are in close proximity to the road, the sheer volume of this heavy industrial traffic is expected to cause cumulative property damage.

Other concerns were raised with the enormous scope of the operation which has been reported in media to lead to the lowering of the valley floor to a depth of an additional 30 feet. The main sand pit where most mining will occur is expected to reach a depth of no more than 90 feet deep according to the EMNP spokesman. This will lower the water table beyond the reach of local wells, forcing residents to go on to city water, with no proposed compensation to help offset the enormous costs. The lowering of the water table to this extent will have unanticipated affects on vegetation in the area, leading to dryer ground conditions and a potentially much higher threat of wildfires. Finally, there is the concern of Lindo Lake. Lindo Lake is the only natural lake in the region, located on the lower end of El Monte Valley, with the higher end being occupied by the El Capitan Reservoir. Just the fact that a reservoir was built in this location testifies that this is the best nearest source of ground water flow. The massive disruption of the valley's water table by this proposed operation will almost certainly lead to the demise of Lindo Lake. Without it's lake, Lakeside will be just another small town in an arid region. Perhaps it will be renamed, "Bakeside".

Many other residents at the meeting stated a strong concern about the threat of Valley Fever from this operation, which is a serious condition caused by the continued inhalation of dust and spores from disturbed ground. This valley can be seen from many areas such as Crest, and the entire length of highway 52 east of the intersection of highway 125. With 18 million tons of sand production per day, the

dust cloud will be seen from a far greater distance, and lower the air quality for many thousands of people.

Jobs are important, but not when they mean taking away the vital resources and areas which people need to live. The financial part of the American dream can be sustained without permanently damaging the natural treasure of the American West. If the people of San Diego County do not voice their concerns over this mine, life in the county will be negatively affected in ways that have not been predicted publically. When such a precedent is set by allowing this mine to be placed in the heart of this community, other communities will suffer the same fate. We can not risk creating a nightmare in pursuit of the American Dream.



El Monte Valley – Tomorrow?

Petition from Bill Horn to Prevent the El Monte Sand Mine

Re, Alice

From: Ray Ellis <sierrasplitter@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2015 9:47 AM
To: Jacob, Dianne; Roberts, Dave; Cox, Greg; Roberts, Ron; Horn, Bill
Cc: Bennett, Jim
Subject: El Monte Valley Sand Mining Project

Good Morning

I am a **resedent and property owenr** living in the El Monte Valley near Lakeside California in Distric 2. I am formally requesting a full **ECONOMIC IMPACT REVIEW** of the proposed sand mining /restoration project in The El Monte Valley . The Project **ls being proposed** by Enviromine and the AEIS project number is MUP98-014W2.

As accounty resident Im concerned that this project will put an unneeded burden on county services in the area.

I am requesting an Economic Analysis of the Project including but not limited to the following

1. Full cost analysis of the environmental mitigation measures
2. Taxed Based Income to the county
- 3..Employment of Local Residents
4. Potential cost of a Board of Supervisors elected position

If possible I would like this Economic review to include Economic Analysis of the Triple Bottom Line

Triple Bottom Line-https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Triple_bottom_line

I would like this request entered into the public record

Thank You

Ray Ellis
619-322-1612

August 4, 2015

To:

El Monte Valley Sand Mining

You don't live or own property in Lakeside.

You don't recreate in Lakeside.

Have you ever seen, been to El Monte Valley? Ever climbed "El Cap", hiked the river bed, gone horseback riding there? Ever observed the Eagles, Kites, Coopers, Sharp shinned, to name some of the birds that live there. There are way too many other creatures to list. I have observed them and want to continue to do so. This area was designated a "Scenic View".

Please come visit and see what you are missing. We who live and recreate in Lakeside do not want the valley destroyed.

Pros; none, other than making someone some money. There is sand in other locations, where people do not live and go for recreation.

Cons;

Devastating the environment

Noise

Dirt

Releasing Yellow Fever

Ruining the aquifer, 3rd largest in San Diego County

Drought;

Where will the water come from for the manufacturing of the sand?

Property devaluation for all the residences. Loss of their well water.

Have to go on San Diego water. Who will pay for providing?

Businesses in Lakeside; horse boarding facilities, feed stores, and the businesses run by the home owner's in Lakeside would be affected.

The affect would be 15-30 YEARS. How long before the valley would return to a natural state?

Absolutely, positively AGAINST

Sand mining in El Monte Valley

Joyce Jewell

Horse boarder in El Monte Valley

Glassman, Marilu

From: kathleen digenan <kdigenan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 05, 2015 10:00 PM
To: Horn, Bill
Cc: Jacob, Dianne; Roberts, Dave; Ron-Roberts; Cox, Greg
Subject: Proposed Sand Mining Project in El Monte Valley
Attachments: Sand Mining Letter.pages.zip

Dear Board of Supervisor Members,

Please read the attached letter and seriously consider my comments concerning this matter.

Thank You,

Kathleen Digenan

P.O. Box 122
Lakside, CA 92040
619-443-1529
kdigenan@gmail.com

August 5, 2015

Mr. Bill Horn
1600 Pacific Hwy # 335
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Mr. Horn,

I am writing to express my concerns with the Sand Mining project in the El Monte Valley in Lakeside.

A major concern is the truck traffic that will be generated. The road out of El Monte Valley is a two lane road with one exit that is a four way stop. Your first option at the four way stop is left up Lake Jennings Road. This is a steep grade that trucks with full loads would take slowly and have to shift several times to get to the top. Once they reach the top, they have to slow for the first of two traffic lights. The two traffic lights are only a few hundred feet apart and are major entrance and egress points for thousands of residences including a fire station and I-8 at Lake Jennings. The I-8 at this point is two lanes. The on ramp is traffic light controlled at peak hours so trucks would have to stop at this point also and slowly merge onto the freeway. This freeway is already congested with traffic from the entire East County and beyond. Your second option at the four way stop is right on the Mapleview, which has three traffic lights. Between the lights there are many spots where cars cross traffic to get to residences including several apartment complexes. The light at Ashwood is the major intersection for El Capitan High School. Morning, mid-day, and afternoon traffic at this intersection is already highly congested. Foot traffic in this area is also very high. One block from this intersection is the major intersection at Highway 67. This is a high traffic corridor with traffic feeding from I-8 and the 52 freeway. All traffic to and from these points come to a stop lighted intersection. Waits at these traffic lights can be as high as 5 minutes. Add to all this the fact that these roads are not constructed to handle the heavy trucks and will crumble beneath them. As you can see this is a terrible problem for thousands and thousands of citizens that can not be overlooked or mitigated.

Sincerely yours,

Kathleen Digenan

Glassman, Marilu

From: Marguerite Digenan <margepiincharge@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2015 10:56 AM
To: Jacob, Dianne
Cc: Cox, Greg; Ron-Roberts; bill.horn@sdcounty.a.gov; Roberts, Dave
Subject: El Monte Valley proposed Sand Mining
Attachments: Mags Sand Letterr.pages.zip

Hello,

Please read and consider the attached letter concerning the sand mining operation.

Thank You,

Marguerite Digenaan

August 6, 2015

Dianne Jacob
1600 Pacific Hwy. #335
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Dianne,

I am writing to express my objection to the Sand Mining project in the El Monte Valley in Lakeside.

The proponents of this project were in on the sand grab also known as the El Monte Golf Course project. Now they want to pay for that fiasco by taking the sand down to at least 90 feet. Then supposedly restoring the natural habitat. That is just absurd. The entire San Diego River would be adversely effected. What happens upstream directly effects what happens down stream.

These people have been very bad managers in the past. The only difference this time is they admit they want the sand.

Sincerely yours,

Marguerite Digenan

619-443-1529
PHONE

P.O. BOX 122 LAKESIDE, CA 92040
ADDRESS

URL

Glassman, Marilu

From: tridiggy Digenan <tridigenan@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2015 8:15 AM
To: Jacob, Dianne
Cc: Horn, Bill; Ron-Roberts; Roberts, Dave; Cox, Greg
Subject: Proposed Sand Mining in El Monte Valley
Attachments: Tricia Sand Letter.pages.zip

Dear Dianne,

Please read and consider the enclosed attachment concerning this project.

Thank You

Patricia Digenan

FROM THE DESK OF
PATRICIA DIGENAN

August 5, 2015

Dianne Jacob
1600 Pacific Hwy. #335
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Dianne,

I am writing to express my concern with the proposed Sand Plant in the El Monte Valley in Lakeside. There are so many objections to this proposed project I hardly know where to begin.

I will start with the destruction and contamination of the natural aquifer that is El Monte Valley. One of the members of this project told a meeting of concerned citizens that they plan on using this water to wash the sand as it is dug out. Is this the best use of precious water in California? This water is now used to supply Helix Water District with water for their customers. How can this be justified? The intent is to dig down 90 plus feet on over 230 acres and eventually restore the area. What do you fill a hole that big with? It certainly cannot be natural or native to the area.

Another concern is this area has Valley fever in the soil. As these ancient soils are disturbed these spores will be circulated by the process inherent to a sand mining operation plus the natural air flow up and down the San Diego River. In the direct path of this air flow are two youth baseball fields, a BMX riding area, El Capitan High School, Lakeside Farms Elementary.

This project is bad for everyone, except those that stand to make money. Which brings me to Michael Beck. He is supposed to be the environmental steward, one of his partners is the owner of a Sand and Gravel company in Colorado. How is that to be allowed?

Sincerely yours,

Patricia Digenan

Glassman, Marilu

From: Barry Allen <twiggywyj9492@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, August 07, 2015 8:57 AM
To: Jacob, Dianne
Subject: El Monte Valley sand mining

Dear Supervisor Jacobs:

I was not able to attend yesterdays meeting at the County Administration but my wife did.

I read the pass-out "El Monte Valley Mining and Restoration Overview" and was surprised by Page 3/4 "Impact Overview".

"Without question, there will be local community impacts over the mining phase of the project" to "include traffic, visual, noise, air quality, and biology".

What about water?

To separate 25% silt out of sell-able sand, I presume millions of gallons of water will be needed over the number of years of mining. Nothing was said about where that water will come from, how much, how it will affect existing aquifer.

When I had a face to face with Jim Bennett I noted several things:

1. He is a groundwater geologist
2. When asked he provided me with the "updated" property owner "sphere of influence" properties and names. I immediately noticed in his presence that the "sphere of influence" was changed from the Helix Sewer to Tap/Sand-mining permit from 1000' to 300' and challenged him regarding that.
3. When using his "updated" sphere of influence that excluded dozens of property owners from this project for mail-out communications between them and us, I received 5 back as undeliverable.

So how does this sum up?

I believe the owners are subjected to greater disadvantage vs the interest of the permittee.

I thought public records for projects of this magnitude, are up to date and accurate. Didn't seem so when 5 addressed letters bounced on me.

Why was the possible affects to our ground water sources, along with polluting them, by not disclosing "Water" as one of the "Impact Over" issues on page 4 of that Overview missing? The Project Manager being a "Groundwater Geologist"?

If the County buys into that "overview" by allowing water to be omitted as a "possible affects" how will it play out later?

There is no doubt that Valley ownership is far behind this project plan, and up to date feedback from the Manager, is absolutely essential for an unbiased report.

I asked Jim Bennett for an updated "sphere of influence" that would be inclusive of those omitted from the Mark Weston Sand Mining project. That was done July 9 in his presence with Zack Noonan, my neighbor. Still waiting.

Thanking you and Sincerely,

Barry A. Treahy
14775 El Monte Rd.
Lakeside Ca. 92040

August 13, 2015

County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave., Suite 310
San Diego Ca. 92123

Attention Robert Hingtgen, Jim Bennett

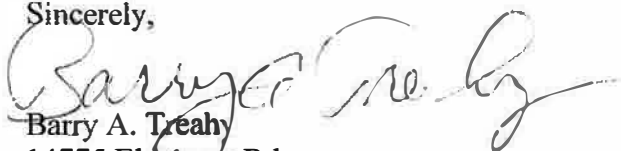
Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report,
Comments on this Notice of Preparation PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B:

After reviewing the "probable environmental effects of the project", I find it unclear and/or missing; the change from the original golf course proposal **IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY Note:**

That the original Golf course EIR (Helix engineer) addressed proposed sand mining to 12'. Taking it to 90' is going to affect aquifer, adjacent water wells, water quality etc. I could not see where the August 13, 2015 review addressed this.

I further question whether a groundwater geologist for the City of San Diego has evaluated the downstream hydrology affects of deepening and opening up a large river channel just downstream of their reservoir, that could/will affect the Lake basin transfer of City water into that new Aquifer, through the earthen bottom of El Capitan lake.

Sincerely,


Barry A. Treah
14775 El Monte Rd.
Lakeside Ca. 92040

cc: City of San Diego Water Utilities

Enclosed self addressed stamped envelop to return in confirmation of receipt.

From: [Bennett, Jim](#)
To: [Dan Silver](#); [Hingtgen, Robert J](#)
Subject: RE: EL MONTE SAND MINING AND NATURE PRESERVE; PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B
Date: Thursday, August 20, 2015 8:50:55 AM

Good Morning Dan,

We are in receipt of your e-mail and comments. We will continue to keep you on the distribution list for the project.

Thank you,

Jim Bennett, PG #7707, CHG #854
Groundwater Geologist

County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Avenue, Third Floor, San Diego, CA 92123
Phone: 858-694-3820 Fax: 858-694-3373
PDS Website <http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/pds/index.html>

-----Original Message-----

From: Dan Silver [<mailto:dsilverla@me.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2015 5:08 PM
To: Hingtgen, Robert J; Bennett, Jim
Subject: EL MONTE SAND MINING AND NATURE PRESERVE; PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

August 19, 2015

Robert Hingtgen and Jim Bennett
Dept of Planning and Development Services
5520 Overland Ave
San Diego, CA 92123

RE: Notice of Preparation for EL MONTE SAND MINING AND NATURE PRESERVE; PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

Dear Mr Hingtgen and Mr Bennett:

Endangered Habitats League (EHL) is in receipt of the NOP for an EIR for this project for production of needed aggregate materials and nature restoration in the El Monte Valley. As background, EHL supports this Major Use Permit modification and new Reclamation Plan due to their hydrological, ecological, and recreational benefits. Through our sister land trust, Endangered Habitats Conservancy, we are associated with the project.

EHL concurs with the thorough environmental review outlined, with full disclosure of impacts, and all appropriate mitigation. Please retain EHL on all mailing and distribution lists for the project, including CEQA documents and public hearings.

With best regards,
Dan Silver

Dan Silver, Executive Director
Endangered Habitats League
8424 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite A 592
Los Angeles, CA 90069-4267

213-804-2750
dsilverla@me.com
www.ehleague.org

Bennett, Jim

From: Sloan, Christine
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2015 8:16 PM
To: Fogg, Mindy; Bennett, Jim
Subject: Fwd: Attend El Monte Public Meeting[SUSPECTED SPAM]

FYI...

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Goddard, Cheryl" <Cheryl.Goddard@sdcounty.ca.gov>
Date: August 19, 2015 at 6:59:39 PM PDT
To: "Sloan, Christine" <Christine.Sloan@sdcounty.ca.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Attend El Monte Public Meeting[SUSPECTED SPAM]

Christine - do you receive this newsletter from Lakeside River park Conservancy?

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lakeside's River Park Conservancy <r2rierdan@cox.net>
Date: August 19, 2015 at 4:19:42 PM PDT
To: <cheryl.goddard@sdcounty.ca.gov>
Subject: Attend El Monte Public Meeting[SUSPECTED SPAM]
Reply-To: <r2rierdan@cox.net>



El Monte Valley
The Jewel of Lakeside

PLEASE COME TO SCOPING MEETING FOR THE EL MONTE VALLEY SAND MINING PROJECT

Dear River Park Supporters,

Because County staff do not live in the El Monte Valley, or live near the river, they may have a limited understanding of how this purposed mine will impact the El Monte Valley, the San Diego River Park, the San Diego River Trail and Lakeside as a whole.

You can help!

We invite you as community members and stewards of the River Park and the San Diego River to play a very important role. We ask you to come to this meeting and help County staff understand the impacts.

Please come to a meeting on August 26
6:00PM
Lakeside Community Center
9841 Vine St, Lakeside, California 92040



Impacts:

Aesthetic Resources
Agricultural Resources
Air Quality and Greenhouse
Gas Emissions
Biological Resources
Cultural Resources
Geology and Soils
Hazards and Hazardous
Materials
Hydrology and Water Quality
Land Use Planning
Mineral Resources
Noise
Recreation
Transportation/traffic

Your voice will be heard!

The County will record and take into consideration all of your comments! They will be preparing an Environmental Impact Report. The first step in this process is to determine the "scope" of issues to be addressed. Details of the County's information about this step

can be found by [clicking here](#).

If you can not attend the August 26th meeting consider submitting an email/letter. Include what you think the environmental impacts of the project will be. For your voice to count, the County must hear from you before **September 14**.

