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[The Guardian](#) [World](#) [News guide](#) [Arts](#) [Special reports](#) [Columnists](#) [Audio](#) [Help](#) [Quiz](#)**Breaking
news**

Santa Ana Winds Fan California Fires

Sunday October 26, 2003 11:31 PM

LOS ANGELES (AP) - The wildfires burning across Southern California draw much of their strength from the fiercely hot and dry winds known as the Santa Anas.

[Gephardt Urges
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4:31 am

Santa Ana winds are formed when a high pressure area forms over the Great Basin, the vast expanse of desert that covers much of Nevada, Utah and southern Idaho.

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3:46 am

That forces cool, dry desert air toward the southwest. There, the winds plunge down through the mountains of Southern California, channeled by steep terrain toward areas of comparatively lower pressure.

[Appeals Court
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As the winds whistle through canyons and valleys of the mountains that separate the desert from the coastal strip between San Diego and Santa Barbara, the air is compressed and heated as it descends, sometimes dramatically. The winds also pick up speed as they travel toward the coast.

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The winds dry out vegetation and sap the air of humidity, creating the potential for destructive fires.

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3:46 am

If a fire does break out, the Santa Anas only further fan the flames. Gusts of up to 70 mph are not uncommon.

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The Santa Ana winds typically blow between September and February.

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3:31 am

The winds were named by settlers in the area of Santa Ana, a city 40 miles southeast of Los Angeles.

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Dry weather, vegetation equal disaster

By WILL MATTHEWS
STAFF WRITER

Everything that could have gone wrong has.

For firefighters battling to bring under control the western flank of what has become a 67,000-acre wildfire that stretches across the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains from La Verne to San Bernardino, the combination of raging winds and parched vegetation has proved devastating.

"Most of the time, we can get on top of these kinds of fires and successfully beat it back," said Bill Peters, spokesman for the California Department of Forestry. "But this time, obviously, has been a bit different. The whole fire sequence has conspired against us. Every piece of the disaster puzzle has fit squarely into place. You take away any one of the components that have made this fire so hard to fight, and maybe we get on top of it. That has not been our reality, unfortunately."

Firefighters have been pummeled since the fire's outset Tuesday by a set of circumstances that have forced them into the defensive, chasing the fast-moving flames in desperate -- and ultimately futile -- attempts to gain the upper hand.

Prevailing drought conditions that have plagued the area for several years left the wilderness of the San Gabriel Mountains foothills dry, and provided perfect fuel for the fire that has far outpaced the efforts of firefighters.

The Inland Valley was hit with several consecutive days of unusually low humidity immediately preceding the start of the fire, sapping what little moisture remained in the area's vegetation.

And then there were the Santa Ana winds, which, blowing at as much as 70 mph in some places, clinched the firefighters' defeat.

"We have kind of escaped in recent years, even though this kind of possibility has existed, because of the drought conditions that we have experienced," Peters said. "Last year, the winds never really picked up in the ways that we have seen this year. And even though the Santa Anas have been relatively moderate overall, even moderate winds, when combined with a fire as powerful as this, can cause problems. They can act as a blowtorch."

The fire started Tuesday in the Hunter's Ridge area north of Fontana, deep in the foothills.

Instead of starting high in the mountains and slowly making its way down toward the valleys at a pace that would allow firefighters to quickly gain control, it sped up the mountains and out of control before anyone could adequately respond.

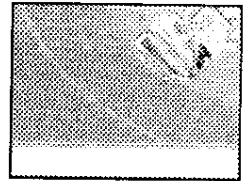
"It raced up and took off toward the top of the hill, and it took no more than two hours to get there," Peters said. "Because of the speed and overall intensity of the fire, there just was no way for us to get up there and cut it off. And then the winds

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DEIR

Exhibit 03

kicked up and added the forceful component that just allowed this fire to get out of control."

In the end; there was little firefighters could do in the face of the weather and geographic realities that posed such grim challenges, Peters said. Despite the destruction the fire has already caused, the salvage of many homes in Fontana, Rancho Cucamonga and Upland should be looked at as significant victories, he said.

"Nobody can console those people who have lost their homes," Peters said. "In any other situation, if the fire is not as intense as it has been, then maybe we get to it and beat it. But sometimes, no matter how hard you try, nature just destroys what man builds. It has been the intangibles of this situation that have allowed for that to happen."

Will Matthews can be reached by e-mail atw_matthews@dailybulletin.com or by phone at (909) 483-9333.

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Natural Hazard Disclosure Statement

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Background

Civil Code Section 1103(c)(3) requires real estate sellers to inform prospective buyers if a residential property lies within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ). After the disastrous firestorm in the Oakland-Berkeley Hills in 1991, the Legislature required CDF to identify VHFHSZ within the LRA and send the resulting information to the affected cities, counties, and fire districts. Within 30 days after receiving a transmittal from the CDF director that identifies VHFHSZ, a local agency shall make the information available for public review. The information shall be presented in a format that is understandable and accessible to the general public, including, but not limited to, maps (Government Code 51178.5). Local agencies were required to designate, by ordinance, VHFHSZ in their jurisdictions following the identification of these areas by CDF, but were exempt from this requirement if they adopted or already had ordinances before December 31, 1992 that were equivalent to or more restrictive than the state standards (Government Code Section 51179). According to Civil Code Section 1103.2(a), the NHD Statement form, disclosure is required for VHFHSZ pursuant to either Section 51178 or Section 51179 of the Government Code. If a local agency with a VHFHSZ identified pursuant to Section 51178 has not designated the zone pursuant to Section 51179, disclosure would still be required, but the defensible space requirements of Section 51182 may not apply unless locally required pursuant to another code.

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Exhibit E1

Welcome to

California

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Geologic Hazard Abatement Districts

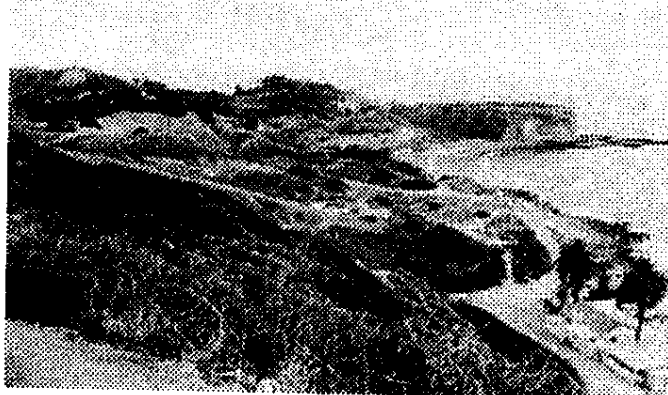
(From the July 1986 Issue of CALIFORNIA GEOLOGY magazine)

by Robert B. Olshansky

[Editor's note: At the time Robert Olshansky wrote this article, he was an employee of Rogers/Pacific; he currently (March 2000) is an Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at University of Illinois and can be reached at robo@staff.uiuc.edu.]

