

I-278 Jon Mehtlan

Comment Letter I-278

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Date: July 23, 2017

To: Ashley Smith  
County Project Manager  
San Diego County

Subject: Newland Sierra Project  
Draft Environmental Impact Report

The following comments are concerns regarding the impacts that may be realized on traffic on Deer Springs Road between Interstate 15 and southerly to Olive Avenue.

Deer Springs Road is currently and for many years, congested with commute traffic during morning and evening rush hours. Any impacts to traffic due to increased volume associated with the addition of more than 2,000 dwelling units is unsustainable unless improvements to Deer Springs Road are incorporated into the design of the Newland Sierra project.

In order to design road improvements, many studies and investigations need to be performed in the field to ascertain the suitability of the native geologic conditions. Geotechnical investigations will need access to the adjacent formations by means of temporary roads and staging areas to accommodate drilling equipment, personnel, vehicles and testing equipment. These types of investigations are usually performed every 500 feet or so and in the case DSR on both sides of the road. Due to the rugged terrain, I would guess these operations could last up to 2 years.

Following EIR acceptance, construction for road improvements, retaining walls on both sides, importing fill materials, scrutiny by biologists and environmentalists would probably add 2 more years to the project before actual house construction could begin. Disruption of DSR will certainly impact nearby surface roads as commuters look for other avenues to avoid using SR 78.

Finally, this project is unacceptable to my family and I'm sure to most if not all of Twin Oaks families that use Deer Springs Road.

Jon F. Mehtlan and Carol A. Mehtlan

E-copy to Pat Hunter

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