Email Jim Bennett at the County at Jim.Bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov

With the subject line:

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

Or

Send a letter to:
Planning and Development Services

Reference:

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

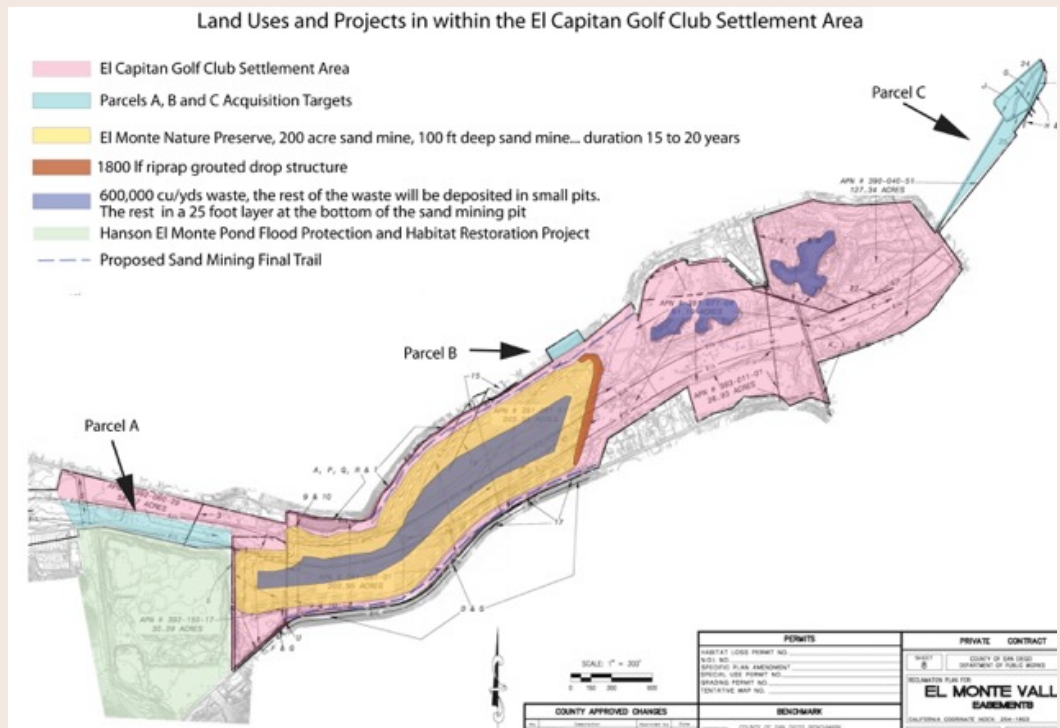
Attention Jim Bennett
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 310
San Diego, CA 92123

It is very important that you express your comments at this meeting or in a letter.
No comment is too small!



Our river park supporters are the VERY BEST. I know we can count on you to help the County explore the full ramifications and impacts of this project on our beautiful San Diego River.

Sincerely,
Robin Rierdan
Executive Director
Lakeside's River Park Conservancy



For more information please visit the [El Monte Nature Preserve Facebook Page](#)

Lakeside's River Park Conservancy dedicated is to preserving and restoring the biological integrity and beauty of the San Diego River while integrating recreational, educational and cultural opportunities for youth, seniors and families of East County.

LakesideRiverPark.org

[Forward this email](#)

SafeUnsubscribe

This email was sent to cheryl.goddard@sdcounty.ca.gov by r2rierdan@cox.net | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [About our service provider.](#)



Lakeside's River Park Conservancy | Mailing: P.O. Box 2239 | Site: 12108 Industry Rd. | Lakeside | CA | 92040

From: [Bennett, Jim](#)
To: [Johnson, Shari SPL](#); [Hingtgen, Robert J](#)
Subject: RE: El Monte Sand Mining and Nature Preserve PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001 (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2015 1:51:25 PM

Thanks Shari for your comments. We will share them with the project applicant to ensure proper coordination with the USACE for the project.

Thanks,

Jim Bennett, PG #7707, CHG #854
Groundwater Geologist

County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Avenue, Third Floor, San Diego, CA 92123
Phone: 858-694-3820 Fax: 858-694-3373
PDS Website <http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/pds/index.html>

-----Original Message-----

From: Johnson, Shari SPL [<mailto:Shari.Johnson@usace.army.mil>]
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2015 12:22 PM
To: Hingtgen, Robert J
Cc: Bennett, Jim
Subject: El Monte Sand Mining and Nature Preserve PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001 (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

It has come to our attention that you are evaluating the El Monte Sand Mining and Nature Preserve PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001 Project (SPL-2015-00563-DPS).

This activity may require a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit.

A Corps of Engineers permit is required for:

a) structures or work in or affecting "navigable waters of the United States" pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.

Examples include, but are not limited to,

1. constructing a pier, revetment, bulkhead, jetty, aid to navigation, artificial reef or island, and any structures to be placed under or over a navigable water;

2. dredging, dredge disposal, filling and excavation;

b) the discharge of dredged or fill material into, including any redeposit of dredged material other than incidental fallback within, "waters of the United States" and adjacent wetlands pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1972. Examples include, but are not limited to,

1. creating fills for residential or commercial development, placing bank protection, temporary or permanent stockpiling of excavated material, building road crossings, backfilling for utility line crossings and constructing outfall structures, dams, levees, groins, weirs, or other structures;

2. mechanized landclearing, grading which involves filling low areas or land leveling, ditching, channelizing and other excavation activities that would have the effect of destroying or degrading waters of the United States;

3. allowing runoff or overflow from a contained land or water disposal area to re-enter a water of the United States;

4. placing pilings when such placement has or would have the effect of a discharge of fill material;

c) the transportation of dredged or fill material by vessel or other vehicle for the purpose of dumping the material into ocean waters pursuant to Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972;

d) any combination of the above.

An application for a Department of the Army permit is available on our website:

<http://www.usace.army.mil/Portals/2/docs/civilworks/permitapplication.pdf>

If you have any questions, please contact me (contact information below). Please refer to this letter and SPL-2015-00563-DPS in your reply.

Sincerely,

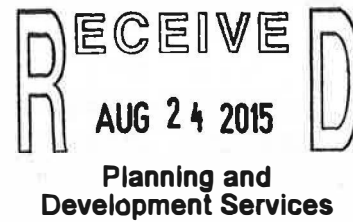
Shari Johnson
Regulatory Assistant
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District Regulatory Division, Carlsbad Field Office
5900 La Place Court, Suite 100
Carlsbad, CA 92008
Tel 760.602.4829; Fax 760.602.4848

<http://www.spl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

August 20, 2015

County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave. #310
San Diego Ca. 92123



EIR

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

By Bradley J. Fikes | 9 p.m. Aug. 19, 2015

Drought hurts ag, wildlife most

"Groundwater will remain the primary drought reserve. But in some parts of the agricultural heartland, this will come at increasing costs, including more energy for pumping, more dry wells, reduced crop yields as water quality falls, and more damage to infrastructure from sinking lands."

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/2015/aug/19/ppic-drought-continues/>

California: "With California facing one of the most severe droughts on record, Governor Brown declared a drought State of Emergency in January and directed state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for water shortages. The state has continued to lead the way to make sure California is able to cope with an unprecedented drought."

"August 18, 2015 - The San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (San Diego Water Board) is cracking down on water wasters throughout its region to stem pollution that is generated by overwatering."

You can't drink sand, and both sand and water are a limited resource.

Over building and over population is putting a demand on both, as a result of new construction, compensating for more immigration into the U.S. for housing.

El Monte Valley is directly connected to the Aquifer, at and between El Capitan reservoir, that is the San Diego River basin.

Currently there are some property owners in the valley that are having difficulty maintaining the water from their wells.

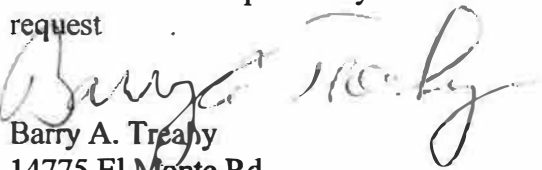
Barona Indian Hotel and Casino over pumped and dried up residential underground water.

The sand mining project will require a continual and huge water source to separate silt from sand and all the negative affects of over pumping will occur.

Again, you can't drink or irrigate with sand and the needs of the environment and residents, outweigh the needs of the profit from sand mining.

There are other sand sources and alternatives vs upsetting the quality of life and destruction of the existing valley.

To date, there are 60 property owners and voters within the County designated "sphere of influence" that emphatically vote "no" on this project. Documentation is available upon request

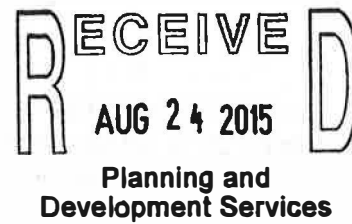


Barry A. Treahy
14775 El Monte Rd.
Lakeside Ca. 92040

copies to those property owners

August 20, 2015

County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave. #310
San Diego Ca. 92123



EIR

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

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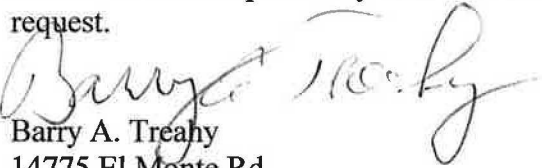
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Barry A. Treahy
14775 El Monte Rd.
Lakeside Ca. 92040

copies to those property owners

EL MONTE SAND MINE & NATURE PRESERVE

PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001

NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

August 13, 2015 through September 14, 2015

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING COMMENT SHEET

NOP Scoping Meeting August 26, 2015

Lakeside Community Center

9841 Vine Street

Lakeside, California 92040

WRITTEN COMMENT FORM

I'm not much on essays, so here it is, blunt and to the point. A new big body of standing water will pull the water table away from established wells. Standing water breeds mosquitoes, which carry diseases. 15 years of this is a long time of steady bad news, to say nothing of the chemical pollution from both the industry and pest control. People! How much of our limited resources are we going to destroy for the sake of construction companies profits?

(Attach additional pages as needed)

David R. Marlette *Aug 26, 2015*
Signature Date

David R. Marlette
Print Name

C/o David White
12905 Meadowview Apt. 126
Address

Lakeside Calif. 92040
City State Zip Code

MAIL or E-MAIL COMMENTS TO:

Jim Bennett
County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave, Suite 310
San Diego, CA 92123
Phone#: (858) 694-3820
e-mail: jim.bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD**

August 13, 2015 through September 14, 2015

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING COMMENT SHEET

NOP Scoping Meeting August 26, 2015

Lakeside Community Center

9841 Vine Street

Lakeside, California 92040

WRITTEN COMMENT FORM

As a builder I can buy a 40yard truck of sand for \$250, delivered to my job. Using that number and multiplying \$250 per truck load of sand x 250 trucks per day (as proposed) coming out of the El Monte Valley = \$62,500 per day x 6 days per week x 52 weeks per year = \$19,500,000.00 per year x 15 years = \$292,500,000.00

With so much money in play I fear politicians will do what politicians do and ram this project down our throats. I trust any member of this planning board who has received any compensation in any form from the developers of this project or their agents would recuse themselves from this decision, as required by law.

Finally, the current approved EIR and permit for the golf course originally planned did not allow for extraction of sand. However, as soon as the golf course began construction, sand extraction happened on-site immediately. The profits from selling the sand were to off-set the costs to build the golf course. If extracting sand for the purposes of building a golf course violated the current EIR, how could creating a mining operation to extract sand be allowed under any future EIR? Someone needs to save the money.

(Attach additional pages as needed)

Eric C. Epifano 8/26/15
Signature Date

Eric C. Epifano

Print Name

14428 Willow Rd

Address

LAKESIDE, CA 92040

City

State

Zip Code

MAIL or E-MAIL COMMENTS TO:

Jim Bennett
County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave, Suite 310
San Diego, CA 92123
Phone#: (858) 694-3820
e-mail: jim.bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

Planning and Development Services

Date 8-26-2015

Reference:

PDS2015-MUP-98-01-W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

Attention Jim Bennett

5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 310

San Diego, CA 92123

Dear Mr Bennett,

I am writing to offer my thoughts and ideas about the scope and nature of the environmental impacts that can and will be caused by the El Monte Valley Sand Mining Project. I ask that these concerns be thoroughly considered in the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement.

This project will negatively impact:

my well, and I am concerned
about west Nile, Valley fever for
the residents and schools. The
impact on life on animals
and people. please don't do this
to us. in Jesus name

Sincerely,

Jenny Earle

Jenny Earle

15190 willow rd lakeside

Signature

Print Name

Address

City

Phone: 619-443-4863

Email: dakota.ctn@yahoo.com

☐ Please check if you comments extend to the back side of the page.

EL MONTE SAND MINE & NATURE PRESERVE

PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001

NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

August 13, 2015 through September 14, 2015

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING COMMENT SHEET

NOP Scoping Meeting August 26, 2015

Lakeside Community Center

9841 Vine Street

Lakeside, California 92040

WRITTEN COMMENT FORM

Between health hazards such as Valley Fever,
West Nile Virus w/ breeding mosquitoes on standing water
sludge, noise, pollution and changing the
topography that'll lead to erosion affect agriculture
and livestock as well as wild life.

To remove all the vegetation from the valley
invites soil erosion. Should there be an El Niño,
where will all the water go? Join the 100 yr flood
to make it 200 yrs! The zoning of my 2 1/2 acres
is 70A - It was S82 - Now what type of zoning
will my property earn? And since I'd like to sell it,
(Attach additional pages as needed)
how much could I ask for it?

Signature

Date

Joseette Frankel
Print Name

MAIL or E-MAIL COMMENTS TO:

Jim Bennett
County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave, Suite 310
San Diego, CA 92123
Phone#: (858) 694-3820
e-mail: jim.bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov

2881 Arcola Ave
Address

San Diego, CA 92117
City State Zip Code

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

EL MONTE SAND MINE & NATURE PRESERVE
PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001

NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

August 13, 2015 through September 14, 2015

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING COMMENT SHEET

NOP Scoping Meeting August 26, 2015
Lakeside Community Center
9841 Vine Street
Lakeside, California 92040

WRITTEN COMMENT FORM

I have many concerns about this proposed mining operation. Lifelong (53 yrs) Lakeside resident. Several endangered or threatened species are denizens of El Monte Valley. Valley Fever spores are present in the soil. As a 13-yr. naturalist for the Audubon Society (181-'94; Silverwood Wildlife Sanctuary on Wildcat Cyn. Rd.), I know this area is crucial to the corridor.

(Attach additional pages as needed)

I will send an email
w/ additional concerns.

MAIL or E-MAIL COMMENTS TO:

Jim Bennett
County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave, Suite 310
San Diego, CA 92123
Phone#: (858) 694-3820
e-mail: jim.bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov

Thank
you

Karen Hetzel 8-26-15

Signature

Date

Karen Hetzel

Print Name

12630 Lakeshore Dr 39

Address

Lakeside CA 92040

City

State

Zip Code

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

EL MONTE SAND MINE & NATURE PRESERVE

PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD**

August 13, 2015 through September 14, 2015

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING COMMENT SHEET

NOP Scoping Meeting August 26, 2015

Lakeside Community Center

9841 Vine Street

Lakeside, California 92040

WRITTEN COMMENT FORM

When we purchased
our homes our zoning
was A-70 Farms.

I understand the zoning
has been changed - by you
Don't we as property owners
have rights? We

received no Real Estate
disclosures You receive
toes from our community

Please Respect our rights
(Attach additional pages as needed)

Linda Nickerson 8-

Signature

Date

Linda Nickerson

Print Name

11315 Rocky Lane

Address

Lakeside Ca 92040

City

State

Zip Code

MAIL or E-MAIL COMMENTS TO:

Jim Bennett

County of San Diego

Planning & Development Services

5510 Overland Ave, Suite 310

San Diego, CA 92123

Phone#: (858) 694-3820

e-mail: jim.bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov

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PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING COMMENT SHEET

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Lakeside Community Center

9841 Vine Street

Lakeside, California 92040

WRITTEN COMMENT FORM

Habitat is vanishing and
amphibians are especially
sensitive to this as well
as pollution.

Please keep this water way
filtering and providing cleaner
nesting sites for our native
amphibians, the arroyo and
spade foot toads.

(Attach additional pages as needed)

Marit Evans-Layng 8/26/15

Signature

Date

Marit Evans-Layng

Print Name

MAIL or E-MAIL COMMENTS TO:

Jim Bennett
County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave, Suite 310
San Diego, CA 92123
Phone#: (858) 694-3820
e-mail: jim.bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov

11771 Topolun

Address

Lakeside, CA 92040

City

State

Zip Code

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

Bennett, Jim

From: Robert Lynch <robnterry@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2015 11:08 AM
To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

Dear Mr. Bennett

My wife and I are residents of Scripps Ranch in San Diego. We are writing you to express our concerns about the proposed Sand Mining project in the El Monte River Valley in Lakeside. We love this area of San Diego County and are very concerned that mining will lead to severe negative environmental impacts on the river, the wildlife, the ground water and the aesthetic beauty of this wonderful valley. As San Diego has increased in size over the years, we have fewer natural places as beautiful as the El Monte River Valley. If we continue to destroy our limited wilderness, San Diego will lose its wonderful quality of life and become another Los Angeles which we all want to avoid. Thank you for help with this. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert and Terry Lynch

Bennett, Jim

From: Jan Scott <jan7706@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 10:43 AM
To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2,PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

Mr. Bennett,

I've just sent you an email on the EIR but I also wanted to express my thoughts on issues outside of the environmental impact this project will have and request these thoughts be considered as well.