Original reference: Olshansky, Robert B., 1986, Geologic Hazard Abatement Districts: CALIFORNIA GEOLOGY, v. 39, n. 7, p. 158-159.

Geologic Hazard Abatement Districts (GHAD) enabled by the Beverly Act of 1979 (SB 1195), are potentially useful financial mechanisms for reducing hillslope hazards (Kockelman, 1986). The enabling statute, (Division 17 of the Public Resources Code, Sections 26500 - 26654) provides for the formation of local assessment districts for the purpose of prevention, mitigation, abatement, or control of geologic hazards. The Act broadly defines "geologic hazard" as "an actual or threatened landslide, land subsidence, soil erosion, earthquake, or any other natural or unnatural movement of land or earth."



Abalone Cove landslide, Rancho Palos Verdes, Los Angeles County. The toe of the landslide is at the shoreline. The Abalone Cove Landslide Abatement District was formed in January 1981, and was the first district formed after the Beverly Act of 1979. Photo by Martin L. Stout.

A GHAD may be proposed by one of two means: (1) a petition signed by owners of at least 10 percent of the real property in the district, or (2) by resolution of a local legislative body.

PLAN OF CONTROL

A proposal for a GHAD must be accompanied by a "plan of control", prepared by a certified engineering geologist, "which describes in detail a geologic hazard, its location and the area affected thereby, and a plan for the prevention, mitigation, abatement, or control thereof" (Section 26509). The land within a district need not be contiguous; the only requirement is that lands within a GHAD be specially benefited by the proposed construction and that formation of a district is required to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the residents.

LOCAL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

The Act requires public hearings prior to district formation. If owners of more than 50 percent of the assessed valuation of the proposed district object to the formation, the legislative body must abandon the proceedings. If there are few objections, the legislative body may form the district, initially appointing five property owners to the board of directors. Thereafter, the district becomes an independent entity with an elected board of directors. A GHAD may issue bonds, purchase and dispose of property, acquire property by eminent domain, levy and collect assessments, sue and be sued, and construct and maintain improvements.

CANYON HILLS DEIR

Exhibit E2

The Beverly Act was originally drafted to allow for the formation of the Abalone Cove Landslide Abatement District in Rancho Palos Verdes, Los Angeles County. The 600-acre Abalone Cove landslide, which began moving in 1978, threatened over 100 homes upon and adjacent to it. It is located immediately west of the well known Portuguese Bend landslide, and probably has a similar mechanism (movement along seaward-dipping bentonitic tuff beds) (Ehlig, 1979).

The district was formed in January 1981 and has financed continued geologic investigation of the slide and installation of mine dewatering wells (Heffler, 1981), which appear to have successfully reduced lateral movement. The Beverly Act provided a mechanism for the Abalone Cove home owners to jointly finance abatement measures. A significant point is that it allowed them to treat the landslide as a single physical entity, irrespective of property boundaries. A companion bill by Senator Beverly provided for liability exemption of local district for actions taken to abate gradual earth movements.

Other Districts

In the six years since enactment of the Beverly Act, not many Geologic Hazard Abatement Districts have formed, though a few have been proposed. A Plan of Control was prepared for a proposed GHAD at Mount Washington (City of Los Angeles) in 1981 (Lung, 1981), but the District was never formed because affected homeowners felt that they could not afford the remedial measures.

In 1982 a second GHAD was formed in Rancho Palos Verdes, encompassing the Klondike Canyon landslide, located immediately to the east of the Portuguese Bend slide (Ehlig, 1982). As with Abalone Cove, this GHAD was formed in order to finance continued investigation, monitoring, and dewatering measures.

Since 1984 the Blakemont Property Owners' Association in Kensington (western Contra Costa County) has been working on formation of a GHAD to include approximately 135 parcels covering 35 to 40 acres. This GHAD would cover an earthflow complex that has been periodically active over the years. During the 1960s an attempt was made to form a drainage improvement district, but this attempt failed. The present effort is in response to damage from January 1982. An engineering geologist is currently preparing a Plan of Control for the GHAD, jointly financed by the Association, public agencies, and a utility district.

The most recent GHAD was formed in June 1985 at Canyon Lakes, a subdivision of over 1000 acres near Danville in Contra Costa County. This District is different because it was formed prior to occupancy of the subdivision and there has not yet been active landsliding. The purpose of the District is to establish a mechanism to pay for regular maintenance of drainage systems, routine reconnaissance, and timely repairs of any slope failures. The subdivision will have several thousand owners when fully developed. The Plan of Control (Proctor, 1985) is a general document, describing the types of activities that the District might perform.

The Canyon Lakes GHAD initially appears to go beyond the original intent of the Beverly Act, which was designed to abate an immediate, existing hazard. However, the Act is ambiguous on this point. According to an informal opinion by the staff consultant to the State Senate Committee on Local Government (Detwiler, 1985) it is indeed possible, under the enabling legislation, to create a one landowner district in which the "threatened landslide" is an event which has a small, but finite, probability of occurring. Thus, it appears that a GHAD may serve a maintenance and prevention function as well as an abatement function. The Act is still unclear, however, regarding how detailed a Plan of Control for a maintenance-oriented district needs to be, and what the legal responsibilities of the initial owner-developer would be to future home owners. Clear guidance is still needed on how to equitably and effectively operate a prevention-oriented GHAD.

SUMMARY

The Geologic Hazard Abatement District is a potentially useful tool to effectively abate a landslide hazard that crosses property boundaries. It is a mechanism that responds to the physical realities of landslides, and allows property owners to cooperate in solving a common problem. It removes much of the stigma of legal liabilities among adjacent landowners and allows them to cooperate rather than litigate. It also provides for a cost-effective solution, requiring only one geotechnical engineering firm and one plan to solve the problems of several landowners. In short, as local communities become aware of the existence of this statute, it is likely that the GHAD, be it for repair of an existing landslide or prevention of an impending one, will become more commonly used throughout the state.

