

**EL MONTE SAND MINE & NATURE PRESERVE
PDS2015-MUP-98-014W2, PDS2015-RP-15-001**

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION (nop) OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD
August 13, 2015 through September 14, 2015**

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING COMMENT SHEET

**NOP Scoping Meeting August 26, 2015
Lakeside Community Center
9841 Vine Street
Lakeside, California 92040**

I am writing to you to voice my concerns of the harm a sand mine operation in El Monte Valley will cause to the people, animals and the entire area of Lakeside and surrounding areas. I request that you investigate and address my concerns in the environmental impact report.

I am requesting that a new EIR be completed for this project. I believe the County has made a mistake by requiring a SEIR, because the EIR for the golf course was completed 15 years ago. A lot has changed since then.

I have lived in the El Monte Valley for three years. My husband has lived here for almost 40 years. He built his home located on Willow Rd. We have a well which supplies our drinking and irrigation water as do all the residents in the valley. My fear is that the digging in the valley floor will contaminate our wells leaving them useless. Where will we obtain our drinking and irrigation water? Who will pay for it? We have a drought situation currently. The sand mining operation will require the use of 1.5 million tons of water per year. How does this make any sense when all residents are required to cut back our usage of water?

Standing water also attracts mosquitoes that carry West Nile Virus. People have died this year from West Nile Virus. Warm water breeds the ameba (Naegleria Fowleri). This ameba living in warm fresh water migrates up the nose and causes (PAM) a type of meningitis which is almost universally a fatal disease. PLEASE INVESTIGATE AND ADDRESS IN THE EIR.

El Monte Valley has been identified as a Valley Fever area. The mining of the sand will send valley fever spores into the atmosphere, which will be carried by the wind to the surrounding areas. There are several schools not far from the valley, including El Capitan High School and at least two grade schools. The wind could carry the spores into other neighboring towns and possibly to the coast. PLEASE INVESTIGATE VALLEY FEVER AS THERE IS NO CURE FOR IT.

My concern is also for the endangered animals and non-endangered animals, flowers, trees and grasses that thrive in the valley. Where will they go? How do we care for them? Air quality, noise and pollution are other issues that need to be addressed in the EIR.

Another concern is the amount of traffic that will be caused by several large trucks driving on El Monte Valley road a two lane road with only one way out. What if there is a major fire in the valley area? The traffic will impact the current residents living off the road. The streets of Lakeside will become more crowded and the intersections more dangerous. Who will make the necessary repairs to the road and to the streets of Lakeside after the heavy trucks have torn them up?

The area should be preserved and made into a recreational area for all San Diegans to enjoy hiking, horse back riding, biking and walking on trails around the valley.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Rosemary Sloan
14316 Willow Rd.
Lakeside, CA 92040

September 14, 2015

619-561-4593