I am concerned for the following:

- Corporate profit at the expense of the community
- Loss of property values to the community
- The ability for the permit to potentially be extended indefinitely through continuous modification
- The reclamation never happening
- The corporation going bankrupt and abandoning the project
- Loss of revenue to the businesses that cater to the equestrian community
- Impact to the schools that bring their classes to visit the one of the few remaining dairies in San Diego county
- The loss of the rural atmosphere the majority of Lakeside residents chose for our lifestyle.

Respectfully

--

Janis R. Scott
36 year Lakeside, California resident
619.405.8290

Bennett, Jim

From: Jan Scott <jan7706@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 10:28 AM
To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2,PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

Mr. Bennett,

Thank you and your fellow staffers for hosting last night's meeting at Lakeside Community Center.

I am writing to offer my thoughts and ideas about the scope and nature of the environmental impacts that can and will be caused by the El Monte Valley Sand Mining Project. I ask that these concerns be thoroughly considered in the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement.

- The golf course EIR is no longer valid as this is a "new" project with a different scope (golf course recreation vs sand mining) and a new EIR should be initiated
- Impact to the quality, supply and potential toxicity levels in the water sources that supply El Monte Valley.
- Each well in the valley regardless of the 1/2 mile radius criteria to the project should be tested prior to beginning the project and at it's end, The testing should not be at the expense of the land owners.
- The proposed underground dam would undermine current underground water distribution
- WATER RESOURCES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN SAND
- Wild life would be forced out and their instinctive migratory paths would continue and result in death or wild life would tend to migrate to residential properties
- The oak trees would not be preserved
- Has the city of San Diego relinquished the water rights of this property to the sand mining project?
- Reclamation of site after the project is completed will not bring the valley back to its original state (no mature oak trees etc)
- At one time the valley was designated as a scenic corridor, why is that now changed?
- How will the valley's residences septic systems be impacted?
- Increased traffic
- Increase noise
- Standing water
- West Nile
- Valley Fever - spores have been proven to now exist in the valley, with mining the potential for several human and animal infections will be substantially increased.
- Wetlands will be destroyed
- Increase of water usage during time of drought (private citizens are mandated to conserve)

--

Janis R. Scott
36 year resident of Lakeside, California
619.405.8290

Planning and Development Services

Date 3/27/15

Reference:

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

Attention Jim Bennett
5510 Overland Avenue, 310
San Diego, CA. 92123

Dear Mr. Bennett,

I am writing to offer my thoughts and ideas about the scope and nature of the environmental impacts that can and will be caused by the El Monte Sand Mining Project. I ask that these concerns be thoroughly considered in the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement.

This project will negatively impact:

1) Excessive instream sand-and-gravel mining causes the degradation of rivers.
Instream mining lowers the stream bottom, which may lead to bank erosion. Depletion of sand in the streambed and along coastal areas causes the deepening of rivers and estuaries, and the enlargement of river mouths and coastal inlets. Any volume of sand exported from streambeds and coastal areas is a loss to the system.

Excessive instream sand mining is a threat to bridges, river banks and nearby structures. Sand mining also affects the adjoining groundwater system and the uses that local people make of the river.

Instream sand mining results in the destruction of aquatic and riparian habitat through large changes in the channel morphology. Impacts include bed degradation, bed coarsening, lowered water tables near the streambed, and channel instability. These physical impacts cause degradation of riparian and aquatic biota. Continued extraction may also cause the entire streambed to degrade to the depth of excavation.

2) Sand mining generates extra vehicle traffic, which negatively impairs the environment. Where access roads cross riparian areas, the local environment may be impacted.

3) Sand mining transforms the riverbeds into large and deep pits; as a result, the groundwater table drops leaving the drinking water wells on the embankments of these rivers dry. Bed degradation from instream mining lowers the elevation of streamflow and the floodplain water table which in turn can eliminate water table-dependent woody vegetation in riparian areas, and decrease wetted periods in riparian wetlands

Signature

[Handwritten Signature]

Print Name

SIAMONE SAYASENIT

Address

10337 VINTA DEL CAPITAN

City

LAKEVIEW, CA 92040

Phone

Email

SAMONE.SAYASENIT@YAHOO.

COM

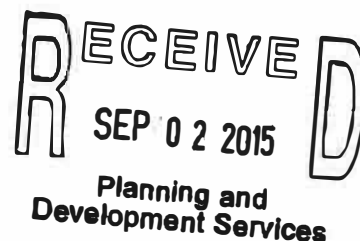
☐ Please check here if your comments extend to the back side of this page.



San Diego County Archaeological Society, Inc.

Environmental Review Committee

27 August 2015



To: Mr. Robert Hingtgen
Department of Planning and Development Services
County of San Diego
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 310
San Diego, California 92123

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report
El Monte Sand Mining and Nature Preserve
PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001,
Log No. PDS2015-ER-98-016B

Dear :Mr. Hingtgen

Thank you for the Notice of Preparation for the subject project, received by this Society earlier this month.

We are pleased to note the inclusion of cultural resources in the list of subject areas to be addressed in the DEIR, and look forward to reviewing it during the upcoming public comment period. To that end, please include us in the distribution of the DEIR, and also provide us with a copy of the cultural resources technical report(s).

SDCAS appreciates being included in the County's environmental review process for this project.

Sincerely,


James W. Royle, Jr., Chairperson
Environmental Review Committee

cc: SDCAS President
File

Bennett, Jim

From: JD Dixon <jd306@lyonhotelgroup.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 7:51 AM
To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

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

Mr. Bennett,

I am opposed and support my fellow San Diego county friends in their opposition to the El Monte Mine & Nature Preserve Project estimated to span 15 years.

Industrial land use will not make sense to the rural, agricultural, and residential area. Increased traffic and congestion with tens of dozens of trucks moving through Lakeside daily will be only the tip of the iceberg.

Valley Fever has been documented in the El Monte Valley. The work will increase the possibility of Valley Fever to explode in the county. West Nile Virus has been found and the pits and ponds will provide breeding ground opportunity for mosquitos carrying the virus.

The biodiversity of the area will be destroyed in a few years. It will take hundreds of years to renew. We must protect the environment for future generations.

Ground water will be depleted during mining. Waste materials from the mining operation with concentrated toxins will seep into the ground water. During years of heavy rain flooding and erosion will be extensive.

The project will bring various pollution types through equipment emissions, noise, and toxins not ever known in El Monte Valley. The county designated El Monte Rd. as a scenic road. Under the designation scenic impacts must be respected and enforced.

As details of project emerge it is hard to comprehend the use of the term Nature Preserve as being an element of the project. The El Monte Sand Mine & Nature Preserve must not be allowed to move forward.

John "JD" Dixon | Special Projects
jd306@lyonhotelgroup.com | www.sandiegoaccommodations.com
(619) 296-6333, ext. 306 | (619) 295-4532 fax

Old Town Inn	BW Lamplighter Inn & Suites at SDSU
Tour our Hotel	Tour our Hotel
Join us on Facebook	Join us on Facebook

From: [Tim Boyd](#)
To: [Bennett, Jim](#); [Hingtgen, Robert J](#)
Cc: [Tim Boyd](#)
Subject: EL MONTE SAND MINING AND NATURE PRESERVE; PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B
Date: Friday, August 28, 2015 7:36:23 AM
Attachments: [sand mining protest.pdf](#)

Please refer to my attached letter joining Barry Treahy Sr. addressing ground water concerns in protest to the County of San Diego approving this sand mining project. This is without a doubt wrong for El Monte valley, not to mention a disgrace to the environment.

Tim Boyd
14790 Willow Road
Lakeside, CA. 92040
cell - 619-279-7755



Before you print think about the **ENVIRONMENT**

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8-27-15

El Monte Sand Mining (NOP) of Environmental Impact Report
Public Review
Public Scoping Meeting Comment Sheet

1. This Written Comment Form is specifically directed at those that were at the public meeting 8/26/15 (Public Scoping Meeting Comment Sheet). There is an indeterminate number of property owners in the "hot" zone that could not attend.

A written vote on whether sand mining should be allowed on this Permit was taken, by those that could be located based on the information provided by PDS, that 63 Adjacent owners (sphere of influence) indicated "no". Of all the ballots sent out, there were not any that came back approving it.

This was not an opinion survey, it was a vote of those the County indicated as the affected properties; owners/tax payers.

These signed documents are available upon request.

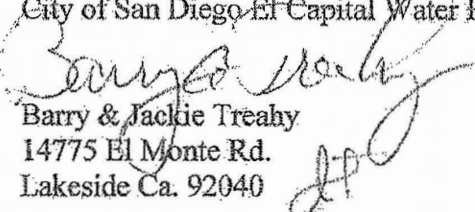
2. We property owners in this "sphere of influence" object to the project, based on Page 3 of the Notice of Preparation Documentation whereby the original permit by Helix driven by their Manager Mark Weston, whereby (a) Mark Weston is in conflict of interest, having been the Helix Project Manager, and now the Chair of the San Diego Water Authority. All of the State, Regional and Local water agencies are abiding by the Governors proclamation "critical water shortage", and for our local agency to have an employee in a sensitive and influential position compromises the public interest. (b) Project permit tee must be insured and/or bonded for an amount equal to the perceived profit from his/her project in favor of the El Monte (sphere of Influence) ownership
3. Project permittee must provide at the owners request, and at Permittee expense, water well quality and flow, before, during and after sand mining, to enable claims against the bond holder or insurer.

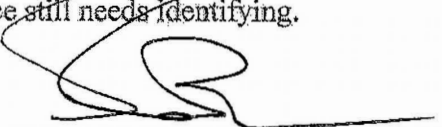
According to the Notice of Preparation Documentation, it is stated that ground water use of "estimated 132 acre-feet annually production rate".

We demand to know how these estimates were determined.

We also demand that the Project Manager Add the different water authorities to the notification of ground water impact and usage, to determine if the interest of California and the water availability and use is going to affect the best interest of Californians.

To include the impact of extracting large quantities from the Aquifer that connects the City of San Diego El Capital Water Reservoir source still needs identifying.


Barry & Jackie Treahy
14775 El Monte Rd.
Lakeside Ca. 92040


Tim & Gay Boyel
14790 Willow Rd
Lakeside, CA. 92040

8-27-15

El Monte Sand Mining (NOP) of Environmental Impact Report
Public Review
Public Scoping Meeting Comment Sheet

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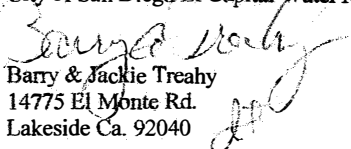
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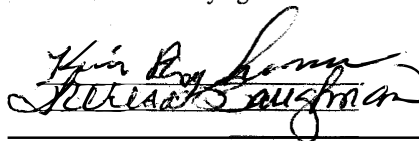
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To include the impact of extracting large quantities from the Aquifer that connects the City of San Diego El Capital Water Reservoir source still needs identifying.


Barry & Jackie Treahy
14775 El Monte Rd.
Lakeside Ca. 92040


Kevin Ray Lang

Director of Planning

EL MONTE SAND MINE & NATURE PRESERVE

PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001

NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

August 13, 2015 through September 14, 2015

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING COMMENT SHEET

NOP Scoping Meeting August 26, 2015

Lakeside Community Center

9841 Vine Street

Lakeside, California 92040

WRITTEN COMMENT FORM

WE HAVE owned our SACRE Ranch On
Willow Rd. for 39 years. It has been our source
of income for almost 40 years now. We plan on
passing it down to our family as they also
earn their living on the Ranch. If The Sand
mining is approved, our way of life, Our Income
Our Well water will all be threatened. So many
lives in the El Monte Valley will be adversely
affected. The County has the Power To Stop This.
Water is our main concern.

(Attach additional pages as needed)

Carol J Wells 8/29/15
Signature Date

Carol J Wells
Print Name

MAIL or E-MAIL COMMENTS TO:

Jim Bennett
County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave, Suite 310
San Diego, CA 92123
Phone#: (858) 694-3820
e-mail: jim.bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov

13220 Willow Rd.
Address

Lakeside Ca 92040
City State Zip Code

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

Bennett, Jim

From: Neal Masters <mastersneal@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 31, 2015 9:25 AM
To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

Dear Mr Bennett;

I live on El Monte rd, in the affected area, so you have a right to label this as another "not-in-my backyard" rant, but I'd like to raise a few points.

First, I applaud the scope of the Environmental Impact Update Form. Once all the reviews have been done, all the issues I have, and more, will have been addressed.

What concerns me is whether the County's view of what constitutes adequate "mitigation" of those issues, agrees with mine.

El Monte Valley isn't just a relatively undeveloped area that happens to have some sand. It's an area that attracts a lot of people for its beauty, its recreational opportunities, and its "out in the country" feel, while being relatively close to town.

A sand mine at the entrance to the valley would destroy or spoil most of the attraction of the area.

Some points:

- 1) Controlling dust, particularly in light of the potential for Valley Fever, may require more water than the valley has available. Valley residents depend on their wells for their water supply, since there is no city water available. What will be the mitigation for residents whose wells go dry or are contaminated by the mining operation?
- 2) Noise is noise. No one wants to listen to rock crushers and heavy equipment in a formerly quiet valley whether it's day or night. Putting in a line of trees along the road isn't going to do much good either, because sound travels amazingly well in the valley. We were actually warned when we bought our property "Be careful what you say around here, you'd be surprised how many people can hear it!"
- 3) Traffic. I would assume that the proposed access off El Monte rd for the trucks would be down at the Hansen pond area to minimize the distance on the narrower parts of El Monte rd. but the trucks are still going to be traveling on either Lake Jennings rd. East, (steep hill) or Mapleview West, past residential areas and the high school to 67, and causing traffic delays all the way. El Capitan Reservoir is a very popular boating area, and boaters leaving the lake aren't going to appreciate coming around a corner at 45 mph and finding a sand trunk grinding through the gears at 5mph and taking up all the road.
- 4) From a personal standpoint, what mitigation can there be for living next to a strip mine for 20 years? And if a person found it intolerable and sold their property to move elsewhere, what

about the loss in property values? No one else would want to live next to a sand mine either!
Will that be mitigated?

Another issue about mitigation in general is that it doesn't seem to happen very often around here. Hanson pond, the golf course development project, and Powerlink are all examples of projects where mitigation should have happened, but didn't. If the current project goes the way of the previous projects, we can expect a shell company, to come in, make extravagant claims of how much money the holder of the mineral rights could make, and top it off with plans for the wonderful restoration work that could be done with only a fraction of the profits etc etc. . . . but then when the cream of the resource has been extracted, and the profits spent, the shell company declares bankruptcy, the holder of the mineral rights receives little or nothing, and instead of a relatively natural river bottom we will have ugly toxic pools in the bottom of ugly pits.

Pardon me for being pessimistic, but the agencies that should have been protecting our environment, haven't been doing very well by us lately.

If the country insisted that projects like this could not proceed unless there was a separate fund set up to cover the cost of a proper restoration from whatever stage the project had reached, and provide insurance to cover any contingencies that might result either now or in the future because of the project (in other words, just being conscientious and responsible) it would save a lot of grief in the future.

I guess you've figured out my take on this; I have a hard time believing that a strip-mining company that sets itself up as a river conservancy, will actually have the best interests of El Monte Valley, Lakeside, or San Diego County, as a primary goal. I don't see how it could make economic sense in a competitive industry like sand mining to take on a project that will require significantly more mitigation and a big restoration at the end, when there are other near by areas, like the parcel just up 67, that will be able to charge less for their sand because they don't have a river restoration to deal with. In general, it seems like a really dumb idea unless you happen to be a strip mining company whose plan is to make a fast buck and clear out; certainly everyone else will be the loser.

Yours truly;

Neal Masters

14817 El Monte rd.

Lakeside, CA 92040

Bennett, Jim

From: Catherine Gorka <catherine@pamperedparrots.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 01, 2015 4:47 AM
To: Bennett, Jim; Hingtgen, Robert J
Subject: El Monte valley sand mining comments against the project please submit. Thank you.

Catherine Gorka
145460 Willow rd
Lakeside, CA 92040
September 1, 2015
619-443-7424

County of San Diego Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave., Suite 310
San Diego, CA 92123
Attn: Jim Bennett & Robert Hingtgen

Comments/Concerns Re: PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-2015-RP-15-001, LOG PDS2015-ER98-14-016B

WELL WATER – DEPLETION AND CONTAMINATION

My neighbor Robin Pawl of the Magic horse therapy brought this to my attention and think you should be made aware of this as the golf course/sand miners knew of lack of water already out here. Please note this in your findings:" As El Capitan was pursuing environmental approval for the golf course development, Helix agreed in an August 24, 1998 letter writing to provide "a supplemental water supply should the groundwater basin prove insufficient to support the subject golf course." Specifically, the agreement provided that "[Helix] will provide a supplemental water supply for the golf course in the event of a short fall of groundwater. It is understood that [Helix] does not have the facilities in the El Monte Valley to provide a potable supply, and that water provided is raw water, and cannot be used for human consumption."

In 1999 El Capitan procured an environmental impact report (EIR) for the golf course development. The EIR assumed a certain continuous water table level.

When the water table dropped, El Capitan notified Helix and developed a replacement for the outmoded revegetation plan for the Property. In response, Helix insisted that it would require off-site environmental mitigation. Buying off-site mitigation land would have made the golf course development financially unfeasible.