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- Ehlig, P.L., 1982, Results of subsurface geologic investigation-recommendations concerning Klondike Canyon landslide and moratorium boundary: Robert Stone & Associates, Canoga Park, California,

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Exhibit E 2

Comment Letter No. 152
Attachment 152j

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- Heffler, R., 1981, State's first slide district forms: Los Angeles Times, January 8, 1981, p. IX-1.
- Kockelmon, W.J., 1986, Some techniques of reducing landslide hazards: Bulletin of the Association of Engineering Geologists, v. 23, no. 1, p. 29-50.
- Lung, Richard, 1981, Mount Washington Geologic Hazard Abatement District, Geotechnical Investigation Report: Leighton and Associates, Irvine, California, unpublished consulting report prepared for the Department of Building and Safety of the City of Los Angeles, report no. 1800632-01, dated July 15, 1981, 6 plates, 4 appendices, 36 p.
- Proctor, R.J., 1985, Plan of control for Canyon Lakes Geologic Hazard Abatement District, Contra Costa County, May 2, 1985.

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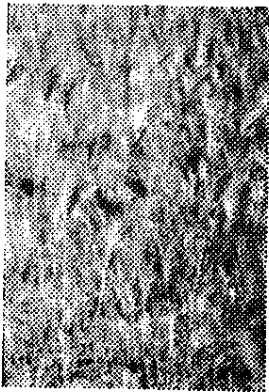
CANYON HILLS DEIR

Exhibit E2

from the July/August 2000 issue of People, Land & Water, the employee news magazine of the Department of the Interior

Non-native Grasses & Fires Create Double Jeopardy

Todd Esque and Cecil Schwalbe, Las Vegas, Nevada



**Red brome -
Photo by C.
Schwalbe**

The Arizona Upland Subdivision of the Sonoran Desert is home to the giant saguaro cactus, a symbol of this desert. In this mostly arid land, above-average seasonal precipitation heralds copious desert wildflowers in both spring and summer; but recently, this occasional exuberant boon of flowers has added a burden of risk to life in the desert.

Rains that promote spectacular wildflower displays also increase the production of non-native grasses that act as fine-textured fuels and can carry destructive fires. In some respects, the risk of fire in the Arizona Upland Subdivision of the Sonoran

Desert is double that of the Great Basin and Mojave desert habitats, because of the pattern of summer and winter rains that occurs near Tucson.

Winter precipitation in this part of the desert promotes the growth of the non-native red brome, and adequate summer monsoons promote the perennial non-native buffelgrass. Red brome is one of several non-native annual plants invading the Southwestern deserts. These plants originated from the Mediterranean regions of the world. The annuals grow through the winter, bloom in the spring, and then lie dormant as seeds during the rest of the year. But their stems are persistent and can add to fuel loads for 2 to 3 years after the seeds have dropped.

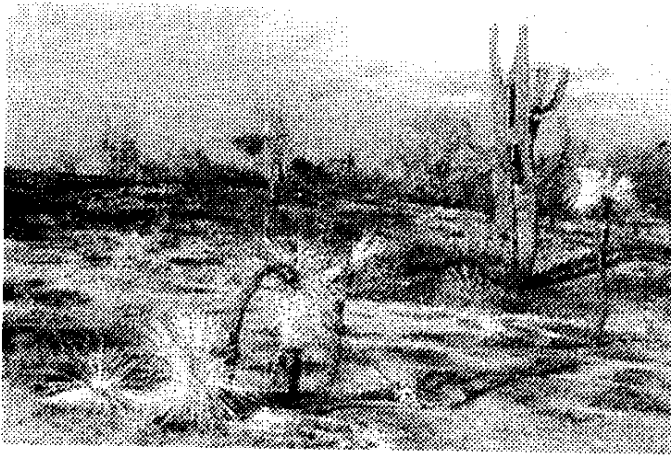
Buffelgrass originated in Africa and relies predominately on warm temperatures and precipitation during the summer monsoonal storms. Both types of grasses cause fires during the parched arid summer weather of June and July. The fires can be caused by lightning storms, accidents, or careless motorists tossing cigarettes out of their cars and igniting the tinder-dry fuels created by these grasses. The results can be devastating and cause lasting changes to desert communities.



Sonoran deserts scrub after the 1993 fire near Sugarloaf Mountain near Phoenix, Arizona. Photo by C. Schwalbe

CANYON HILLS DESERT

That fires are of concern may come as a surprise,
Exhibit F1



Burned saguaros and yuccas as a result of the 1995 Rio Fire in the Phoenix, Arizona area. Photo by T. Esque

because recent educational programs have promoted the benefits of allowing natural fire cycles to manifest themselves in some wildland areas. However, fires do not appear to be a natural part of the saguaro-palo verde plant communities that characterize this desert. In fact, if fire had been a common occurrence in these diverse plant communities, there would be far less expansive stands of saguaros. Both saguaros and the smooth, green-barked palo verde trees suffer great losses when exposed to fire because their thin epidermal layers do not provide protection from excessive temperatures during fires.

In collaboration with the National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management, USGS researchers determined that there are increased

risks to the survival of saguaros and tortoises by exposure to the fires caused by non-native grasses. Until recently, buffelgrass was thought to be predominantly a roadside weed. But backcountry surveys show that this grass has spread in remote areas of the Sonoran Desert. Both long-lived denizens of the desert, the saguaro and the desert tortoise can be harmed by fires that result from these grasses.

NPS and USGS-sponsored research has determined that 11 percent of a sample of tortoises died as a direct result of a desert fire. Saguaros also suffered a high degree of mortality. Over the course of five years, more than 20 percent of a sample population of saguaros died. Losses on this scale are considered catastrophic among long-lived species. In fact, the fires that follow invasions by non-native grasses have the ability to change the structure of the deserts. Even less intense fires cause long-lasting changes in the composition and diversity of plant communities.

Researchers are only beginning to understand the changes in Southwestern deserts that result from these plant invasions and fires. The problems of non-native plant invasions, increased fire frequency, and restoration are interrelated, requiring an integrated research program to gain valuable information for managers. New research should focus on fire behavior, fuels management, seed bank ecology, invasive plant control, and the effects of habitat change on the diverse native plant and animal communities in the Arizona Upland Subdivision of the Sonoran Desert.

