

I-174 Martha and Stephan Hacker

I-174-1 The comment states that we live in a semi desert region that depends on another state to collect enough water just to meet our basic needs. The County notes the comment provides factual background information. EIR Section 2.14 Utilities and Service Systems includes an analysis on the sufficiency of water supplies. The County will include the comment as part of the Final EIR for review and consideration by the decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project. No further response is required because the comment does not raise an environmental issue.

I-174-2 The comment states that the project is expected to require 200 million gallons of water per year; the state expects to achieve 20% reduction by 2020; MWD is planning for 30-45% reductions of future water supply; recent conservation measures weren't intended to provide supply to new development; and that it is irresponsible to think that 2,000 households whose water use is beyond the County's control to achieve a 35% reduction.

Based on the estimates of water usage per year, the project is expected to require approximately 530 million gallons of water per year without water conservation measures, and approximately 390 million galls per year with water conservation measures.

Please refer to **Topical Response UTL-1 and UTL-2**. The County will include the comment as part of the Final EIR for review and consideration by the decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project.

I-174-3 The comment states that area roads and interchanges currently earn a rating of LOS D to F and that the 25,000 new trips per day generated by the project cannot be supported by current road configurations. The comment further states that proposed improvements ignore existing traffic issues. As stated in Section 2.13 Transportation and Traffic on page 2.13-48, the proposed project is expected to generate 28,862 new trips per day. Regarding the fact that proposed traffic improvements ignore existing traffic issues, the purpose of the proposed improvements is to mitigate impacts that occur as a result of the proposed project plus cumulative traffic. The comment addresses general subject areas, which received extensive analysis in the Draft EIR. The comment does not raise any specific issue regarding that analysis and, therefore, no more specific response can be provided or is required. The County will include the comment as part of the Final EIR for review and consideration by the decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project.

I-174-4 The comment expresses concern over evacuation during a fire and the gridlock on I-15. Appendix N-2 is the Evacuation Plan for the Newland Sierra project, which was prepared in coordination with the Deer Springs Fire Protection District and County of

Comment Letter Responses

San Diego. The project Evacuation Plan does not conflict with existing evacuation and pre-plans. From Page 2.8-20 of the DEIR, “the intent of the evacuation plan is to guide implementation of an evacuation procedure such that the process of evacuating people from the Site is facilitated in an efficient manner and according to a pre-defined, practiced evacuation protocol.” See **Topical Response HAZ-1**. The County will include the comment as part of the Final EIR for review and consideration by the decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project.

- I-174-5** The comment states that there is money to be made for Newland Sierra developers and once the project is complete service providers and residents will be left to contend with the fallout of this ill-advised project. The County acknowledges the comment and notes it expresses the opinions of the commenter, and does not raise an issue related to the adequacy of any specific section or analysis of the Draft EIR. The County will include the comment as part of the Final EIR for review and consideration by the decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project. No further response is required or necessary.