

## Late Letter (LL)-11

Paula Ames  
March 11, 2019

### (Traffic and Emergency Evacuation)

#### 1. Introduction

The comment letter submitted by Ms. Paula Ames, dated March 11, 2019, is a late letter that does not require a written response from the County.

Under CEQA Guidelines Section 15105, the County was legally required to provide a 45-day public review period on the Draft EIR. The public comment period for the Draft EIR began on March 1, 2018 and ended on April 16, 2018. All comment letters received after expiration of the public review and comment period ending on April 16, 2018, are considered late comments.

A lead agency is required to consider comments on the Draft EIR and to prepare written responses if a comment is received within the public comment period. (Pub. Resources Code, §21091(d); CEQA Guidelines, §15088.) When a comment letter is received after the close of the public comment period, however, a lead agency does not have an obligation to respond. (Pub. Resources Code, §21091(d)(1); Pub. Resources Code, §21092.5(c).) Accordingly, the County is not required to provide a written response to late comment letters, including the November 26, 2018, letter from CDFW. (See, CEQA Guidelines, §15088(a)).

Nonetheless, for information purposes, the County has elected to respond to this late letter, but without waiving its position that written responses to late comment letters are not required by law.

#### 2. The letter is reiterating and expanding upon issues raised in previous comment letters.

The comment letter raises similar issues as those raised by the Jamul Dulzura Community Planning Group (**Comment Letter O-2**), Reax Engineering (**Comment Letter O-6.4**), Griffin Cover Transportation LLPC (**Comment Letter O-6.5**) and individual commenters, including secondary access through Whispering Meadows Road and Valley Knolls Road and concerns regarding wildfire evacuation. Refer to **Thematic Response – Proctor Valley Road and Other Off-Site Roads**, **Thematic Response – Wildfire Protection and Evacuation**, **Response to Comments O-6.4-36**, **O-6.4-38**, and **O-6.5-14** and **Response to Late Letter LL-7**. The comment does not raise any new issues regarding the adequacy of the Draft EIR; therefore, no further response is required or provided.

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