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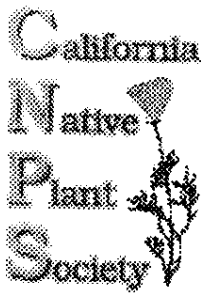
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Policies & Guidelines

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Policy on Invasive Exotic Plants

Adopted September 1996

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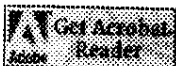
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Definitions

Native plant: any plant which is a member of a species which was present at a given site prior to European contact.

Exotic plant: a plant which does not meet this definition of native.

Invasive exotic plant: a plant which is able to proliferate and aggressively alter or displace indigenous biological communities.

Policy

The California Native Plant Society:

- Urges all government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and individuals charged with land management to:
 - adopt and implement invasive exotic plant management policies.
 - coordinate with each other at all levels regarding non-native plant policy formulation and implementation.
 - publicize the need to prevent the spread of invasive exotic plants.
 - stop all introductions of invasive non-native plant species into natural ecosystems which are designed to achieve some other management objective.
 - implement exotic plant control measures in such a manner that native species and natural systems are not adversely impacted.
 - adequately fund the control of invasive exotic species.
- insists that all landscaping, mitigation, restoration, revegetation, and habitat/species recovery monitoring plans include provision for identifying and managing non-native plants and identifying potential for damaging the genetic structure of local native plant communities.
- advocates cooperative efforts to restrict introductions of invasive exotic species from commercial sources, including the agricultural, landscaping, and revegetation industries.
- supports inclusion of information regarding the effects of invasion by exotic plants in environmental or outdoor education programs in schools.
- encourages CNPS chapters to work for adoption and implementation of invasive exotic policies and programs at municipal and county levels and to raise local awareness regarding the problem.
- encourages recognition, continuation, and expansion of the

Exhibit
F2

many citizen volunteer restoration efforts around the state as a means of habitat preservation, public education, community building, and constituency creation.

Background

The homogenization—blurring of distinctions—of the earth's flora and fauna and subsequent loss of biological diversity, is a problem of global significance which threatens livelihoods and engenders catastrophic ecological change. The threat posed to natural ecosystems by biological pollution—the introduction of non-native plants, animals and other organisms—is rivalled only by that of development. The most aggressive exotic plants are unacceptable in natural areas because they can exclude native plants, degrade, alter or displace natural plant communities, promote faunal change, reduce biological diversity, disrupt ecosystem processes, alter fire frequencies, restrict economic return, reduce recreational values, threaten endangered species and fundamentally alter the unique character and physiognomy of California.

1. With the possible exception of alpine and subalpine habitats, most areas of California contain significant expanses of exotic weeds. To cite but a few of the most egregious examples:
 - o Vast areas of coastal dunes are occupied by iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*) and European beach grass (*Ammophila arenaria*), usually to the exclusion of any other kind of plant. They deprive other plants of moisture and nutrients scarce in this environment. Their value to wildlife is low. They alter wind patterns that sculpt the dunes and they bind the dunes, preventing the natural disturbance required by some of the native species. Because coastal dunes support biological communities whose plant and animal inhabitants may exist nowhere else, their degradation represents a loss of biological diversity.
 - o Many-acre stands of pampas grass (*Cortaderia jubata* and *C. selloana*) and masses of German ivy (*Delairia odorata*, syn. *Senecio mikanioides*) appear discontinuously along the coast from the Oregon border into Baja California. German ivy forms thick blankets which cut off light and air to plants which it covers. Pampas grass is a robust six-foot tall grass with sharp-edged leaves growing from a stout clump. Its aggressive root system outcompetes plants even much larger than itself. Tall plumes, bearing many light seeds rise several feet beyond the leaves, dispersing seed great distances in the wind.
 - o About one tenth of California (including ten million acres of rangelands) has been invaded by yellow star thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*) (Maddox, 1985). The plant is toxic to horses and stout spines render it inedible to sheep and cattle. Aside from its economic impacts, yellow star thistle increases roadside fire hazards and affects recreational values by invading

Exhibit F2

- campgrounds, lining trails, and reducing biodiversity.
- Brooms and gorse (*Cytisus*, *Genista*, *Ulex* spp.) have usurped many biological communities in the coast ranges and Sierra foothills: grasslands (including pasture), scrub, coastal prairie, chaparral, and mixed evergreen forest. Brooms are highly flammable and especially common in wildland/urban interfaces. Seeds of all of them may be viable for decades, making reclamation of territory they occupy exceedingly difficult. Their ranges continue to expand.
 - Giant reed grass (*Arundo donax*) and salt cedar (*Tamarix* spp.) have replaced riparian communities, especially in southern California, the Mojave Desert and the San Joaquin Valley. Salt cedar can cause dramatic hydrologic changes, lowering water tables and drying up streams and seeps.
 - Annual grasses (e.g., *Aira*, *Avena*, *Bromus*, *Hordeum*, *Lolium*, *Vulpia*) and forbs (e.g., *Vicia* spp., *Cirsium* spp.) have greatly altered the character of the remaining grasslands of California, replacing native bunchgrasses and lessening spring and summer wildflower displays.
2. On federal lands alone, it is estimated that weeds are claiming 4600 acres every day and dominate over 17 million acres in the western United States, (Bureau of Land Management, 1996) with similar expansions occurring in Canada and Mexico.
 3. Control of exotic plants is expensive and control expenses continue to escalate as the problem grows. The federal and state departments of agriculture, national and state park systems, and The Nature Conservancy devote large and increasing resources to efforts to control exotic plant species. Hundreds of grassroot groups selectively address the problem in specific areas, but their work is dwarfed by the magnitude of the overall problem.
 4. Taxpayers have spent billions of dollars purchasing and protecting wildlands which are now being lost due to invasion by weeds. In many cases these invasions—which will result in permanent, effectively irreversible damage—are allowed to proceed unopposed due to short-term budget considerations.
 5. Economic return is reduced in areas dominated by weeds. For example, in addition to the above-cited California grazing lands degraded by the spread of yellow star thistle, a public agency was successfully sued by an adjacent landowner because yellow star thistle invasion rendered the home unsaleable.
 6. Logged-over lands are frequently invaded by non-native plants such as pampas grass and brooms, which prevent establishment of seedling trees.
 7. Biological control is expensive and time-consuming but is the most cost-effective remedy for controlling some of the most widespread invaders.
 8. One thousand and twenty-five species (17 1/2%) of the California flora are exotic. (Rejmanek, 1994). Undesirable

Exhibit F2

plants continue to be introduced to California. Moroccan mustard (*Brassica tournefortii*), introduced into California in the mid-1960s, has spread to cover large areas of the Sonoran and Mojave deserts. Biologists consider it a threat to the desert tortoise. With increased international travel and trade, new accidental and intentional introductions will likely accelerate.

