

I-269 Donna McClelland

Comment Letter I-269

**From:** Donna McClelland <dmcmc@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 14, 2017 11:28 AM  
**To:** Smith, Ashley  
**Cc:** dmcmc@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Newland Sierra Draft EIR

Attn: Ashley Smith, Environmental Planner  
County of San Diego  
5510 Overland Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92123

RE: NEWLAND SIERRA DRAFT EIR

Dear Ms. Smith:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Newland Sierra Development. After reviewing the document, I have a list of concerns in addition to the ones my neighbors have (outlined below):

I-269-1

1. What is going to happen to all the wildlife while they blast away the rocks with dynamite? Do they move closer to town where they will die out eventually or will they die immediately from concussions?
2. And while they are blasting away for 5 years, we, who moved out to the country for peace and quiet and nature, are going to have to listen to the noise, feel our houses and windows shake, and deal with the dust.
3. And, BECAUSE N.S. has to use dynamite to blast out a place to build all these homes, wouldn't you agree that maybe they are not building in an area suited for housing? They need to build where they don't have to blast up all those beautiful boulders and kill all those innocent animals.

I-269-2

I-269-3

I-269-4

Finally, after 10 years of meetings between County residents and staff, not to mention the millions of the dollars spent on the development of General Plan, the County Board of Supervisors approved the County's General Plan. When the plan was approved, this Supervisors not only agreed this area to protect this area from over-development, but they agreed to downzone the entire property to 99 units from 200 units. In an effort to support and respect the integrity provisions of the General Plan, I urge you to recommend against the Newland Development and continue to safeguard this sensitive rural corridor.

I-269-5

Thank you for your consideration,

Donna McClelland  
11292 Atchison Way  
Valley Center, CA 92082

ISSUE AREAS:

Wildlife Connectivity

- The project is proposed in a sensitive area; if developed, critical north/south and east/west wildlife corridors would be severed.

I-269-6

# Comment Letters

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- Newland Sierra has sought special treatment, or a “carve out” of the regional biological mitigation plan, before the plan has even been adopted by the County and federal and state wildlife agencies.  
Cultural Resources I-269-7
- The project would impact significant cultural resources, particularly by expanding Deer Springs Road – including a site with Native American human remains.  
Traffic I-269-8
- Newland Sierra would generate 28,000 new trips per day to our local roads. I-269-9
- Newland Sierra brings I-15 traffic to level “F” since no new freeway lands and no new transit infrastructure is proposed. I-269-10
- Newland Sierra proposes to widen Deer Springs Road to six lanes and build a new I-15 interchange, drawing thousands of cut-through commuters. Yet, Newland plans to start building before CALTRANS finishes its analysis and approval of a re-designed interchange at Deer Springs Road and I-15.  
Water I-269-11
- The Vallecitos Water District projects a water supply deficit for the next 20 years. I-269-12
- The District’s Water Supply Assessment requires a 36% water supply cut to existing customers in order to serve the Newland Sierra development.  
Fire I-269-13
- Newland Sierra is proposed in a “Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.” I-269-14
- Newland Sierra does not provide enough emergency access routes in the event of a fire. Gridlock during an evacuation would compromise the safety of the entire region.  
Planning/Smart Growth
- The County Board of Supervisors spent millions of dollars and 10 years developing a General Plan that protected, in fact downzoned, this area. A few years ago the Board of Supervisors voted to approve the plan and protect this area from development.  
GHG
- The County has not completed its Climate Action Plan, therefore the County should not consider Newland Sierra until it’s done.
- The Golden Door and Sierra Club recently won a trial court decision invalidating the County’s threshold for measuring greenhouse gas “GHG” impacts.