This and more information can be found at
<http://www.leagle.com/decision/In%20CACO%2020110512046/EL%20CAPITAN%20GOLF%20CLUB,%20LLC%20v.%20HELIX%20WATER%20DISTRICT>

I believe the ground water level in Helix's land is going dropping, this is a major issue to all, no water, no household, this will be a blighted valley.

We are very concerned of drawing down our wells, who will pay to have deeper wells dug?

Some neighbors wells are extremely shallow. My well dug in 1980 found water at 120-140 ft but now who knows.

Contamination of our well water, these issues can arise now or in the future with the drought or other problems.

These ponds can dry up depleting our ground water, allowing toxins to bleed into the fractured bedrock polluting our only water source again now or in the future.

I know I am on fractured rock and very concerned as my patio has dropped an inch and a half in the last year from the ground drying up.

Many of my fruit trees and other trees have died. I am preserving the maximum amount of water as we are in a drought, not a drop wasted here.

What happens when there ponds go dry and we have Santa Ana winds blowing all this stuff around? What methods are they using to protect us from all this dust (valley fever spores) blowing at us? What erosion plans do they have for the ponds and the rest of the project now and in the future? This valley gets real strong winds.

What happens when they hit rock and no sand, how will they recoup, will they enlarge the ponds?

Endowments, what methods of compensation is there for now and future? Will they pay now and in the future for monitoring our wells for levels and toxins?

AIR QUALITY

Health concerns, will they pay now and in the future for monitoring our health and of our animals? Parrots that I breed are very sensitive to dust and toxins, they bathe and drink the well water. This project can kill them. How will this impact my parrot breeding program?

The CPUC created a no fly zone over my aviaries to protect my species when the Sunrise Powerlink was being built.

What can they do to protect my parrots sensitive lungs from the dust, diesel fumes and whatever else they create? How will this vibration and constant noise affect them, no babies I'm out of business.

NOISE

Will they be blasting? When SDGE was blasting for poles years back it sounds like an explosion in my house, I'm on some vein or something and my house shook. How will this impact my home's foundation and the noise and vibration to my parrots?

Last time they were mining they were to my east and even upgrading to dual pane windows the noise was terrible. My mother had to turn her TV up so high. This noise and vibration will affect my parrots and my health, tinnitus.

They created and will create a lot of noise, they might comply but this valley collects all the noise like a fish bowl.

It is extremely tiring to hear all that machinery and trucks operating, and difficult to deal with.

With them destroying all of the trees that dampen the road noise from El Monte, I have no idea of how that additional noise will affect my parrots. I know I will no longer be able to have my windows open to rest.

BIOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Wildlife will be displaced. Where will the animals that den in the riverbed go? On to our properties to kill our pets and animals? We have bobcats, mountain lions, coyotes and a bunch of other animals. We lost our horned lizard and other small animals that I do not know their names when they were mining last time. They either moved elsewhere or died.

Trees, the old oaks they are removing them all, Helix in their pee to tap project were going to save them but this project these guys are just moving /destroying everything in their path for sand dollars. There is no number of smaller trees to compare to their beauty of our precious oak trees.

Santa Ana winds blowing here when they were mining last time created huge sand storms similar to what Arizona gets we got here. This will cause evaporation of their ponds. Will there be pumps running to fill the ponds or will they dry up like our Lindo Lake in Lakeside?

What erosion measures are they taking? Will their pumps be quiet so those people that are alive on 20+ years can maybe enjoy the silence again, to be able to hear only nature once again?

Will there be fish in the ponds to control mosquitoes? Last time their water tanks were full of mosquitoes so the potential of West Nile increases.

Will they allow fishing? Will this bring in the homeless population to fish and sleep out here?

POWER

Will you make them move the power lines after new lines are in so those of us on Willow Rd have power all the time since it currently goes across the riverbed?

TRAFFIC

Traffic issues, people get pissed with the traffic on El Monte with the big rigs so they cut across and use our private road which causes more erosion and ruts, washboard worsens for us, how is this being addressed? Last time several of my chickens were killed as people flew by, this is a private road.

FLOOD CONTROL

Run off from the hills goes down to the riverbed through my property and my neighbors, as of yet I have not heard anything from Enviro group. I believe nearly 3000 acres flow that can come down behind me and other neighbors, how are you addressing this? We flood if not addressed correctly. Address this from the beginning not after we flood, please.

TESTING FOR TOXINS

Will they be testing for toxins as they dig? In the 2003 fire on Helix land near Hanson pond area there was a lot of trash buried that burned.

NATIVE AMERICAN SITES

Native American artifacts/burial sites, I know they covered one section up last time but what happens if they find things now, will they say nothing and just trash it? Will you have inspectors on site during all their digging? They did things wrong last time, no trust here.

DISPUTED PROPERTY LINES

Property lines are in dispute, Helix survey and other surveys overlap. The trails appear to abut the property lines so now will people be using our private property for their pleasure? Who will be liable? Will there be fencing to keep them inside or will they now just park and walk along our private property thinking that Willow Rd is public? It is a private road.

REAL ESTATE VALUES

Real estate values will drop as who will want to live with an operating sand mining operation.

We bought because of its scenic simple natural beauty and now we will be forced to endure 6 days of noisy smelly trucks, driving back and forth in front of our homes that had scenic views of nature at its best. How about all those other homes in Blossom valley that look down at this spectacular valley, how will their values adjust for this ugly site?

El Monte valley will lose its value and become blighted, properties will go for cheap. Most of us can't recoup waiting 20+ years.

No money in our real estate here now till they finish.

HOURS OF OPERATION - RECLAMATION

Can you, reduce the days of operations and hours? I see they are wrapping up this project in 20+ years unless the sand is not there and then they bail on the project leaving us like last time with massive ugly holes.

If they really care have them create the trails, restore the trees, before they do their mining so at least some people can enjoy it. The rest of us that bought here are getting our investments pulled out right from under us.

GO DIG ELSEWHERE

Go dig elsewhere. Leave our only water source alone. Leave us alone.

Our air, scenic views, values and lifestyle and health issues alone cannot be mitigated. There are other areas to destroy which would not damage them so much.

I know you are aware of our health concerns out in the valley, such as valley fever., but I'm sure they are ready to mitigate that and the loss of some plants and animals.

They can't mitigate the loss of our lifestyle, natural beauty, wildlife, views, quiet, and loss of well water.

This is a terrible project.

Catherine Górka

www.Pamperedparrots.com

From: Catherine Gorka
To: Bennett, Jim; Hingtgen, Robert J
Subject: El Monte valley sand mining comments against the project please submit. Thank you.
Date: Tuesday, September 01, 2015 4:47:24 AM

Catherine Gorka
145460 Willow rd
Lakeside, CA 92040
September 1, 2015
619-443-7424

County of San Diego Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave., Suite 310
San Diego, CA 92123
Attn: Jim Bennett & Robert Hingtgen

Comments/Concerns Re: PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-2015-RP-15-001, LOG PDS2015-ER98-14-016B

WELL WATER – DEPLETION AND CONTAMINATION

My neighbor Robin Pawl of the Magic horse therapy brought this to my attention and think you should be made aware of this as the golf course/sand miners knew of lack of water already out here. Please note this in your findings:” As El Capitan was pursuing environmental approval for the golf course development, Helix agreed in an August 24, 1998 letter writing to provide "a supplemental water supply should the groundwater basin prove insufficient to support the subject golf course." Specifically, the agreement provided that "[Helix] will provide a supplemental water supply for the golf course in the event of a short fall of groundwater. It is understood that [Helix] does not have the facilities in the El Monte Valley to provide a potable supply, and that water provided is raw water, and cannot be used for human consumption."

In 1999 El Capitan procured an environmental impact report (EIR) for the golf course development. The EIR assumed a certain continuous water table level.

When the water table dropped, El Capitan notified Helix and developed a replacement for the outmoded revegetation plan for the Property. In response, Helix insisted that it would require off-site environmental mitigation. Buying off-site mitigation land would have made the golf course development financially unfeasible.

This and more information can be found at

<http://www.leagle.com/decision/In%20CACO%2020110512046/EL%20CAPITAN%20GOLF%20CLUB,%20LLC%20v.%20HELIX%20WATER%20DISTRICT>

I believe the ground water level in Helix's land is going dropping, this is a major issue to all, no water, no household, this will be a blighted valley.

We are very concerned of drawing down our wells, who will pay to have deeper wells dug?

Some neighbors wells are extremely shallow. My well dug in 1980 found water at 120-140 ft but now who knows.

Contamination of our well water, these issues can arise now or in the future with the drought or other problems.

These ponds can dry up depleting our ground water, allowing toxins to bleed into the fractured bedrock polluting our only water source again now or in the future.

I know I am on fractured rock and very concerned as my patio has dropped an inch and a half in the last year from the ground drying up.

Many of my fruit trees and other trees have died. I am preserving the maximum amount of water as we are in a drought, not a drop wasted here.

What happens when there ponds go dry and we have Santa Ana winds blowing all this stuff around? What methods are they using to protect us from all this dust (valley fever spores) blowing at us? What erosion plans do they have for the ponds and the rest of the project now and in the future? This valley gets real strong winds.

What happens when they hit rock and no sand, how will they recoup, will they enlarge the ponds?

Endowments, what methods of compensation is there for now and future? Will they pay now and in the future for monitoring our wells for levels and toxins?

AIR QUALITY

Health concerns, will they pay now and in the future for monitoring our health and of our animals? Parrots that I breed are very sensitive to dust and toxins, they bathe and drink the well water. This project can kill them. How will this impact my parrot breeding program?

The CPUC created a no fly zone over my aviaries to protect my species when the Sunrise Powerlink was being built.

What can they do to protect my parrots sensitive lungs from the dust, diesel fumes and whatever else they create? How will this vibration and constant noise affect them, no babies I'm out of business.

NOISE

Will they be blasting? When SDGE was blasting for poles years back it sounds like an explosion in my house, I'm on some vein or something and my house shook. How will this impact my home's foundation and the noise and vibration to my parrots?

Last time they were mining they were to my east and even upgrading to dual pane windows the noise was terrible. My mother had to turn her TV up so high. This noise and vibration will affect my parrots and my health, tinnitus.

They created and will create a lot of noise, they might comply but this valley collects all the noise like a fish bowl.

It is extremely tiring to hear all that machinery and trucks operating, and difficult to deal with.

With them destroying all of the trees that dampen the road noise from El Monte, I have no idea of how that additional noise will affect my parrots. I know I will no longer be able to have my windows open to rest.

BIOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Wildlife will be displaced. Where will the animals that den in the riverbed go? On to our properties to kill our pets and animals? We have bobcats, mountain lions, coyotes and a bunch of other animals. We lost our horned lizard and other small animals that I do not know their names when they were mining last time. They either moved elsewhere or died.

Trees, the old oaks they are removing them all, Helix in their pee to tap project were going to save them but this project these guys are just moving /destroying everything in their path for sand dollars. There is no number of smaller trees to compare to their beauty of our precious oak trees.

Santa Ana winds blowing here when they were mining last time created huge sand storms similar to what Arizona gets we got here. This will cause evaporation of their ponds. Will there be pumps running to fill the ponds or will they dry up like our Lindo Lake in Lakeside?

What erosion measures are they taking? Will their pumps be quiet so those people that are alive on 20+ years can maybe enjoy the silence again, to be able to hear only nature once again?

Will there be fish in the ponds to control mosquitoes? Last time their water tanks were full of mosquitoes so the potential of West Nile increases.

Will they allow fishing? Will this bring in the homeless population to fish and sleep out here?

POWER

Will you make them move the power lines after new lines are in so those of us on Willow Rd have power all the time since it currently goes across the riverbed?

TRAFFIC

Traffic issues, people get pissed with the traffic on El Monte with the big rigs so they cut across and use our private road which causes' more erosion and ruts, washboard worsens for us, how is this being addressed? Last time several of my chickens were killed as people flew by, this is a private road.

FLOOD CONTROL

Run off from the hills goes down to the riverbed through my property and my neighbors, as of yet I have not heard anything from Enviro group. I believe nearly 3000 acres flow that can come down behind me and other neighbors, how are you addressing this? We flood if not addressed correctly. Address this from the beginning not after we flood, please.

TESTING FOR TOXINS

Will they be testing for toxins as they dig? In the 2003 fire on Helix land near Hanson pond area there was a lot of trash buried that burned.

NATIVE AMERICAN SITES

Native American artifacts/burial sites, I know they covered one section up last time but what happens if they find things now, will they say nothing and just trash it? Will you have inspectors on site during all their digging? They did things wrong last time, no trust here.

DISPUTED PROPERTY LINES

Property lines are in dispute, Helix survey and other surveys overlap. The trails appear to abut the property lines so now will people be using our private property for their pleasure? Who will be liable? Will there be fencing to keep them inside or will they now just park and walk along our private property thinking that Willow Rd is public? It is a private road.

REAL ESTATE VALUES

Real estate values will drop as who will want to live with an operating sand mining operation.

We bought because of its scenic simple natural beauty and now we will be forced to endure 6 days of noisy smelly trucks., driving back and forth in front of our homes that had scenic views of nature at its best. How about all those other homes in Blossom valley that look down at this spectacular valley, how will their values adjust for this ugly site?

El Monte valley will lose its value and become blighted, properties will go for cheap. Most of us can't recoup waiting 20+ years.

No money in our real estate here now till they finish.

HOURS OF OPERATION - RECLAMATION

Can you, reduce the days of operations and hours? I see they are wrapping up this project in 20+ years unless the sand is not there and then they bail on the project leaving us like last time with massive ugly holes.

If they really care have them create the trails, restore the trees., before they do their mining so at least some people can enjoy it. The rest of us that bought here are getting our investments pulled out right from under us.

GO DIG ELSEWHERE

Go dig elsewhere. Leave our only water source alone. Leave us alone.

Our air, scenic views, values and lifestyle and health issues alone cannot be mitigated. There are other areas to destroy which would not damage them so much.

I know you are aware of our health concerns out in the valley, such as valley fever., but I'm sure they are ready to mitigate that and the loss of some plants and animals.

They can't mitigate the loss of our lifestyle, natural beauty, wildlife, views, quiet, and loss of well water.

This is a terrible project.

EL MONTE SAND MINE & NATURE PRESERVE
PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001

NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

August 13, 2015 through September 14, 2015

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING COMMENT SHEET

NOP Scoping Meeting August 26, 2015
Lakeside Community Center
9841 Vine Street
Lakeside, California 92040

WRITTEN COMMENT FORM

As a resident of Lakeside for over forty years, I wish to voice my objections to the County Planning and Development Services regarding the Project El Monte Sand Mining and Nature Preserve.

Health issues are dominant. Sand mining would stir up the coccidiomycosis fungus causing the extremely dangerous disease of Valley Fever.

Mining pits and ponds would provide breeding grounds for mosquitos carrying West Nile Fever.

Mining waste material left behind in pits and ponds

(Attach additional pages as needed)

(continued)

Elizabeth Clifford 9/3/15
Signature Date

ELIZABETH CLIFFORD
Print Name

MAIL or E-MAIL COMMENTS TO:

Jim Bennett
County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave, Suite 310
San Diego, CA 92123
Phone#: (858) 694-3820
e-mail: jim.bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov

9273 Hightop Terr.
Address

Lakeside, Ca. 92040
City State Zip Code

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

II

would cause concentrated toxins to seep into ground water, contaminating wells which are the only water source for El Monte Valley residents.

El Monte Road, a narrow ~~two~~ two lane road, designated as a "Scenic road", would be negatively impacted by the heavy truck traffic. Besides destroying the beauty of this valley, it would also cause untold traffic delays for residents and visitors to El Monte Park and El Capitan Lake.

Wildlife would be disturbed or destroyed or seek to escape to residential areas and surrounding homes.

El Monte Valley is a rural, agricultural, residential area, not meant for industrial use.

The biodiversity of the area would be destroyed and cannot be restored in a few years.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Clifford

EL MONTE SAND MINE & NATURE PRESERVE

PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001

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Lakeside, California 92040

WRITTEN COMMENT FORM

As a concerned citizen of Lakeside and our environment I'm upset about the impact El Monte Sand Mine will have on our lives. This has the signs of self serving endeavor on their part with disregard of our community.

Valley Fever is of grave concern. Years ago my husband working in the dirt on our hillside came down with it. Several years later a neighbor came down with a severe case of it and was disabled for years. Stirring up these pious in our community is unconscionable.

This project has no place in our Valley. Thank you.

(Attach additional pages as needed)

Ellen R. Flores 9-3-15
Signature Date

Ellen R. Flores
Print Name

MAIL or E-MAIL COMMENTS TO:

Jim Bennett
County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave, Suite 310
San Diego, CA 92123
Phone#: (858) 694-3820
e-mail: jjm.bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov

13490 Hwy 8 Bus. Sp. 18
Address

Lakeside, CA 92040
City State Zip Code

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

County of San Diego Planning & Development Services.

Josephine Frankland

Attn. Jim Bennet t& Robert Hingtgen

15402 Lazy Creek Road

El Cajon 92021

Subject. El Monte Sand Mine PDS-2015-MUP-98-014W2.

Dear Mr Bennett.

I live in Blossom Valley lot #396 191 20 00, overlooking the east end of the above project. I have the following concerns

1).The plan to refurbish the disturbed area in Phase 1 with debris from the mining. This will cause a significant dust problem for those of us on the rim of Blossom Valley-especially during a Santa Ana wind condition-the winds blow directly at us up the steep slope. This could bring Valley Fever spores and West Nile Virus to our area .What can be done to mitigate this?