9. Ecosystem function is altered, often irreversibly, by exotic plant invasions. The introduction of Moroccan mustard, red brome (*Bromus madritensis* ssp. *rubens*), cheat grass (*Bromus tectorum*) and other exotic grasses to the Mojave Desert has promoted unnatural fuel conditions and fire cycles which have become self-sustaining. Cheat grass causes similar impacts in rangelands throughout the intermountain west (D'Antonio, 1992). Smooth cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*) from eastern North America is changing sedimentation rates in open mud intertidal habitats (Josselyn, 1993). Other exotic plants have dramatic effects on hydrological regimes and nutrient cycling.
10. Non-native plants modify wildlife habitat, altering the species composition, sometimes drastically. Riparian areas, which are crucial breeding and foraging areas for both common and endangered birds, have become dominated by giant reed grass and salt cedar. Many species of birds don't use stands of these species in part because they support few insects, so food supply for insectivorous birds is poor. Studies have shown that native birds prefer native woodlands dominated by oak rather than groves of introduced trees such as Tasmanian blue gum (*Eucalyptus globulus*) (Morrison, 1988).
11. Fire frequencies may be altered by exotic plants, reducing the ability of native plants to prosper and effecting conversion of vegetation type (e.g., from native chaparral to non-native grassland). Post-fire seeding with exotic grasses has been shown to increase the likelihood of premature reburn, thus promoting type conversion. This conversion often can lead to increased erosion. (California Native Plant Society, 1995.)
12. Exotic plants further threaten many already rare or endangered native plants by displacement of habitat: examples include Howell's spineflower (*Chorizanthe howellii*) and other dune endemics, diamond-petalled California poppy (*Eschscholzia rhombipetala*), large-flowered fiddleneck (*Amsinckia grandiflora*), Morro manzanita (*Arctostaphylos morroensis*), San Luis Obispo monardella (*Monardella frutescens*), Nipomo Mesa lupine (*Lupinus nipomoensis*). At least 91 of the plants in CNPS' *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California* are threatened by invading exotics (California Native Plant Society, 1994). Growing infestations of non-native species are likely to drive populations of native species so low as to require listing by state or federal agencies. An informal analysis by the California Department of Fish and Game found that 23% of California's 280 plant communities are heavily impacted by

non-native plants, and another 28% are moderately threatened by them (Keeler-Wolf, 1993).

13. Exotic plants may trap nearly all the energy flowing through the natural systems of the many areas where they have completely displaced indigenous plants, resulting in conversion from one vegetation type to another. This energy, instead of entering the food chain, is channeled into further proliferation by the invading plant, thus energizing the cycle. Land dominated by weeds has low biological value and is of little or no use to human societies. The land's ability to function in a biologically stable way is impaired.

Citations

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Exhibit 2

Invasive Exotics

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Invasive exotics are quickly becoming the premier threat to California's unique native plants and plant communities. They can invade and quickly alter areas otherwise protected from impacts. CNPS urges agencies and others involved in land management to develop and implement invasive exotic control and eradication programs. CNPS chapter members participate in a wide variety of local programs to help with this problem.



Issue Statement

Although the term 'exotic' somehow brings up the image of a plant holding a drink with a little umbrella, the reality is that exotic means 'out-of-place' in the California ecosystem. Although there has been debate about how long a plant has to have been resident in California to be considered native, a practical working definition employs pre-European-contact as the cut-off point, while those introduced since that time are considered exotic or non-native.

The problem develops with those exotic plants that spread into the surrounding ecosystems and displace the native plants. They do this either because they are free of their home-range diseases, more aggressive in their growth habits, or because they put out more seed that lasts longer in the soil, or because there is nothing to eat them or compete with them in the California ecosystem that is being invaded. These exotic plant properties may cause a crisis in the web of life of the invaded ecosystem, for the newcomer is not a food source and may support no life, while the displaced native plants take with them the pyramid of life that used the plant as the prime recycler of solar energy.

To the casual viewer there is seldom anything to see that would indicate an invasion of exotic plants is taking place. The green hills of spring are usually the green grasses of Europe that were introduced by the Spanish with their cattle. The feathery plumes of pampas grass on

Exhibit
F3

the hills of Big Sur might look like they have always been there. However, the sad fact is that the invasion is sometimes fast, so fast that within a decade the ecosystem of old has completely vanished.

Comment Letter No. 152
Attachment 152m

CNPS has been working with the California Exotic Pest Plant Council (CalEPPC) and the California Department of Food and Agriculture to identify those plants which are putting California's flora at greatest risk, and to find methods to eradicate the menace. Agencies such as the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, US Forest Service, and California state parks are also active participants in the fight against pest plants. Weed Management Areas are springing up all over the state, usually covering one or two counties. They are coalitions of private landowners, public agencies, non-profit organizations, and grassroots activists formed to combat a common enemy.

The need to protect natural ecosystems from invasion has run on a parallel and much less well-funded path than programs that are designed to control agricultural pest plants, although the two paths are beginning to converge. Agriculturists have actually opposed including non-crop-damaging exotic plants in state and federal eradication programs, as those programs may ban the shipment or interstate travel of pest-contaminated products, and obviously cause them some problems. However the swift occupation of wildlands and ranching lands by pests such as yellow starthistle, artichoke thistle, and whitetop have caused agriculturists and habitat conservationists to cooperate.

What are the solutions to some of these plant invasions? Plants can sometimes be removed by hand, especially where invasions are freshly started. The policy is to always work from the outside of the population, forcing the invader into a smaller and smaller perimeter. Small outlying populations should be removed early in the process. Piecemeal removal simply does not work. Sometimes the plants resist hand removal, due to a pervasive root structure or to their ability to reroot from small fragments. Two troublesome plants of the latter type are Cape (German) ivy and giant reed (arundo). Cape ivy, which was brought here from South Africa, is choking the summer-cool areas of the state, particularly the riparian corridors of coastal valleys; it may be capable of also invading inland riparian habitats. Giant reed, a bamboo-like grass that grows to the height of a house, invades riparian areas. Both the ivy and the reed can root from small segments, and therefore the worst thing you can do is hit them with a weed-whacker. If you pull the plant, bits and pieces break off, and the root remains to resprout. It can be removed by very intense manual labor, but this is not possible for multi-acre invasions. The only answer seems to be chemical, and there are some relatively benign herbicides (Roundup, for example) which seem to do the trick. Herbicide should be used with caution, but in many cases there are seldom viable alternatives, given the limited labor pools and finances of conservation organizations and public agencies.

