

I-69 Elizabeth Cate

Comment Letter I-69

From: Elizabeth Cate
To: Smith, Ashley
Subject: Comments to Newland Sierra Project
Date: Monday, August 14, 2017 3:41:11 PM

RE: NEWLAND SIERRA LOG NO. PDS2015-ER-15-08-001; SCH NO. 2015021036; PROJECT NOS. PDS2015-GPA-15-001, PDS2015-SP-15-001, PDS2015-REZ-15-001, PDS2015-TM-5597, PDSXXXX-HLP-XXX

County Board of Supervisors:

Double-cross. Double-cross is what this project as proposed will do to the residents in the surrounding areas, including Hidden Meadows where I live. Homeowners purchased their homes in this area with the factual knowledge that the vicinity was semi-rural and offering a country environment, zoned specifically to NOT be plagued with an overly dense project such as is proposed. Too many people! Too many cars! Destruction of habitat! These are the consequences that the Newland Sierra project promises to deliver to the area.

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During my residency in Hidden Meadows, I have observed a substantial loss of presence of hawks and owls. Mammals are disappearing as well – what used to be regular sightings of coyote, raccoon, possum, skunk, and bobcat are now few and far between. The Newland Sierra project will decimate what little is left of the open vistas and open space, and these lovely animals will disappear forever to be replaced with horrid and dangerous human congestion. As San Diego county growth sprawls, the pleasure of enjoying wildlife and habitat has eroded. Natural areas are disappearing, and the man-made “natural” spaces are overrun by hordes of people to the extent that enjoyment is impossible.

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Traveling the I-15 corridor is a nightmare.

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Risk of wild fire is significant, and an evacuation of the area will result in dangerous congestion and standstill traffic as residents attempt to flee their homes.

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I have the privilege of having horses in my life, and I can tell you that the opportunity to enjoy riding trails in the county is disappearing. The only areas I can possibly find any peace and quiet is to travel farther and farther east with my horses. I am a native San Diegan, and it breaks my heart to see how horrible this place has become. Will I stay here much longer? No. The overpopulation is pushing me away, but by speaking out against this project I hope to preserve what little is left of the beauty of this region for future generations. Let Newland build a project pursuant to the existing zoning – this was the deal that was struck and taxpayers paid for to create the general plan and the density basis upon which residents bought their homes. Do not double-cross us.

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Thank you for your considering my input,

Elizabeth Cate
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