2).Disturbance of the wildlife corridor from Lake Jennings, along our south hillside and down to the riverbed to El Capitan Reservoir.

3).El Monte Valley is a popular recreational destination- for picnicking at El Monte Park, boating at fishing at El Capitan Lake, mountain climbing, and bicycle riding. The visual impact of the serene valley will be disturbed for all these visitors.

4).Blossom Valley wells- many of our neighbors have wells that reach to the riverbed aquifer- this will really affect their water supply for our large properties.



Josephine Frankland

jofrankland@cox.net tel. 619 443 7359

Bennett, Jim

From: Julie Murphy <ca_barrelracer@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2015 2:22 PM
To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: El Monte Valley Comments PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

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

My first concern is the view shed for homeowners in El Monte Valley and Blossom Valley residents that overlook the potential sand mine, and with a berm of 15' it will block views of homeowners on the valley floor. But of even more concern is the valley's Scenic corridor distinction. I have included the CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

>I hereby certify that this is the text of the Scenic Highway Element, Section 1, Part VI, of the San Diego County General Plan, as revised by General Plan Amendment (GPA) 86-03, Item 7, Desert Subregional Plan, and that it was approved by the San Diego County Planning Commission on the 10th day of October, 1986 (GPA 86-03). Abel G. Montelongo, Chairman Attest: Gerald J. Jamriska

<http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/pds/advance/oldgp/scenichighwayelement.pdf>

"Scenic Highway corridor protection measures to be considered in preparing a specific plan and program of proposed implementation measures to protect and enhance the scenic resources identified in the corridor study include:

- a. Land use controls, including building heights and setbacks and screening of offensive uses;
- b. Subdivision regulations relating to limiting of cut and fill slopes, free preservation, limited access onto scenic highways, utility undergrounding and roadway design;
- c. Maintenance regulation in the housing section in the building coding, fire prevention, litter control programs, weed and insect control, native vegetation replanting and water pollution control;
- d. Controls limiting size, location height and design of signs and outdoor advertising;
- e. Location standards for overhead utility line when underground placement is not possible;
- f. Grading standards to include vegetative cover and screening, erosion control and limited movement of natural terrain;
- g. Development design resulting in an attractive appearance and harmonious relationship to the scenic setting;
- h. Roadway design including realignment, grade, vista points, map and information stops, replanting and controlled grading.

Julie Murphy
Lakeside Resident

Bennett, Jim

From: Clemente, Chiara@Waterboards <Chiara.Clemente@waterboards.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2015 12:46 PM
To: Barry Treahy Sr.; Robin Pawl; Catherine Gorka; Bennett, Jim; Honma, Lisa@Waterboards
Cc: Wood, Lisa; linda@hazymeadow.com; Rachel Holbrook; Robin Rierdan; Tony Masey; Ana Potts
Subject: RE:El Monte Sand Mining and Nature Preserve

I had a chance to briefly review the CEQA documents at http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/Current_Protocols/MUP-98-014W2.html . Although our agency does not generally provide comments during the CEQA process, it is likely that the project will be subject to review and conditioning by our agency through one or more regulatory programs (i.e. Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification, Waste Discharge Requirements, and/or Industrial Storm Water Requirements). We have not received an application for permits yet, but in the interim, I have forwarded your information and concerns to the person who will be processing the 401 certification application.

R,
Chiara

Chiara Clemente
Senior Environmental Scientist
Compliance Assurance Unit
619-521-3371
cclemente@waterboards.ca.gov

San Diego Water Board
2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92108
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/>

From: Barry Treahy Sr. [mailto:nosandmining@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2015 11:51 AM
To: Robin Pawl; Catherine Gorka; Clemente, Chiara@Waterboards; Jim.Bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov
Cc: Wood, Lisa; linda@hazymeadow.com; Rachel Holbrook; Robin Rierdan; Tony Masey; Ana Potts
Subject: Re: interesting article I found on line from the university.

I just received a call from Chiara (chiara.clemente@waterboards.ca.gov) from the State of California Water Board that will receive information from "stakeholders" regarding our concerns as to information submitted for the EIR as it relates to her function. She is not advisory. I copied Mr. Bennett, Project Manager. She mentioned the Conservancy but I reminded her that it is the "property owners and residents" in the sphere of influence/stakeholders that will lose water quality, quantity extending the mining 100' below and into the Aquifer and pumping hundreds of acre feet from our water source. The other affects are listed on page 3 regarding issues (13) in the SEIR which she can get from Mr. Bennett.

She reiterated that the sequel regulatory process needs to be followed as much as possible, so those of you that have a handle on that please add anything you feel appropriate to that Waterboard agency.

Again it is our concerns regarding what can happen to our wells and water quality and any hard facts that the Board wants to know about if they are to followup and investigate.

I asked her if she would take e-mails from you regarding what her agency can do based on your communications with her. Yes, by all means!

Last I have attached that SD State document for her to read. It certainly echoes everything we have said and contended.

Barry A. Treahy
14775 El Monte Rd.
Lakeside Ca. 92040

On Thursday, September 3, 2015 11:18 AM, Barry Treahy Sr. <nosandmining@yahoo.com> wrote:

This needs to be broadcast to everyone, including the media. Great job digging this one up. Barry

On Thursday, September 3, 2015 9:35 AM, Robin Pawl <robinpawl@nethere.com> wrote:

Did you send this link to the EIR people?
Robin Pawl
(619) 672-6935

The Magic Horse
Therapeutic Riding Center
A 501(c)3 Public Charity

Our mission is to make a life-enhancing difference for people with disabilities and their families through the magic and power of the horse.

On Sep 3, 2015, at 8:52 AM, Catherine Gorka <catherine@pamperedparrots.com> wrote:

SAND MINING FACTS

<image001.jpg>

The Ojos Negros Research Group

1. IMPACTS OF SAND MINING

For thousands of years, sand and gravel have been used in the construction of roads and buildings. Today, demand for sand and gravel continues to increase. Mining operators, in conjunction with cognizant resource agencies, must work to ensure that sand mining is conducted in a responsible manner.

Excessive instream sand-and-gravel mining causes the degradation of rivers. Instream mining lowers the stream bottom, which may lead to bank erosion. Depletion of sand in the streambed and along coastal areas causes the deepening of rivers and estuaries, and the enlargement of river mouths and coastal inlets. It may also lead to saline-water intrusion from the nearby sea. The effect of mining is compounded by the effect of sea level rise. Any volume of sand exported from streambeds and coastal areas is a loss to the system. Excessive instream sand mining is a threat to bridges, river banks and nearby structures. Sand mining also affects the adjoining groundwater system and the uses that local people make of the river.

Instream sand mining results in the destruction of aquatic and riparian habitat through large changes in the channel morphology. Impacts include bed degradation, bed coarsening, lowered water tables near the streambed, and channel instability. These physical impacts cause degradation of riparian and aquatic biota and may lead to the undermining of bridges and other structures. Continued extraction may also cause the entire streambed to degrade to the depth of excavation.

Sand mining generates extra vehicle traffic, which negatively impairs the environment. Where access roads cross riparian areas, the local environment may be impacted.

1.1 Sand Budget

Determining the sand budget for a particular stream reach requires site-specific topographic, hydrologic, and hydraulic information. This information is used to determine the amount of sand that can be removed from the area without causing undue erosion or degradation, either at the site or at a nearby location, upstream or downstream.

In-channel or near-channel sand-and-gravel mining changes the sediment budget, and may result in substantial changes in the channel hydraulics. These interventions can have variable effects on aquatic habitat, depending on the magnitude and frequency of the disturbance, mining methods, particle-size characteristics of the sediment, the characteristics of riparian vegetation, and

the magnitude and frequency of hydrologic events following the disturbance. Temporal and spatial responses of alluvial river systems are a function of geomorphic thresholds, feedbacks, lags, upstream or downstream transmission of disturbances, and geologic/physiographic controls. Minimization of the negative effects of sand-and-gravel mining requires a detailed understanding of the response of the channel to mining disturbances.

Decisions on where to mine, how much and how often require the definition of a reference state, i.e., a minimally acceptable or agreed-upon physical and biological condition of the channel. Present understanding of alluvial systems is generally not sufficient to enable the prediction of channel responses quantitatively and with confidence; therefore, reference states are difficult to determine. Still, a general knowledge of fluvial processes can provide guidelines to minimize the detrimental effects of mining. Well-documented cases and related field data are required to properly assess physical, biological, and economic tradeoffs.

1.2 Riparian Habitat, Flora and Fauna

Instream mining can have other costly effects beyond the immediate mine sites. Many hectares of fertile streamside land are lost annually, as well as valuable timber resources and wildlife habitats in the riparian areas. Degraded stream habitats result in loss of fisheries productivity, biodiversity, and recreational potential. Severely degraded channels may lower land and aesthetic values. All species require specific habitat conditions to ensure long-term survival. Native species in streams are uniquely adapted to the habitat conditions that existed before humans began large-scale alterations. These have caused major habitat disruptions that favored some species over others and caused overall declines in biological diversity and productivity. In most streams and rivers, habitat quality is strongly linked to the stability of channel bed and banks. Unstable stream channels are inhospitable to most aquatic species.

Factors that increase or decrease sediment supply often destabilize bed and banks and result in dramatic channel readjustments. For example, human activities that accelerate stream bank erosion, such as riparian forest clearing or instream mining, cause stream banks to become net sources of sediment that often have severe consequences for aquatic species. Anthropogenic activities that artificially lower stream bed elevation cause bed instabilities that result in a net release of sediment in the local vicinity. Unstable sediments simplify and, therefore, degrade stream habitats for many aquatic species. Few species benefit from these effects.

The most important effects of instream sand mining on aquatic habitats are bed degradation and sedimentation, which can have substantial negative effects on aquatic life. The stability of sand-bed and gravel-bed streams depends on a delicate balance between streamflow, sediment supplied from the watershed, and channel form. Mining-induced changes in sediment supply and channel form disrupt channel and habitat development processes. Furthermore, movement of unstable substrates results in downstream sedimentation of habitats. The affected distance depends on the intensity of mining, particle sizes, stream flows, and channel morphology.

The complete removal of vegetation and destruction of the soil profile destroys habitat both above and below the ground as well as within the aquatic ecosystem, resulting in the reduction in faunal populations.

Channel widening causes shallowing of the streambed, producing braided flow

or subsurface intergravel flow in riffle areas, hindering movement of fishes between pools. Channel reaches become more uniformly shallow as deep pools fill with gravel and other sediments, reducing habitat complexity, riffle-pool structure, and numbers of large predatory fishes.

1.3 Stability of Structures

Sand-and-gravel mining in stream channels can damage public and private property. Channel incision caused by gravel mining can undermine bridge piers and expose buried pipelines and other infrastructure.

Several studies have documented the bed degradation caused by the two general forms of instream mining: (1) pit excavation and (2) bar skimming. Bed degradation, also known as channel incision, occurs through two primary processes: (1) headcutting, and (2) "hungry" water. In headcutting, excavation of a mining pit in the active channel lowers the stream bed, creating a nick point that locally steepens channel slope and increases flow energy. During high flows, a nick point becomes a location of bed erosion that gradually moves upstream (Fig. 1).

<image002.jpg>

Fig. 1 Diagram of sand-and-gravel stream bed showing (A) the nick point that develops with a pit excavation, and (B) the upstream head cutting and downstream bed degradation that develop during high flows.

Headcutting mobilizes substantial quantities of streambed sediments which are then transported downstream to deposit in the excavated area and locations further downstream. In gravel-rich streams, effects downstream of mining sites may be short-lived when mining ends, because the balance between sediment input and transport at a site can reestablish itself relatively quickly. Effects in gravel-poor streams may develop rapidly and persist for many years after mining has finished. Regardless of downstream effects, headcutting in both gravel-rich and gravel-poor streams remains a major concern. Headcuts often move long distances upstream and into tributaries, in some watersheds moving as far as the headwaters or until halted by geologic controls or man-made structures.

A second form of bed degradation occurs when mineral extraction increases the flow capacity of the channel. A pit excavation locally increases flow depth (Fig. 1) and a barskimming operation increases flow width (Fig. 2). Both conditions produce slower streamflow velocities and lower flow energies, causing sediments arriving from upstream to deposit at the mining site. As streamflow moves beyond the site and flow energies increase in response to the "normal" channel form downstream, the amount of transported sediment leaving the site is now less than the sediment carrying capacity of the flow. This sediment-deficient flow or "hungry" water picks up more sediment from the stream reach below the mining site, furthering the bed degradation process (Fig. 1). This condition continues until the equilibrium between input and output of sediments at the site is reestablished.

<image003.jpg>

Fig. 2 Diagram of channel cross sections showing (A) a typical

sand-gravel bar in relation to the low-flow channel, riparian zone and water table, and (B) the wide shallow channel that results from unrestricted mining and that is characterized by bank erosion, braided flow, sedimentation, and increased water temperatures.

A similar effect occurs below dams, which trap sediment and release "hungry" water downstream, where channel incision usually ensues. Instream mineral excavation downstream of dams compounds this problem. Although other factors such as levees, bank protection, and altered flow regimes also promote channel incision, mineral extraction rates in many streams are often orders-of-magnitude in excess of sediment supply from the watershed, suggesting that extraction is largely responsible for observed channel changes. Susceptibility to hungry-water effects would depend on the rate of extraction relative to the rate of replenishment. Gravel-poor streams would be most susceptible to disturbance.

Channel incision not only causes vertical instability in the channel bed, but also causes lateral instability in the form of accelerated stream bank erosion and channel widening. Incision increases stream bank heights, resulting in bank failure when the mechanical properties of the bank material cannot sustain the material weight. Channel widening causes shallowing of the streambed (Fig. 2) as deep pools fill with gravel and other sediments. Shallowing and widening of the channel also increases stream temperature extremes, and channel instability increases transport of sediments downstream. Mining-induced bed degradation and other channel changes may not develop for several years until major channel-adjustment flows occur, and adjustments may continue long after extraction has ended.

1.4 Groundwater

Apart from threatening bridges, sand mining transforms the riverbeds into large and deep pits; as a result, the groundwater table drops leaving the drinking water wells on the embankments of these rivers dry. Bed degradation from instream mining lowers the elevation of streamflow and the floodplain water table which in turn can eliminate water table-dependent woody vegetation in riparian areas, and decrease wetted periods in riparian wetlands. For locations close to the sea, saline water may intrude into the fresh waterbody.

1.5 Water Quality

Instream sand mining activities will have an impact upon the river's water quality. Impacts include increased short-term turbidity at the mining site due to resuspension of sediment, sedimentation due to stockpiling and dumping of excess mining materials and organic particulate matter, and oil spills or leakage from excavation machinery and transportation vehicles.

Increased riverbed and bank erosion increases suspended solids in the water at the excavation site and downstream. Suspended solids may adversely affect water users and aquatic ecosystems. The impact is particularly significant if water users downstream of the site are abstracting water for domestic use.

Suspended solids can significantly increase water treatment costs.

1.6 Summary

Impacts of sand mining can be broadly classified into three categories:

- **Physical**

The large-scale extraction of streambed materials, mining and dredging below the existing streambed, and the alteration of channel-bed form and shape leads to several impacts such as erosion of channel bed and

banks, increase in channel slope, and change in channel morphology. These impacts may cause: (1) the undercutting and collapse of river banks, (2) the loss of adjacent land and/or structures, (3) upstream erosion as a result of an increase in channel slope and changes in flow velocity, and (4) downstream erosion due to increased carrying capacity of the stream, downstream changes in patterns of deposition, and changes in channel bed and habitat type.

- **Water Quality**

Mining and dredging activities, poorly planned stockpiling and uncontrolled dumping of overburden, and chemical/fuel spills will cause reduced water quality for downstream users, increased cost for downstream water treatment plants and poisoning of aquatic life.

- **Ecological**

Mining which leads to the removal of channel substrate, resuspension of streambed sediment, clearance of vegetation, and stockpiling on the streambed, will have ecological impacts. These impacts may have an effect on the direct loss of stream reserve habitat, disturbances of species attached to streambed deposits, reduced light penetration, reduced primary production, and reduced feeding opportunities.

<u>Management</u>	<u>Regulation of the Sand Mining in the U.S.</u>	<u>Strategies for the Ojos Negros Valley</u>	<u>Summary</u>	<u>Sand Mining Facts</u>

http://ponce.sdsu.edu/three_issues_sandminingfacts01.html

021104

Bennett, Jim

From: Rose Masters <rose.neal.masters@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 06, 2015 11:13 PM
To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001

Dear Jim Bennett,

I have read the Notice of Preparation regarding the sand mining proposal for El Monte Valley and there are several things that I feel need to be addressed before this project can be permitted by San Diego County. In my view the issues are so detrimental to the environment and human health that they cannot be mitigated.

In the NOP, it is stated that they will use one method to mine to within 5 feet of the water table, then continue to mine to the full 90 feet using another method. This indicates that they expect to get into the water table which leads me to believe that the underground flow of the San Diego river would be interrupted at this point and flow into the mining pit. I'm not a hydrologist, but it seems to me that here would be several undesired results. Please address these issues in the EIR.