Additional Information

CNPS Policy on Invasive Exotic Plants

California Exotic Pest Plant Council (CalEPPC)

Exhibit #3

Weed Management Areas

Comment Letter No. 152
Attachment 152m

Take a look at CalFlora's expanded weed photos
and mapping www.calflora.org

Internet Links on Exotic Plants

CNPS Contacts

Send email inquiries to conservation@cnps.org.

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Exhibit F3

washingtonpost.com

EPA Links Lung Cancer, Diesel Exhaust

Study Says Long-Term Exposure Also Can Cause Respiratory Illnesses

By Eric Pianin
Washington Post Staff Writer
Wednesday, September 4, 2002; Page A02

The Environmental Protection Agency concluded yesterday that long-term exposure to exhaust from diesel engines likely causes lung cancer in humans and triggers a variety of other lung and respiratory illnesses.

The study, the culmination of decades of research, highlights the health problems posed by the complex mix of gases and fine particles emitted by heavy-duty diesel engines operating on the nation's highways, farms and construction sites.

"Overall, the evidence for a potential cancer hazard to humans resulting from chronic inhalation exposure to [diesel emissions] is persuasive," the report states.

The study, involving tests on occupational exposure and on animals, focused on diesel engines manufactured before the mid-1990s, when the government began pressing for tougher emission standards. With new engine and fuel technology expected to produce significantly cleaner engine exhaust by 2007, experts project a 90 percent reduction, from today's levels, in health-threatening exhaust particles from on-road vehicles.

"The agency expects significant environmental and public health benefits as the environmental performance of diesel engines and diesel fuels improves," said Paul Gilman of EPA's Office of Research and Development.

Although the EPA's final assessment echoes preliminary agency findings and other documents from various world health organizations and studies in California, it provides added urgency to efforts by the EPA and others to tighten diesel emission standards under the Clean Air Act.

A federal appeals court in May unanimously upheld a Clinton administration regulation requiring a speedy and dramatic reduction in pollution from large trucks and buses. That rule -- strongly contested by truck manufacturers and diesel fuel refiners because of the associated costs -- would cut emissions of particulate matter by 90 percent and nitrogen oxides by 95 percent, beginning in 2007.

The Bush administration has largely taken a strong stand in support of the tougher emissions standards. Last month, the White House and EPA rejected a plea from House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) and other lawmakers to postpone the new anti-pollution standards for long-haul diesel trucks. The standards will provide stiff penalties for engine manufacturers that don't meet an October deadline for compliance under a consent decree.

The administration has also announced it will increase efforts to regulate emissions from off-road diesel-driven machinery and equipment, such as farm equipment and earth movers. A study by state air pollution control officials found that more than 8,500 premature deaths are caused annually by extraordinarily high levels of air pollution from such machinery.

Some environmental groups have voiced concern that EPA and White House officials might attempt to dilute the effectiveness of the Clinton rules governing on-road diesel trucks and buses. That's because administration

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Exhibit 01

officials have said they would consider incentives to encourage engine makers and refineries to change engine designs and switch to low-sulfur diesel fuel for off-road vehicles by 2006, in return for a reduction in the emission standards for trucks and buses.

One approach under consideration is to set an emissions cap for on-road and off-road vehicles and machinery, and then create a market-based system to allow companies to buy and trade credits for off-road and on-road emissions.

"Children riding buses back to school today need stronger protections against the health impacts of diesel exhaust, but the Bush administration is considering rolling back clean air standards for diesel buses and trucks," said Emily Figdor, clean air advocate for the U.S. Public Interest Research Group. "Until recently, the Bush administration appeared committed to ushering in the next generation of diesel vehicles."

EPA spokesman Joe Martyak disputed assertions that the administration was backing away from its commitment to reducing health-threatening diesel emissions.

"We're already sensitive to the importance of this issue, which is why we are moving along on the diesel issue, on-road and off-road, with an aggressive schedule," he said. "We've been well aware of the health implications and impact of [diesel engine particulate matter] and this report affirms some of those concerns."

The EPA's 651-page diesel health assessment report cited occupational health studies and tests on animals showing diesel emissions to be a carcinogen, or cancer-causing substance. While there remain uncertainties, the report said, "it is reasonable to presume that the hazard extends to environmental exposure levels" as well.

"The overall evidence for potential human health effects of diesel exhausts is persuasive," the report added.

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Exhibit G1

in the spotlight

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Public Health and Diesel

Despite remarkable progress in cleaning up the air over the last 30 years, 95 percent of Californians still live in areas that fail to meet health-based standards for a variety of air pollutants. Diesel exhaust is a major source of air pollution, which contributes to lung and other types of cancer, respiratory tract infections and lung diseases such as asthma, emphysema and chronic bronchitis. Lung disease is a leading cause of death in America, killing nearly 350,000 people each year, and those numbers are growing.

No Smog Check for Buses and Trucks

While California has been working to reduce car emissions through the use of smog-controlling devices like catalytic converters and maintenance and inspection programs like the Smog Check Program, diesel buses and trucks have gone relatively uncontrolled. Despite their small numbers compared to the total number of vehicles in California, diesel engines account for 40 percent of the nitrogen oxide and about 60 percent of the total particulate matter from mobile sources.

Diesel Exhaust and Health

Since 1990, diesel exhaust has been listed as a known carcinogen under California's Proposition 65, and in 1998, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) formally listed diesel particulate as a toxic air contaminant. The extensive scientific literature demonstrates that exposure to diesel exhaust increases the risk of developing lung cancer and other non-cancer health problems.

In listing diesel as a toxic air contaminant, CARB determined that the increased cancer risk from diesel particulates could cause premature deaths in more than 14,000 Californians exposed to diesel pollution over a lifetime.

Diesel exhaust contains hundreds of constituent chemicals, including many that are human toxicants, carcinogens, or present reproductive hazards. Forty chemicals in diesel exhaust are on California's list of toxic air contaminants, and California residents face high diesel-related health risks based on the heavy concentration of diesel truck traffic in urbanized areas and recent reports demonstrating that diesel cancer risks far outweigh cancer risks from other toxic air contaminants.

