

I-53 John Broderick

- I-53-1** The County acknowledges the comment as an introduction to comments that follow. This comment is included in the Final EIR for review and consideration by the decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project.
- I-53-2** The comment expresses concern regarding wildfires and evacuation. The Draft EIR, Section 2.8, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, discloses that the project is located in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ); specifically, page 2.8-17. The Draft EIR notes that while prior evacuations within the project vicinity have experienced traffic congestion, the project includes improvements to Deer Springs Road, which would increase capacity of the main evacuation route compared to the existing condition. Refer to **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-53-3** The comment expresses concern regarding impacts from dust particles due to blasting. The Draft EIR determined, on the basis of the evidence, that “deposited crystalline silica is not considered to be a source of significant health risk and impacts would be less than significant.” (Draft EIR, p. 2.3-50.) Even though impacts would be less than significant, the Draft EIR, nonetheless, provides mitigation measures M-AQ-11 and M-AQ-12 to further control fugitive dust emissions generated during blasting activities and thereby further minimize crystalline silica exposure. Refer to **Topical Response AQ-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-53-4** The comment expresses concern regarding noise. The comment addresses general subject areas, which received extensive analysis in the Draft EIR. Specifically in Section 2.10, Noise. 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-53-5** The comment expresses concern regarding traffic impacts on I-15. The comment addresses general subject areas, which received extensive analysis in the Draft EIR. Specifically in Section 2.13, Transportation and Traffic. Please see **Topical Responses TR-1 and TR-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-53-6** The comment expresses concern regarding gridlock during an emergency evacuation. Relative to traffic gridlock concerns, the Draft EIR notes that while prior evacuations

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within the project vicinity have experienced traffic congestion, the project includes improvements to Deer Springs Road, which would increase capacity of the main evacuation route compared to the existing condition. Refer to **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-53-7** The comment expresses concern regarding water supply and cuts for existing residences. The Draft EIR has accounted for drought conditions and has determined there are sufficient, reliable water supplies to serve the project, in addition to existing and planned future water demands within the retail and wholesale service areas of the Vallecitos Water District. The project also is consistent with and will adhere to any existing and new water regulations from the Office of the Governor, State Water Board, Metropolitan Water District, the Water Authority, and the Vallecitos Water District that are applicable and in effect at the time of building permit issuance. 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-53-8** The comment states that they are not against progress as long as it's not hazardous to humans and animals. The County acknowledges the comment and notes it expresses the opinions of the commentator, 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.
- I-53-9** The comment thanks the County for the opportunity to comment on the project and express their concerns. 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.