1. The underground flow from upstream would no longer be restricted by the sand that it flows and filters through, so it would all drain freely out of the ground into the mining pit. This would drastically drop the water table for the entire valley upstream. It would cause wells to run dry and the beautiful old native oak trees' roots would no longer reach the water table. There would be no effective mitigation for the oak trees and the other natural flora growing in the river bed. Once they die from water deprivation, then the birds and other wild life that rely on them for cover would leave the area. The biodiversity of the area is vast and can't be restored in a few years, it takes hundreds of years to develop.
2. Mitigation for the wells would be costly, but would be necessary, since we all rely on our wells. They indicate that there would be no need for extension of water or sewer systems into the valley, but what will we use for water if they don't pay for the infrastructure to get water to our houses? There would need to be an EIR for that alone, since it would tear up land all over the valley. And are they going to reimburse us for the tens of thousands of dollars that are invested in each homeowner's existing wells, pumps, tanks, etc?
3. What will happen downstream? The water that flows out of the mine pit and continues downstream to the communities beyond will not have the advantage of the sand filtration, since it will all have been mined out. This water will carry mining waste and agricultural contamination downstream.

While we are on the topic of water, one of the mitigations that was suggested to subdue the Valley Fever threat was that they would keep the dust from blowing by spraying water over the mined areas. This would have to be a constant process since the wind blows almost non-stop in El Monte Valley. This would use a huge amount of water to be effective, 132 acre feet per year according to the NOP. This will also draw down the water table and have the effects mentioned above on the human life and flora and fauna living in the valley. In addition, the processing plant will apparently use water to wash the sand and remove the undesired "wash fines". A further demand on our limited ground water. Our wells are already low during this on-going drought. Using up so much precious water to get at sand that can be imported from elsewhere less affected by drought seems wrong. Please address the use of this finite resource in the EIR.

Speaking of Valley Fever, there are known cases of this disease in El Monte Valley. Some cases occurred after the 2003 fire, and at least one Helix Water District employee was stricken with it many years ago, I can get his name if need be. In addition, there would be the threat of silicosis, which I understand can be mitigated for mining workers by providing respiratory protection, but would be hard to mitigate for the residents of Lakeside when the silica dust becomes airborne. Please address both of these threats to human health in the EIR. The wind in El Monte Valley blows up the valley most of the time, but there are significant wind events that blow down toward Lakeside where the entire

population including school children would be at risk. Both of these diseases are debilitating and have life-long effects on the victims.

Another concern is that they will be depositing the wash fines (silt and clay) into the existing depressions (golf course ponds) and using it to build the “benches”. What will keep this dry silt from kicking up in the wind? They can’t spray it down forever. They mention that they will apply a “top dressing” and native seed mix to the wash fines that make up the benches in order to restore the lost vegetation. Anyone with gardening experience knows that silt and clay are not conducive to plant growth. If that is what you have in your yard, you are well advised to dig in large quantities of organic material to a goodly depth in order to allow air space for the roots and for proper drainage. You can’t just put down a top dressing and plant seeds. Native plants are particularly sensitive to lack of drainage. They will not grow in clay and fine silt. The native soil is a combination of all sizes of rock and grit and it is rich in organic material. The native plants send their roots deep so they can survive dry conditions. If they do grow roots down into the silt and clay, they will drown when conditions are rainy and wet because clay and silt soil does not drain the way native soils do, rather it holds the water. Southern California native plants are adapted to living in native soil and will not thrive in fine silt and clay. This form of restoration is not permanent, the plants will die and the dust will blow. Please address these concerns regarding their proposed restoration in the EIR.

Traffic is a human health and safety risk that will affect all the people of Lakeside. I think they said hundreds of trucks per day would be passing in and out of Lakeside to reach the sand mine. This will snarl traffic at Mapleview and Hwy 67, where the intersection is already overwhelmed with high school traffic and traffic passing through the area to the Barona Casino. Since sales of sand will continue even on Saturday, there will be an impact on recreational use of El Monte Rd, from bicyclists and motorists enjoying the view, to all the boaters headed to El Capitan Reservoir. This should be studied in the EIR.

And speaking of the views ... San Diego County has designated El Monte Rd as “scenic road” and the entire valley was designated a scenic corridor at some point because I remember seeing it on the maps of the area when we bought our home here in 2007. The county should have some responsibility to preserve the scenic quality of a scenic road. I can’t really think of anything worse than a beautiful view of the valley with a sand mine in the foreground. I’ve been driving through Nevada recently and sand mines are not pretty! They have said they will build walls and put in trees, but that just isn’t scenic, especially when the trees will never thrive in the wash fines they plan to plant them in. The EIR should examine this breach of County responsibility.

And then there is the potential for light pollution. El Monte Valley is one of the darkest areas in San Diego County this side of the mountains. A big industrial operation like a sand mine is bound to feel the need to “light up the night”. There is already so much light pollution in San Diego County that most people don’t even know what the Milky Way looks like. In El Monte Valley you can actually see the Milky Way, and that is one measure of darkness. The International Dark Sky Assn would be a good place to start to learn more about light pollution. This should be addressed in the EIR.

And noise pollution: the mental health issues ... please examine this in the EIR. During the construction of the PowerLink project the constant noise of the heavy lift helicopters running up and down the valley was truly depressing. The relief felt when they shut down operations at the end of the day was huge. This mining operation will contribute even more noise because of the truck traffic and the rock crushing. Please examine this issue in the EIR.

To conclude, I have to say that this beautiful valley with its rural residential and agricultural uses just doesn’t seem like an appropriate place to locate a huge industrial sand mining plant. The El Monte Valley is a resource for all of San Diego County ... equestrians, boaters, picnickers, motorists, bicyclists, hikers, glider pilots, and others from all over the county enjoy this beautiful place. The dairy farm has a program bringing school children from all over the County to learn about where their food comes from ... who would bring those kids out here if there is a threat of lung diseases? Where else can all those city kids learn about cows and milk, and how things grow? We have so few truly natural places left in the County, it is no wonder that people flock here to enjoy the views. The valley would be spoiled irrevocably by a sand mine no matter how much restoration they do.

Thank you for your consideration,
Rose Masters
14817 El Monte Rd.
Lakeside, CA 92040

Bennett, Jim

From: Barry Allen <twiggywyj9492@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 07, 2015 8:23 AM
To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: Add to the EIR

Mr. Bennett: I have shared my thoughts with other valley owners and I want you to review it and add it to my objections:

We reviewed that document originally granted authority in 1975 and re-dated 1982 Special Report 153. Seems something is missing between those dates, like "revisions" "addendum's" etc. as this report goes to "local governmental planners as an accurate, unbiased data base to assist them in the decision-making process". If that is the case, it is old and outdated.

It is my opinion that the zoning for sand mining was added in 1979 and I am still trying to extract how it was added to replace Agriculture. I can't believe the valley ownership was notified and offered the opportunity to object, as right now; it is a loud and resounding "no"! Wouldn't that have been the same then? I believe so if we had a transparent government at that juncture. I hate behind the scenes maneuvers, manipulations, decision making etc. just as Carlsbad petition reflected. I believe we have some working on us right now.

Further, if it goes to "local governmental planners" to make accurate decisions on behalf of their constituent base; it certainly is slanted towards maximizing cost of extraction and marketing, and issues targeting miners and profits; not the constituent base properties that can be affected.

So yes, the sand mining group is using it to their benefit, and I question the intent of that document relative to our Government representation. It really is all about maximizing profit. There is sand available elsewhere, but El Monte Valley would be cheap and profitable product.

I don't believe that old document should carry any weight and I also believe the County should be told.

Further, the El Monte Valley permit trail, beginning with Mark Weston on "his" sewer to tap/sand-mining permit failed after litigation over the golf course controversy followed by piggybacking the same permit onto the current Permittee, and is a lame attempt by Helix to try to recover revenues lost, not act in the best interest of stakeholders/public. Their primary object is water for public consumption.

Helix and Padre were talking about adding up to 25 new wells in the river bottom for water to sell to new customers during that controversy.

Even further, Mark Weston is now the "chair" of the San Diego County Water Authority, in direct conflict with the Governors State of Emergency water crisis; whereby 132 acre feet of water is projected by the Permittee, to separate silt from sand. 43,000,000 gallons give or take a few teaspoons full.

43,000,000 drawn from our aquifer? Right! Bennett is a groundwater geologist, does he believe the movement of underground water in that quantity will not disturb our wells or water quality? Is his capacity to just move paperwork or to use his background for the public good?

Weston is advocating conservation on TV, and in cahoots with this mass waste of water for sand. The whistle needs to be blown about this. The San Diego Water Authority must take a stand for or against this madness.

I am sending a copy of this to Bennett as one of my further objections,

Barry & Jackie Treahy
14775 El Monte Rd.

Bennett, Jim

From: Mike Ditomaso <mdjrfire@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 07, 2015 7:44 AM
To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: El Monte Sand Mine

This project will negatively impact the environment. I ride my bike down this road every week and although dangerous now, it will be 10 times more dangerous with the amount of heavy equipment that will be moving along this stretch of road. The beauty as well as the wildlife will be permanently altered for the worse if this project goes forward.

Sincerely, Mike Ditomaso, Jr.
160 Tasha View Wy
El Cajon, Ca. 92021

Bennett, Jim

From: Caprice Sander <caprice8487@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 8:02 PM
To: Bennett, Jim
Cc: robert.hingten@sdcounty.ca.gov; Orozco, Juliette; Fogg, Mindy
Subject: PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B

Dear Mr. Bennett,

I am writing to offer my thoughts and ideas about the scope and nature of the environmental impacts that can and will be caused by the El Monte Valley Sand Mining Project. I ask that these concerns be thoroughly considered in the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement.

This project will negatively impact many aspects of the environment that will affect the quality of life in Lakeside and the rest of San Diego County. The water quality and hydrology are a key component to the El Monte Valley. The natural aquifer will be destroyed if mining is allowed. This cannot be replaced once it has been raped, pillaged and plundered. The LLC proposing this project claims it will restore the area once they are done. If that is even possible, it will take several generations to do so. It isn't worth the gamble. In the meantime, water levels will be depleted, wells will dry up, contamination from destruction of the natural aquifer will happen. There is also a potential for the West Nile Virus to infiltrate the area. If so, who will pay for the containment or for any other issues that result from it?

Once the groundwater has been compromised, the rest of the ecosystem will become unbalanced. The endangered species already identified in the area will have less of a chance for survival. How many other species might be added to the endangered list? The biodiversity of the area will be compromised. No amount of restoration can bring back a species once it is gone.

Another concern is the potential for Valley Fever to spread. It's known to exist in the area. Grading and mining the area will surely disturb the spores and cause a potential public health crisis. Who will be responsible for any who become ill? Will the LLC pay for hospitalization and all the costs of treatment in addition to pain and suffering?

The quality of life for those who live in the El Monte Valley will suffer. The noise pollution, the dust, the traffic, the recreation will negatively affect their environment. Sundays will be the only day that life will be somewhat normal. This isn't acceptable.

Although I am not a resident of the El Monte Valley, I still have a vested interest in the area. Over the years, I have used El Monte Park and El Capitan reservoir. I studied the uniqueness of the area in an environmental biology class at Grossmont College 40 years ago. I want my grandchildren to have the opportunity to do the same rather than to read about how it once was before they mined the area to death.

Please be thorough and diligent as you prepare the environmental impact report. This East County "Yosemite" is jewel and treasure that needs to remain in its natural state.

Sincerely,

Caprice Hubbard Sander
619-561-1019

Caprice Hubbard Sander
Caprice8487@att.net

8740 Via Diego Terrace Lakeside

Hingtgen, Robert J

From: Catherine Gorka <catherine@pamperedparrots.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 11:45 AM
To: Bennett, Jim; Hingtgen, Robert J
Subject: No on El Monte sand mining project, my comments
Attachments: 09-07-2015 08;44;32PM.jpg; 09-07-2015 08;44;32PM2.jpg; 09-07-2015 08;44;32PM3.jpg

Dear Jim Bennett and Robert Hingtgen:

Please add this to my comments against the sand mining operation in El Monte valley please. PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2,PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO.PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B I have read the special report# 153, Mineral Land Classification: Aggregate materials in the western San Diego county production-consumption region dated 1982 by California dept of conservation Division of mines and geology I see that the El Capitan dam built in 1935 basically stopped the flow of sand, so there is no replenishing of sand in this valley and they already took most of it under their golf course project.

There is also rumors of clay so no good there for them either, plenty of other areas that are not urbanized to get it from. El Monte valley is residential, close to highway and many parks, there are many families that reside out here, this is a major negative impact to all of us. This valley has also the Sunrise Powerlink electric poles through it, we are only a few miles from both highway 8 and highway 67. This is not out in the sticks somewhere, this will impact everything including ways of fleeing should a fire start out here, there is only El Monte rd and Willow dirt road to exit west, there is no escaping heading east. Your trucks will be in our way as well and for fire trucks to access our valley. We are against this project and hold you responsible for our lives and those of our animals as well.

Sincerely,

Catherine Gorka
www.Pamperedparrots.com

Western San Diego P-C Region has shown that these rocks meet the specifications for use in PCC aggregate. These two areas have been classified as MRZ-2. One of these localities is located on the western flank of the Merrian Mountains (see plate 9) about 3 miles northeast of the city of Vista. The South East Asphalt Company has a current use permit for quarrying rock from this site, but they are not permitted to crush, screen, wash the quarried rock. Consequently, the material cannot be used for PCC aggregate. The other granitic MRZ-2 site is located within the city limits of San Marcos. This site has been mined in the past but no rock is currently being extracted. The bulk of these granitic rocks have been used for riprap although crushing material for use as aggregate base has also taken place.

AREAS CLASSIFIED MRZ-3

Areas classified as MRZ-3 are those containing mineral deposits the significance of which cannot be evaluated from available data. Most of these areas classified as MRZ-3 are located in hilly mountainous terrain. These areas include rocks from the Santiago Peak Volcanics (see page 26); granitic rocks of the Southern California Batholith; Late Cretaceous sandstones and conglomerates of the Lusardi and Cabrillo Formations (Rosario Group); Eocene sandstones and conglomerate of the Torrey Formation, the Mount Soledad, Delmar, Scripps, and Friars Formations (La Jolla Group); and the Mission Valley Formation (Ray Group); the Miocene San Onofre breccia; the Miocene-Otate Formation and associated unnamed conglomerate; Pliocene and Pleistocene sandstones belonging to the San Diego, Lindavista, and Bay Point Formations. For a detailed description of these formations see Kennedy and Peterson (1975), Kennedy and Tan (1977), and Weber (1963). The stratigraphic relationship between the above-mentioned sedimentary formations are shown on Figure 8.

Portions of the Santiago Peak Volcanics, granitic rocks of the Southern California Batholith, the San Diego Formation, and the Lindavista Formation are classified as MRZ-2. The Lindavista Formation has been included in MRZ-2 areas because it usually forms a thin sediment blanket and as such can be easily covered or mined concurrently with the underlying aggregate deposit. Alone, however, it is of lower quality and quantity than necessary to be classified MRZ-2. The San Diego Formation contains two distinct facies or rock types within it, a sandstone unit is classified as MRZ-3 and a conglomerate unit which is classified MRZ-2 and is presently being mined in the southern part of the county. Test data were available in some limited areas underlain by Santiago Peak Volcanics or granitic rocks of the Southern California Batholith. This data provided the necessary information needed in order to classify these areas as MRZ-2. Other areas underlain by these rocks were classified as MRZ-

3. Beach sand deposits lie along most of the coast of San Diego County. Beach sand is and has been mined for aggregate in other parts of the world. In San Diego, the quantities are sufficient to meet the criteria of MRZ-2 but no test data is available to judge the quality of the deposits. They are, therefore, classified MRZ-

3. Most of the major drainages in the Western San Diego County P-C Region contain alluvial deposits of an economic nature for use as aggregate material. These areas are classified MRZ-2. Alluvium too fine for economic use is also present in those same areas and is classified MRZ-1. Also, there are areas where acceptable and unacceptable quality material are intermixed in a layered fashion. These areas are classified MRZ-3 since the economics of mining and processing the acceptable material are not fully known.

In all cases in which rock units or alluvial deposits are classified MRZ-3, test data necessary to judge its quality are lacking. If some part of a deposit is not being or has not been mined for aggregate or if steps have not been taken to begin mining, then such test data are usually not available.

AREAS CLASSIFIED MRZ-4

Areas classified MRZ-4 are those areas for which available information is inadequate for assignment to any other MRZ category.

Deposits that come under this classification in the Western San Diego County P-C Region occur in large tributaries within the major drainage systems such as those of the San Diego River and Sweetwater River systems. Although the nature of the alluvium within the main river channel is known through drill logs and mining operations, that of the deposits in some of the larger tributaries is not. Without further drill-log information, these tributary areas must be classified MRZ-4.

EVALUATION OF AGGREGATE RESOURCES IN THE WESTERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

An analysis of aggregate supply in the Western San Diego County P-C Region is presented in this section of the report. The analysis was conducted on the basis of a quantitative evaluation of aggregate resources contained in the Western San Diego County P-C Region.

Much of the land within western San Diego County that has been classified MRZ-2 has already been urbanized. As a practical matter, these areas are considered to be unavailable because they have been committed to uses that preclude the extraction of aggregate. Still other unoccupied land is considered to be unavailable because its continuity is broken up into isolated properties by subdivisions, freeways, roads, powerlines, and waterways—making mining economically unfeasible. All of this unavailable land was excluded from the resource sectors.