Diesel exhaust is a major source of particle pollution in California. Ninety-four percent of diesel emissions are estimated to be fine particles, less than 2.5 microns in diameter, which can bypass respiratory defense mechanisms and lodge deep in the lungs. Numerous studies have found that fine particles impair lung function, aggravate respiratory illnesses such as asthma, bronchitis and

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emphysema, and are associated with premature deaths. Dozens of studies link airborne fine particle concentrations to increased hospital admissions for respiratory diseases, chronic obstructive lung disease, pneumonia and heart disease.

Diesel is also a major contributor to ozone pollution in California. Ozone air pollution, generated by nitrogen oxide and hydrocarbons from fuel combustion, is a powerful respiratory irritant that may lead to shortness of breath, chest pain, wheezing, coughing, and exacerbation of respiratory illnesses such as asthma. Long-term and repeated exposures may lead to large reductions in lung function and inflammation of the lung lining.

Recent studies on the relationship between asthmatic responses and proximity to major roadways add to concerns about diesel's contribution to asthma. Studies have shown that the proximity of a child's school or home to major roads may be linked to asthma, and the severity of children's asthmatic symptoms increases with proximity to truck traffic. Studies are ongoing in this area of research.

Recent reports by CARB and the South Coast Air Quality Management District have concluded that diesel exhaust is the most significant source of air toxics in California and accounts for more than 70 percent of the cancer risk statewide from toxic air contaminants. While the particulate component of diesel was specifically listed as a toxic air contaminant by CARB, both the particulate and hydrocarbon components of diesel have been associated with diesel toxic risks.

Vulnerable Populations Most at Risk

It is impossible for most people to avoid exposure to diesel exhaust. Trucks and buses are everywhere. To make matters worse, the most vulnerable among us are being exposed to the most diesel exhaust.

Children are among those most vulnerable to the health risks of diesel exhaust exposure, yet they ride on some of the oldest and most polluting diesel buses on the road today, sometimes for hours at a time. Constant, significant exposure to diesel exhaust, coupled with a child's heightened vulnerability to pollution, is widely recognized as a potential cause of severe health problems in children. It is well known, for example, that children raised in heavily polluted areas face the prospect of reduced lung capacity and prematurely aged lungs. In addition, childhood asthma is on the rise and is, among chronic conditions, the leading cause of absenteeism from school.

Another vulnerable population is low-income communities where large numbers of people of color and the elderly live. These communities are often located near freeways, shipping yards, and other areas with heavy diesel truck traffic.

Diesel emissions are also released throughout the process of fuel production, refining, distribution and dispensing. Diesel refining, distribution and storage facilities are predominantly located in these communities, which are already burdened by major air pollution and toxic risks. Continued use of diesel fuel increases toxic air pollution and raises the risk of lung cancer and other lung diseases in these communities.

There are ways to reduce the risk, such as limiting exercise and activity to areas far from freeways or industrial complexes. But for

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Exhibit 62

most Californians, avoiding diesel exhaust is nearly impossible.

Reducing Diesel Health Dangers

There is a way to reduce public exposure to diesel exhaust and transition to cleaner fuels. Alternative power sources such as natural gas and fuel cells can eventually replace diesel fuel. Upgrades and engine replacements are available tools to reduce on-road diesel emissions. Buses and trucks can run on natural gas today, and fuel cells are being developed that could be capable of powering them in the future.

To significantly reduce the amount of pollutants and cancer-causing toxic air contaminants, California must promote cleaner alternatives where possible and substantially reduce diesel emissions through the use of retrofit devices and lower-emitting diesel fuel. The American Lung Association of California has been advocating for restrictions on diesel emissions and promotion of alternative fuels. Local American Lung Associations around the state have been working with their local transit agencies and school districts to encourage them to switch over to buses powered by natural gas. Until we make a concerted effort to rid our state of dirty diesel fuel and transition to lower-emission fuels and cleaner alternative fuels, diesel exhaust will remain a serious public health threat.

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American Lung Association Raises Awareness About Cleaner Transportation Options during Clean Air Month in May

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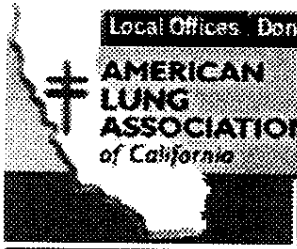
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Comment Letter No. 152
Attachment 152p

in the spotlight

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SEARCH

Particulate Matter Air Pollution

There's Even More You Should Know About Particulate Matter

What is Particulate Matter?

Particulate matter air pollution consists of complex and varying mixtures of particles suspended in the air we breathe. Particles are present everywhere, but high concentrations and/or specific types of particles have been found to present a serious danger to human health. Of greatest concern to public health are the particles small enough to be inhaled into the deepest parts of the lung. These small particles are known as PM10 (less than 10 microns in diameter) and even finer particles are known as PM2.5 (less than 2.5 microns in diameter). For comparison, a human hair is about 75 microns in diameter.

Particulate matter is a combination of fine solids such as dirt, soil dust, pollens, molds, ashes, and soot; and aerosols that are formed in the atmosphere from gaseous combustion by-products such as volatile organic compounds, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides.

Particulate matter air pollution comes from such diverse sources as motor vehicles, wood-burning stoves and fireplaces, construction activity, agriculture, industrial smokestacks, wildfires and other burn activity, and windblown dust from open lands.

Particulate Matter and Health

Particulate matter air pollution is among the most harmful of all air pollutants. When inhaled, these particles evade the respiratory system's natural defenses and lodge deep in the lungs. Particulate matter is especially harmful to people with lung disease such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), which includes chronic bronchitis and emphysema, as well as people with heart disease. Exposure to particulate air pollution can trigger asthma attacks and cause wheezing, coughing, and respiratory irritation in individuals with sensitive airways.

Recent research has also linked exposure to relatively low concentrations of particulate matter with premature death. Those at greatest risk are the elderly and those with pre-existing respiratory or heart disease.

Particles of special concern to the protection of lung health are PM 2.5. These are known as fine particles and mainly come from motor vehicle exhaust. Fine particles are easily inhaled deeply into the lungs where they can be absorbed into the bloodstream or remain embedded for

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long periods of time. A recent study showed a 17 percent increase in mortality risk in areas with higher concentrations of small particles.

Particulate Matter in California

The American Lung Association of California is supporting state legislation to require the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and local air districts to adopt new measures to reduce particulate matter air pollution and move toward meeting the new California air quality standards. CARB adopted the more stringent particulate matter (PM 10) standards last summer, which included new regulations for fine particulate (PM 2.5).

