I-59  Patricia and Roy Buntin

I-59-1 The County acknowledges the comment, and notes it expresses general opposition for the project, but does not raise any issue concerning the adequacy of the Draft EIR. For that reason, the County provides no further response to this comment.

I-59-2 The comment states that traffic at Deer Springs and I-15 is very busy and congested and that the project will make a bad situation worse. The comment addresses general subject areas, which received extensive analysis in the Draft EIR. As it relates to the project’s traffic impacts and mitigation, please see Topical Response TR-3. 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-59-3 The comment expresses concern over evacuation during a fire and states that the project will make the escape from Hidden Meadows even worse. With respect to emergency evacuation, Appendix N-2 is the Evacuation Plan for Newland Sierra, which was prepared in coordination with the Deer Springs Fire Protection District and County of San Diego, and does not conflict with existing evacuation 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.” Appendix N-2 identifies the proposed project’s evacuation road network, including internal roads which connect to three primary ingress/egress roads, and ultimately connect to major evacuation routes, including, Deer Springs Road, Sarver Lane, North Twin Oaks Valley Road, Buena Creek Road and Interstate 15. In addition, the proposed project includes improvements to Deer Springs Road which would increase capacity of the main evacuation route compared to the existing condition. Further, improvements to North Twin Oaks Valley Road and Buena Creek Road would expand capacity of the network to assist evacuation efforts for the surrounding community. Please see Topical Response HAZ-1 for a more detailed explanation of evacuation.

I-59-4 The comment states that water is very dear and that the project will make access to water even more severe. The comment also states that price of water is outrageous. The DEIR analyzes the project’s potential impacts to Water Supply and Service in Section 2.14.1. The DEIR concludes the proposed project would result in a less than significant impact to water supply; however, the DEIR incorporates mitigation measures M-UTL-1 through M-UTL-4 to ensure that impacts remain less than significant. Please also see Topical Responses UTL-1 and UTL-2. With respect to
the potential impact to ratepayers, this comment raises economic issues that do not appear to relate to any physical effect on the environment.

I-59-5 The County acknowledges the comment and notes it provides concluding remarks that do not raise new or additional environmental issues concerning the adequacy of the Draft EIR. For that reason, the County provides no further response to this comment.