Data Base

Much of the resource evaluation that follows is based on drill hole records of variable quality collected over a time span extending back to the early part of this century. They describe the types of earth material (silt, sand, gravel, and bedrock types) encountered at various depths. Many of the well logs which were used for resource analysis by CDMG staff were collected by Woodward-Clyde Consultants (1979), from the California Department of Water Resources, and other sources. The quality of drill hole descriptions ranges from poor to very good but only drill hole records that contained descriptions judged to be acceptable for analysis were used in the present study. Well log information provided by Woodward-Clyde and Associates (Woodward-Clyde Consultants, 1979) was also utilized for resource evaluation. Including those well log analyses made by Woodward-Clyde, over 300 such wells were analyzed for determination of resource areas. The location of these wells are shown on Plates 1-30.

In areas where well logs were not available, existing geologic maps were used as a data base (Kennedy and Peterson, 1975; Kennedy and Tan, 1977; and Weber, 1963). Geologic units were field checked in various locations although most MRZ lines were drawn on the basis of existing geologic maps.

consists of metavolcanics which must be crushed in order to be used as aggregate material.

The total resources in this area amount to 6,000 million tons. Out of this, approximately 5,900 million tons are acceptable as coarse PCC grade gravel and only 100 million tons are acceptable for PCC grade sand. This equates to a sand and gravel ratio of about 1:60. Total reserves amount to 150.7 million tons, of which 137.5 million tons are acceptable as PCC grade sand and 13.2 million tons are acceptable as coarse PCC grade gravel.

Sector J

Sector J covers an area of 34,961 acres of Eocene conglomerate terrane, including Kearny Mesa and the hills to the east, along with several isolated patches to the north and a few areas near Mission Valley, south of Kearny Mesa (Plate 33). A large, central part of the sector is on the Miramar Naval Air Station, which is outside the jurisdiction of local governments. Six producers—Fenton, Conrock, Padre Transit, Nelson Sicoan, Asphalt Inc., Sim J. Harris, and Daley Company—currently have permits to mine in ten different locations. The producers in Sector J must blend the coarse material with sand from other deposits or crushed coarse material to make PCC aggregate. Without extensive processing, only the coarse fraction of the conglomerate deposits can be used in PCC aggregate. Consequently, most of the remaining finer material is discarded, giving a waste factor of up to 40 percent. The density of the Eocene conglomerate is about .065 tons per cubic foot. The thickness of the conglomerate units can be calculated from geologic maps of the area, showing exposures of the Stadium and Pomodoro Conglomerates (Kennedy and Peterson, 1975). The thickness varies from a few tens of feet along the west margin, to over 500 feet in the eastern area. A resource of 5,810 million tons underlies Sector J, almost all (5,780 million tons) consisting of coarse aggregate.

Sector K

Exposed in the walls along the southwest part of Mission Gorge underlying an area of 386 acres are metavolcanic rocks of the Santiago Peak Volcanics. Crushed rock for concrete aggregate is being produced from this material by the V. R. Dennis Company. Data from the company indicates that the density of the rock here is about 0.090 tons per cubic foot with about 5 percent waste. The highest exposures stand about 300 feet above the San Diego River drainage level, which was the base level used for the resource calculation. A total crushed rock resource of 140 million tons underlies Sector K. About 20 percent of the material (30 million tons) is recovered as sand size material during normal crushing operations. The remaining material (110 million tons) is coarse aggregate material. Other similar exposures of metavolcanic rocks are nearby, but lack of test data precludes classifying those areas as MRZ-2.

Sector L

Sector L includes two plots of land in the San Diego River alluvial plain in Mission Valley with a total area of 314 acres. Fenton Materials and Conrock Company still control parcels in this sector but have ceased mining the predominantly sand resource. Heavy urbanization surrounds Sector L. Well logs of holes drilled in the alluvium of the lower San Diego River show an average depth of suitable aggregate of 60 feet. The waste in this material is about 10 percent and the density is about .065 tons per cubic foot. A calculated 50 million tons of aggregate resource lies within these nonurbanized areas in Mission Valley. Of this total, 40 million tons are acceptable as PCC grade sand and 10 million tons are acceptable as coarse PCC grade gravel.

UPPER SAN DIEGO RIVER

Sector M

Within the upper San Diego River alluvial plain twelve aggregate pits supply the urban San Diego area with the majority of its sand and gravel needs. Sector M covers 2,150 acres of contiguous nonurbanized river channel from the upper end of Mission Gorge to within a mile of El Capitan Dam. Drill holes in this area (see cross-section C-C', Plate 38) record an average thickness of suitable aggregate of 155 feet, with the top 20 to 60 feet predominantly sand underlain by sand and gravel and a basal layer of gravel and boulders. Fifteen percent of the material is waste. Using a density factor of 0.055 tons per cubic foot, a total resource of 540 million tons of aggregate is estimated to underlie Sector M. Total resources of PCC quality sand for Sector M are estimated at 300 million tons, of which 21.8 million tons consist of reserves. Coarse PCC quality aggregate resources total 240 million tons, of which only 1.7 million tons consist of reserves. El Capitan Dam stops any major replenishment of these resources from upstream.

SWEETWATER RIVER

The Sweetwater River is in southwestern San Diego County. The river valley is lightly urbanized along most of its length. The upper half of the river is dammed by the Sweetwater Reservoir Dam. Drill log data, diagrammed on the cross-section D-D'' (Plate 38), indicates that some areas of the Sweetwater River floodplain are blanketed by layers of silty fine sand. Mining in these areas is not known to be economically feasible at the present and consequently these areas are classified as MRZ-3. The remaining areas are underlain by an upper layer which is predominantly sand and a lower layer of sand and gravel. These areas have been classified as MRZ-2 and are designated Sectors N, O, P, and Q, which together cover an area of 1,133 acres. A significant portion of the sand reserves for the southern part of the PC region are within these sectors. The alluvium near the mouths of two major tributaries to Sweetwater River is classified MRZ-4 due to lack of data. The total aggregate resource in this area is 80 million tons, of which 60 million tons is sand and the remaining 20 million tons is gravel. Replenishment of aggregate material is possible in Sectors O, P, and Q from upstream sources. The Sweetwater Reservoir Dam curtails the replenishment of Sector N. The total sand and gravel reserves for the Sweetwater River amount to 35.1 million tons of which 22.8 million tons consist of PCC quality sand and 8.5 million tons are PCC coarse material.

Sector N

Sector N is an area of about 150 acres. It is located in the lower part of the Sweetwater River Channel near the community of Sunnyside. Most of the sector is occupied by an inactive sand quarry located upstream from the Chula Vista golf course. The County of San Diego has condemned this property in order to build a regional park. Consequently, mining ceased in 1980. Well logs indicate that sand in this area extends to depths of at least 60 feet. The deposit is almost entirely sand. The average waste factor which was used for resource determination in Sector N is 25 percent. The density of the sand is estimated to be 0.055 tons per cubic foot. There are no sand and gravel companies presently operating within this sector and there are no reserves. Resources for Sector N amount to 10 million tons of sand. Very little coarse material exists within the sector.

Resources (reserves and non-permitted resources) for the Western San Diego County P-C Region amount to approximately 11,000 million tons, of which approximately 7,900 million tons consist of coarse concrete aggregate and 3,100 million tons consist of concrete sand. It should be noted that these large aggregate resource tonnage figures represent the total quantity of aggregate material that is geologically and technologically available for mining. Except for the exclusion of urbanized areas,

they do not reflect such constraints to mining as current land use or political, sociological, environmental, and other factors.

Aggregate resources not currently under permit may be translated into reserves by (1) extending the operating life of existing operations where there are resources available beneath the permitted depth of mining, (2) opening new operations, (3) developing alternate resources such as off-shore sand, and/or (4) crushing coarse material to sand-size particles.

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Bennett, Jim

From: Catherine Gorka <catherine@pamperedparrots.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 11:45 AM
To: Bennett, Jim; Hingtgen, Robert J
Subject: No on El Monte sand mining project, my comments
Attachments: 09-07-2015 08;44;32PM.jpg; 09-07-2015 08;44;32PM2.jpg; 09-07-2015 08;44;32PM3.jpg

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Jim Bennett and Robert Hingtgen:

Please add this to my comments against the sand mining operation in El Monte valley please. PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2,PDS2015-RP-15-001, LOG NO.PDS2015-ER-98-14-016B I have read the special report# 153, Mineral Land Classification: Aggregate materials in the western San Diego county production-consumption region dated 1982 by California dept of conservation Division of mines and geology I see that the El Capitan dam built in 1935 basically stopped the flow of sand, so there is no replenishing of sand in this valley and they already took most of it under their golf course project.

There is also rumors of clay so no good there for them either, plenty of other areas that are not urbanized to get it from. El Monte valley is residential, close to highway and many parks, there are many families that reside out here, this is a major negative impact to all of us. This valley has also the Sunrise Powerlink electric poles through it, we are only a few miles from both highway 8 and highway 67. This is not out in the sticks somewhere, this will impact everything including ways of fleeing should a fire start out here, there is only El Monte rd and Willow dirt road to exit west, there is no escaping heading east. Your trucks will be in our way as well and for fire trucks to access our valley. We are against this project and hold you responsible for our lives and those of our animals as well.
Sincerely,

Catherine Gorka
www.Pamperedparrots.com

The Western San Diego P-C Region has shown that these rocks meet the specifications for use in PCC aggregate. These two areas have been classified as MRZ-2. One of these localities is situated on the western flanks of the Merriam Mountains (see plate 9) about 3 miles northeast of the city of Vista. The South East Asphalt Company has a current use permit for quarrying rock from this site, but they are not permitted to crush, screen, wash the quarried rock. Consequently, the material cannot be used for PCC aggregate. The other granitic MRZ-2 site is located within the city limits of San Marcos. This site has been mined in the past but no rock is currently being extracted. The bulk of these granitic rocks have been used for riprap although crushing material for use as aggregate base has also taken place.

AREAS CLASSIFIED MRZ-3

Areas classified as MRZ-3 are those containing mineral deposits, the significance of which cannot be evaluated from available data. Most of these areas classified as MRZ-3 are located in hilly or mountainous terrain. These areas include rocks from the Santiago Peak Volcanics (see page 26); granitic rocks of the Southern California Batholith; Late Cretaceous sandstones and conglomerates of the Lusardi and Cabrillo Formations (Rosario Group); Eocene sandstones and conglomerate of the Torrey Sandstone, the Mount Soledad, Delmar, Scripps, and Friars Formations (La Jolla Group); and the Mission Valley Formation (Loway Group); the Miocene San Onofre breccia; the Miocene-Oligocene Otay Formation and associated unnamed conglomerate; and Pliocene and Pleistocene sandstones belonging to the San Diego, Lindavista, and Bay Point Formations. For a detailed description of these formations see Kennedy and Peterson (1975), Kennedy and Tan (1977), and Weber (1963). The stratigraphic relationship between the above-mentioned sedimentary formations are shown on Figure 8.

Portions of the Santiago Peak Volcanics, granitic rocks of the Southern California Batholith, the San Diego Formation, and the Lindavista Formation are classified as MRZ-2. The Lindavista Formation has been included in MRZ-2 areas because it generally forms a thin sediment blanket and as such can be easily moved or mined concurrently with the underlying aggregate deposit. Alone, however, it is of lower quality and quantity than necessary to be classified MRZ-2. The San Diego Formation has two distinct facies or rock types within it, a sandstone unit which is classified as MRZ-3 and a conglomerate unit which is classified MRZ-2 and is presently being mined in the southern part of the county. Test data were available in some limited areas underlain by Santiago Peak Volcanics or granitic rocks of the Southern California Batholith. This data provided the necessary information needed in order to classify these areas as MRZ-2. Other areas underlain by these rocks were classified as MRZ-

each sand deposits lie along most of the coast of San Diego County. Beach sand is and has been mined for aggregate in other parts of the world. In San Diego, the quantities are sufficient to meet the criteria of MRZ-2 but no test data is available to judge quality of the deposits. They are, therefore, classified MRZ-

Most of the major drainages in the Western San Diego County P-C Region contain alluvial deposits of an economic nature for use as aggregate material. These areas are classified MRZ-2. Alluvium too fine for economic use is also present in those same drainages and is classified MRZ-1. Also, there are areas where acceptable and unacceptable quality material are intermixed usually in layered fashion. These areas are classified MRZ-3 because the economics of mining and processing the acceptable material are not fully known.

In all cases in which rock units or alluvial deposits are classified MRZ-3, test data necessary to judge its quality are lacking. If some part of a deposit is not being or has not been mined for aggregate or if steps have not been taken to begin mining, then such test data are usually not available.

AREAS CLASSIFIED MRZ-4

Areas classified MRZ-4 are those areas for which available information is inadequate for assignment to any other MRZ category.

Deposits that come under this classification in the Western San Diego County P-C Region occur in large tributaries within the major drainage systems such as those of the San Diego River and Sweetwater River systems. Although the nature of the alluvium within the main river channel is known through drill logs and mining operations, that of the deposits in some of the larger tributaries is not. Without further drill-log information, these tributary areas must be classified MRZ-4.

EVALUATION OF AGGREGATE RESOURCES IN THE WESTERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

An analysis of aggregate supply in the Western San Diego County P-C Region is presented in this section of the report. The analysis was conducted on the basis of a quantitative evaluation of aggregate resources contained in the Western San Diego County P-C Region.

Much of the land within western San Diego County that has been classified MRZ-2 has already been urbanized. As a practical matter, these areas are considered to be unavailable because they have been committed to uses that preclude the extraction of aggregate. Still other unoccupied land is considered to be unavailable because its continuity is broken up into isolated properties by subdivisions, freeways, roads, powerlines, and waterways—making mining economically unfeasible. All of this unavailable land was excluded from the resource sectors.

Data Base

Much of the resource evaluation that follows is based on drill hole records of variable quality collected over a time span extending back to the early part of this century. They describe the types of earth material (silt, sand, gravel, and bedrock types) encountered at various depths. Many of the well logs which were used for resource analysis by CDMG staff were collected by Woodward-Clyde Consultants (1979), from the California Department of Water Resources, and other sources. The quality of drill hole descriptions ranges from poor to very good but only drill hole records that contained descriptions judged to be acceptable for analysis were used in the present study. Well log information provided by Woodward-Clyde and Associates (Woodward-Clyde Consultants, 1979) was also utilized for resource evaluation. Including those well log analyses made by Woodward-Clyde, over 300 such wells were analyzed for determination of resource areas. The location of these wells are shown on Plates 1-30.

In areas where well logs were not available, existing geologic maps were used as a data base (Kennedy and Peterson, 1975; Kennedy and Tan, 1977; and Weber, 1963). Geologic units were field checked in various locations although most MRZ lines were drawn on the basis of existing geologic maps.

consists of metavolcanics which must be crushed in order to be used as aggregate material.

The total resources in this area amount to 6,000 million tons. Out of this, approximately 5,900 million tons are acceptable as coarse PCC grade gravel and only 100 million tons are acceptable for PCC grade sand. This equates to a sand and gravel ratio of about 1:60. Total reserves amount to 150.7 million tons, of which 137.5 million tons are acceptable as PCC grade sand and 13.2 million tons are acceptable as coarse PCC grade gravel.

Sector J

Sector J covers an area of 34,961 acres of Eocene conglomerate terrane, including Kearny Mesa and the hills to the east, along with several isolated patches to the north and a few areas near Mission Valley, south of Kearny Mesa (Plate 33). A large, central part of the sector is on the Miramar Naval Air Station, which is outside the jurisdiction of local governments. Six producers—Fenton, Conrock, Padre Transit, Nelson Sloan, Asphalt Inc., Sim J. Harris, and Daley Company—currently have permits to mine in ten different locations. The producers in Sector J must blend the coarse material with sand from other deposits or crushed coarse material to make PCC aggregate. Without extensive processing, only the coarse fraction of the conglomerate deposits can be used in PCC aggregate. Consequently, most of the remaining finer material is discarded, giving a waste factor of up to 40 percent. The density of the Eocene conglomerate is about .065 tons per cubic foot. The thickness of the conglomerate units can be calculated from geologic maps of the area, showing exposures of the Stadium and Pomerado Conglomerates (Kennedy and Peterson, 1975). The thickness varies from a few tens of feet along the west margin, to over 500 feet in the eastern area. A resource of 5,810 million tons underlies Sector J, almost all (5,780 million tons) consisting of coarse aggregate.

Sector K

Exposed in the walls along the southwest part of Mission Gorge underlying an area of 386 acres are metavolcanic rocks of the Santiago Peak Volcanics. Crushed rock for concrete aggregate is being produced from this material by the V. R. Dennis Company. Data from the company indicates that the density of the rock here is about 0.090 tons per cubic foot with about 5 percent waste. The highest exposures stand about 300 feet above the San Diego River drainage level, which was the base level used for the resource calculation. A total crushed rock resource of 140 million tons underlies Sector K. About 20 percent of the material (30 million tons) is recovered as sand size material during normal crushing operations. The remaining material (110 million tons) is coarse aggregate material. Other similar exposures of metavolcanic rocks are nearby, but lack of test data precludes classifying those areas as MRZ-2.

Sector L

Sector L includes two plots of land in the San Diego River alluvial plain in Mission Valley with a total area of 314 acres. Fenton Materials and Conrock Company still control parcels in this sector but have ceased mining the predominantly sand resource. Heavy urbanization surrounds Sector L. Well logs of holes drilled in the alluvium of the lower San Diego River show an average depth of suitable aggregate of 60 feet. The waste in this material is about 10 percent and the density is about .065 tons per cubic foot. A calculated 50 million tons of aggregate resource lies within these nonurbanized areas in Mission Valley. Of this total, 40 million tons are acceptable as PCC grade sand and 10 million tons are acceptable as coarse PCC grade gravel.

UPPER SAN DIEGO RIVER

Sector M

Within the upper San Diego River alluvial plain twelve aggregate pits supply the urban San Diego area with the majority of its sand and gravel needs. Sector M covers 2,150 acres of contiguous nonurbanized river channel from the upper end of Mission Gorge to within a mile of El Capitan Dam. Drill holes in this area (see cross-section C-C', Plate 38) record an average thickness of suitable aggregate of 155 feet, with the top 20 to 60 feet predominantly sand underlain by sand and gravel and a basal layer of gravel and boulders. Fifteen percent of the material is waste. Using a density factor of 0.055 tons per cubic foot, a total resource of 540 million tons of aggregate is estimated to underlie Sector M. Total resources of PCC quality sand for Sector M are estimated at 300 million tons, of which 21.8 million tons consist of reserves. Coarse PCC quality aggregate resources total 240 million tons, of which only 1.7 million tons consist of reserves. El Capitan Dam stops any major replenishment of these resources from upstream.

SWEETWATER RIVER

The Sweetwater River is in southwestern San Diego County. The river valley is lightly urbanized along most of its length. The upper half of the river is dammed by the Sweetwater Reservoir Dam. Drill log data, diagrammed on the cross-section D-D'' (Plate 38), indicates that some areas of the Sweetwater River floodplain are blanketed by layers of silty fine sand. Mining in these areas is not known to be economically feasible at the present and consequently these areas are classified as MRZ-3. The remaining areas are underlain by an upper layer which is predominantly sand and a lower layer of sand and gravel. These areas have been classified as MRZ-2 and are designated Sectors N, O, P, and Q, which together cover an area of 1,133 acres. A significant portion of the sand reserves for the southern part of the PC region are within these sectors. The alluvium near the mouths of two major tributaries to Sweetwater River is classified MRZ-4 due to lack of data. The total aggregate resource in this area is 80 million tons, of which 60 million tons is sand and the remaining 20 million tons is gravel. Replenishment of aggregate material is possible in Sectors O, P, and Q from upstream sources. The Sweetwater Reservoir Dam curtails the replenishment of Sector N. The total sand and gravel reserves for the Sweetwater River amount to 35.1 million tons of which 22.8 million tons consist of PCC quality sand and 8.5 million tons are PCC coarse material.

Sector N

Sector N is an area of about 150 acres. It is located in the lower part of the Sweetwater River Channel near the community of Sunnyside. Most of the sector is occupied by an inactive sand quarry located upstream from the Chula Vista golf course. The County of San Diego has condemned this property in order to build a regional park. Consequently, mining ceased in 1980. Well logs indicate that sand in this area extends to depths of at least 60 feet. The deposit is almost entirely sand. The average waste factor which was used for resource determination in Sector N is 25 percent. The density of the sand is estimated to be 0.055 tons per cubic foot. There are no sand and gravel companies presently operating within this sector and there are no reserves. Resources for Sector N amount to 10 million tons of sand. Very little coarse material exists within the sector.

Resources (reserves and non-permitted resources) for the Western San Diego County P-C Region amount to approximately 11,000 million tons, of which approximately 7,900 million tons consist of coarse concrete aggregate and 3,100 million tons consist of concrete sand. It should be noted that these large aggregate resource tonnage figures represent the total quantity of aggregate material that is geologically and technologically available for mining. Except for the exclusion of urbanized areas,

they do not reflect such constraints to mining as current land use or political, sociological, environmental, and other factors.

Aggregate resources not currently under permit may be translated into reserves by (1) extending the operating life of existing operations where there are resources available beneath the permitted depth of mining, (2) opening new operations, (3) developing alternate resources such as off-shore sand, and/or (4) crushing coarse material to sand-size particles.

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DATE: September 8, 2015 (This is a 2 page letter)

TO: Jim Bennett, County of San Diego Planning & Development Svcs
5510 Overland Ave, Suite 310, San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 694-3820
Email: jim.bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov

FROM: Diana Jackson, Lakeside Resident
Email: dianajk@earthlink.net

SUBJECT: El Monte Sand Mine (PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2,
PDS2015-RP-15-001 OBJECTIONS!

Over the last few months, I have attended three public meetings that presented information about this terrible project. I object strongly to this project, and I do not live in El Monte Valley; instead I live in on the other side of Lakeside. However, this project will impact me personally and will have an overall negative impact on the entire Lakeside community.

It is incredible that the owners and developers would consider a project that can go on for 15 to 50 years. It is incredible they consider it acceptable to destroy the only pristine area left in Lakeside. It is incredible they don't care about the negative environmental and community consequences.

Water resources will be contaminated, possibly beyond any use at all. Wildlife will be chased away, possibly forever for certain species. Once this gets started, there is no way to keep it under control, as greed and finances will ignore all other considerations.

You can tell that I am strongly opposed to any part of this project!

On the other hand, if the owner and developer really wanted to be fair, they would offer to do this project under the following circumstances:

Conduct total operations on only one acre at a time. Once the park is finished in the last stage, continue to the next acre. Now this won't give them the economies of scale they prefer, but neither will it contribute the scale of destruction in our community.

These operations would be reviewed once a year, and only when approved, then will continue for the next year. A committee will be appointed (under the Lakeside Planning Group) to do the review and incremental approvals.

All activities and financial arrangements on the project would have total transparency to the LPG and any part of the public upon a 7-day request.

A huge bond or cash amount would be set aside before the project starts at all. This could be held by the County and it would be for cleanup and parks. It also would be reviewed every year and will be used as recommended by the Lakeside committee.

Monthly public meetings on this project would be held in Lakeside, hosted by the County. Findings would be submitted to the Board of Supervisors.

Again, I disapprove of any part of this project because it ignores our community, the residents affected in so many negative ways, the loss of property values throughout Lakeside, and in general the insulting manner it is being presented now and in recent years. Putting a pleasant name on a group that has only greed and destruction on their minds does not change what they represent. "You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear." And those groups are not going to be fair to our community in any way, shape, or form!

Please take action to stop this project right now.

Thank you,

Diana Jackson

EL MONTE SAND MINE & NATURE PRESERVE

PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD**

August 13, 2015 through September 14, 2015

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING COMMENT SHEET

NOP Scoping Meeting August 26, 2015
Lakeside Community Center
9841 Vine Street
Lakeside, California 92040

WRITTEN COMMENT FORM

* Valley Fever becoming a problem & Sand mining
Stirs it up, with winds carrying it through Lakeside.

* West Nile virus found in valley, mining pits and ponds
will further increase breeding for mosquitoes.

* Heavy mining traffic coming through Lakeside on a daily basis

* Erosion will become more of a problem.

(Attach additional pages as needed)

Dodi Bell 9/2/15
Signature Date

Dodi Bell
Print Name

8470 Zeta Street
Address

Lamesa CA 91942
City State Zip Code

MAIL or E-MAIL COMMENTS TO:

Jim Bennett
County of San Diego
Planning & Development Services
5510 Overland Ave, Suite 310
San Diego, CA 92123
Phone#: (858) 694-3820
e-mail: jim.bennett@sdcounty.ca.gov

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

Bennett, Jim

From: Michael Miller <plumbmkm@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 08, 2015 3:13 PM
To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: El Monte Nature Preserve LLC... sand mining in El Monte Valley!
Attachments: Scan_Doc0008.jpg

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Mr Bennett,

The foregoing information is my interpretation of the documents provided by the County of San Diego, from their updated version dated August 13th, 2015 of The Notice of Preparation Document. My drawing is not to scale and i have added features that aren't on the counties MUP set of plans. The proposed sand mining operation information is only a proposal of what activities might occur, following very strict regulations and rules as set forth by governing agencies of The State of California and The Federal Government. As with almost all projects of this type, things don't always go according to the most thought out plans, mistakes are made, accidents happen!

The site contains 530 acres of river bottom land, presently owned by The Helix Water District. The EMNPLLC has proposed, not promised nor guaranteed... that they will follow their proposal guidelines and approved mining industry practices. The proposed sand mining pit dug to a depth of 90 feet and is said to cover 188 acres, plus another 18 acres in the golf course pond area, will be used as a dump, either slurry pumping or trucking the waste fines from the sand processing operation. It's not clear just what they mean, when they said that they will bury the waste fines, if it means filling the three ponds to grade level or if they plan to pile the waste fines in the three ponds to a height higher than the surrounding ground level. The remainder of the site is proposed to contain, haul/access roads and recreational trails. No details were provided!

About my drawing.... It's a side view cutaway of either the north, south and west sides of the pit.

- A. Existing Public Roads along the north and south sides (el monte rd. or willow rd.). A private access road along the west end, on Hanson Pond property adjoining the proposed sand mining project site.

B... A 100 foot proposed setback, from the sites property lines, to the edge of the excavated pit. Starting at one end of the drop structure, following the property line around till it reaches the other end of the drop structure. There is proposed a 300 foot setback, between the drop structure and the nearby houses property line.

C... A proposed 8 foot high berm, built along the north and south sides of the excavated pit, for sound abatement and pit privacy. Made up from existing on site materials... it's proposed in the NOP document, that the berm will be planted after it's formed, with assorted vegetation species, listed on the reclamation tables. It's also stated that when mining ceases, the berm area will be graded to match surrounding grades and contours. Then the berm area will be planted, with native species listed on the reclamation tables.

D... Proposed at or near ground water level, three shelves radiating out from the water's edge, made from waste fines, each shelf 36 feet wide, with a 3 foot sloped rise, between 1&2 and 2&3, beginning at the north and south ends of the drop structure, then as progress westward is made, the waste fines from the sand processing operation will be placed on the shelf, a proposed thickness of the waste fines is not given. After each/any landform (the 3 shelves) that becomes available, as each phase is completed, it's proposed that that area will be fine graded, topped with a nutrient topsoil dirt mixture, prepared for planting and native plants taken from the list on the reclamation table.

E... Proposed approximation, 40 feet from ground level to ground water.

F... Proposed approximation, 50 feet from ground water level, to pit bottom.

G... Proposed 2:1 slope, from ground level to 120 foot shelf, at or near ground water level.

H...Proposed 120 foot shelf, at or near ground water level. Where waste fines will be deposited, along with a layer of top soil, then native plants will be planted.

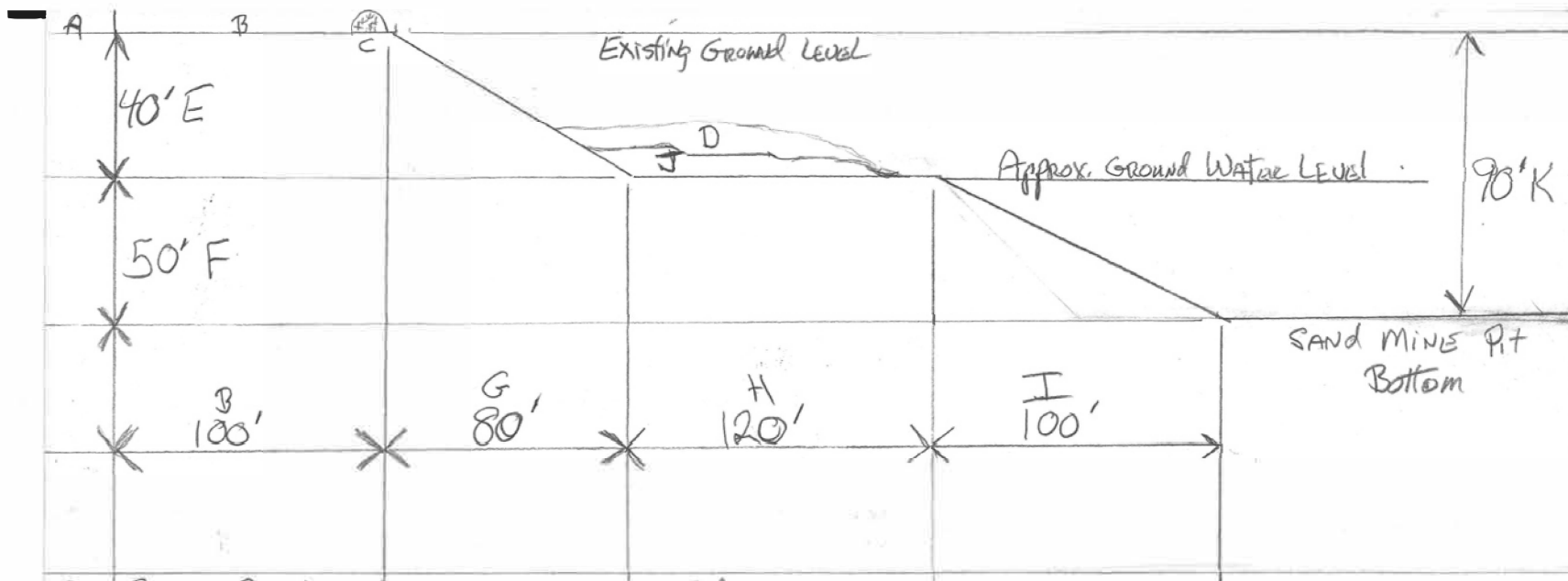
I... Proposed 3:1 slope, below ground water level.

J... Proposed layer of topsoil, placed over the waste fines.

K... Proposed approximation, 90 foot deep excavated sand pit.

You need to remember that these plans and documents are just for proposal purposes!! They are just to give everyone an idea of the activities and the end result of the sand mining operation!! Anything can happen to change their plans... hell they could even strike gold finding nuggets the size of golf balls!!!

Thank you,
Michael Miller



Hingtgen, Robert J

To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: RE: PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001 (

From: Lynette Lyon [<mailto:llyon@sdccd.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 3:57 PM
To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001 (

Dear Mr. Bennett,

I am writing this letter to protest the potential sand mining project on EL Monte Road in Lakeside. I have enjoyed this beautiful river valley for more than 25 years as an equestrian and hiker. The trails here are irreplaceable and harbor a diverse population of native Californian wildlife. I have seen coyotes, weasels, deer, foxes, golden eagles, hawks, all manner of reptiles and many various types of birds. On one occasion I actually observed a desert tortoise, a species which is endangered. I also found a horned lizard on the trail and I understand that this type of reptile may be considered endangered in the near future. I believe that this project will ruin the river valley for more than 15 years as this is a long term project, with no area to mitigate the destruction and no promise that it could ever be restored to the current beauty that exists. The dust, noise and traffic will affect the valley in a negative way, all the way to highway 67. The trucks will be problematic for those driving the curvy country roads and the dust from this project will be problematic for those of us with asthma as the wind courses through the valley both east and west. Another concern is the disease coccidioidomycosis, a fungal disease found to be endemic to the southwest and which is caused by the inhalation of coccidioides spores when dust is created by heavy construction or mining. This disease has been found to be on the rise possibly from the drought and recent weather patterns. (please see the University of Davis website). It is for the above stated reasons that I remain opposed to the sand mine project. Please save this wonderful river valley and animal habitat for us and future generations.

Respectfully,
S. Lynette Lyon

Hingtgen, Robert J

To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: RE: comments for EIR El Monty Valley

From: Robin Pawl [<mailto:robinpawl@nethere.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 3:32 PM
To: Bennett, Jim
Subject: comments for EIR El Monty Valley

Jim Bennett ~

The oak trees in El Monte Valley are a significant link in the biodiversity of the habitat. How many animal and plant species (including insects and fungi) are linked to the oaks?

How is the strip mining project going to replace the oak trees? Some of the trees are a century or more old.

I was told by Crystal Howard the “grove” of oaks at the east end of the project would be left. They are not a grove. They are a few individuals struggling to survive after the ground around them was graded away for the golf course. Some of them have died. The drought has made it very difficult for them to recover from the ground disturbance around them.

How many oak trees are going to be removed?

How many oak trees are going to be replaced?

Will the new habitat “restored” by the strip miners be able to support oak trees?

How is the wood from the trees going to be processed or removed?

http://ucanr.edu/sites/gsobinfo/Recovery/Oak_Woodland_Recovery/

For a century, there has been concern in California that several species of native oaks are not regenerating sufficiently. Poor regeneration not only threatens the oak forests themselves, but also the wildlife that utilize oak resources. It could also impact recreation, water quality and quantity, the state's visual landscape and lead to the spread of noxious weeds.

The Integrated Hardwood Range Management Program (IHRMP) is a statewide Program was established to address this widespread concern for native California oaks. Now the Programs focus is on maintaining and increasing acreage of California's hardwood range resources. These woodlands provide wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, wood and livestock products, high quality water supply, and aesthetic value.

The Gold Spotted Oak Borer (GSOB) is a recently discovered insect that has been decimating coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) and California black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*) stands in Southern California, so far exclusively in San Diego County. There is considerable concern about GSOB, along with other insects and diseases that are currently attacking and causing mortality among the oaks of southern California.