The benefit assessments in CARB's staff report under the stricter particulate matter standards project a reduction of 6,500 cases of premature death each year in California. Meeting the new particulate matter standards in California would also prevent about 32,000 cases of bronchitis in children, 340,000 asthma attacks, and 2.8 million lost workdays, according to CARB.

For more information, visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/aaqs/pm/pm.htm> and click on Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter Air Pollution.


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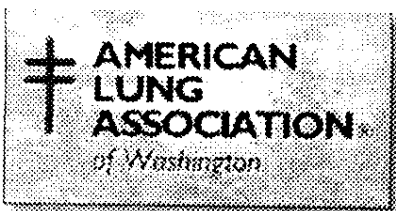
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Diesel exhaust is a major source of air pollution, which contributes to lung and other types of cancer, respiratory tract infections and lung diseases such as asthma, emphysema and chronic bronchitis.

Diesel exhaust is a major source of air toxics. More than 40 substances are listed as hazardous pollutants. Because of their size, when these particles are inhaled, they can become trapped in the small airways of the lungs. These particles can be coated with potent mutagens and carcinogens.

Since 1990, diesel exhaust has been listed as a known carcinogen under California's Proposition 65, and in 1998, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) formally listed diesel particulate as a toxic air contaminant. The extensive scientific literature demonstrates that exposure to diesel exhaust increases the risk of developing lung cancer and other non-cancer health problems.

Numerous studies have found that fine particles impair lung function, aggravate respiratory illnesses such as asthma, bronchitis and emphysema, and are associated with premature deaths. Dozens of studies link airborne fine particle concentrations to increased hospital admissions for respiratory diseases, chronic obstructive lung disease, pneumonia and heart disease. In April 2003, the **American Lung Association®** released a report called **Closing the Diesel Divide, Protecting Public Health From Diesel Air Pollution** to spotlight the magnitude of the impact of diesel air pollution and to show policy makers and the public that there are life-saving solutions at hand.

Recent studies on the relationship between asthmatic responses and proximity to major roadways add to concerns about diesel's contribution to asthma. Studies have shown that the proximity of a child's school or home to major roads may be linked to asthma, and the severity of children's asthmatic symptoms increases with proximity to truck traffic. Studies are ongoing in this area of research.

In Washington, asthma is now an epidemic where one in ten adults and one in nine have this chronic lung disease.

Protecting Yourself From Diesel is Nearly Impossible

It is impossible for most people to avoid exposure to diesel exhaust. Trucks and buses are everywhere. To make matters worse, the most vulnerable among us are being exposed to the most diesel exhaust.

Children are among those most vulnerable to the health risks of diesel exhaust exposure, yet they ride on some of the oldest and most polluting diesel buses on the road today, sometimes for hours at a time. Constant, significant exposure to diesel exhaust, coupled with a child's heightened vulnerability to pollution, is widely recognized as a potential cause of severe health problems in children. It is well known, for example, that children raised in heavily polluted areas face the prospect of reduced lung capacity and prematurely aged lungs. In addition, childhood asthma is on the rise and is, among chronic conditions, the leading cause of absenteeism from school.

Another vulnerable population is low-income communities where large numbers of people of

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Earl. J. J. G. A.

Quicklinks:

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- * [Advocacy and Legislation](#)
- * [Master Home Environmentalist](#)
- * [Healthy House Training for Professionals](#)
- * [Big Ride](#)
- * [Climb for Clean Air](#)
- * [Trek Tri Island](#)
- * [Research](#)

Diesel emissions are also released throughout the process of fuel production, refining, distribution and dispensing. Diesel refining, distribution and storage facilities are predominantly located in these communities, which are already burdened by major air pollution and toxic risks. Continued use of diesel fuel increases toxic air pollution and raises the risk of lung cancer and other lung diseases in these communities.

To totally avoid diesel exhaust exposure, Washingtonians would have to stay indoors with the windows and doors tightly sealed. There are ways to reduce the risk, such as limiting exercise and activity to areas far from freeways or industrial complexes. But for most Washingtonians avoiding diesel exhaust is nearly impossible.

Reducing Fine Particles and Toxic Emissions

Reducing fine particles and toxic emissions from diesel engines will reduce:

- The incidence and severity of asthma attacks, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, coughing, wheezing and phlegm formation.
- Lost school days for children and workdays for parents and adult asthmatics. A recent study by the Washington State Department of Health indicated that one in six households have someone who suffers from asthma.
- Hospital visits due to asthma and other respiratory ailments. Exposures to diesel exhaust have been linked to increased hospital admissions for respiratory and heart diseases and up to 60,000 premature deaths annually.
- Cancer risk from diesel exhaust, which is estimated to be as high as 1,400 in a million southern California studies. The risk of cancer from diesel exhaust is not only for occupational levels of exposure. Breathing outdoor air, which contains diesel exhaust, also puts ordinary people at risk, especially school children. (For comparison, we spend millions of dollars every year on toxic waste cleanups to reduce risk to levels of one in a million.)
- Reduce chronic health effects on children's lungs. Fine particles and toxic emissions have been shown to reduce lung function growth in the developing lungs of children. Children with decreased lung function may be more susceptible to respiratory disease and more likely to have chronic respiratory problems as adults.
- Susceptibility to allergens. Reactions to allergens such as pollen can be more severe when there is also exposure to diesel exhaust.
- Exposure to priority pollutants. The Environmental Protection Agency has established maximum concentrations for six priority pollutants, above which adverse health effects may occur. The Puget Sound area is close to exceeding limits for particulate matter and ozone. Diesel exhaust generates large amounts of particulates and one of the precursors of ozone.

Eliminating Diesel Exhaust Without Eliminating Buses and Trucks

There is a way to transition from diesel and avoid the related health dangers without eliminating buses and trucks. Alternative power sources such as natural gas and fuel cells can eventually replace diesel fuel. Buses and trucks run on natural gas today, and fuel cells are being developed that could be capable of powering them in the future.

To significantly reduce the amount of pollutants and cancer-causing toxic air contaminants, Washington must promote cleaner alternatives where possible and substantially reduce diesel emissions through the use of retrofit devices and lower-emitting diesel fuel. The **American Lung Association of Washington**® is advocating for restrictions on diesel emissions and promotion of alternative fuels. We will also work with school districts to encourage them to switch over to buses powered by natural gas. Until we make a concerted effort to rid our state of dirty diesel fuel and transition to lower-emission fuels and cleaner alternative fuels, diesel exhaust will remain a serious public health threat.

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Exhibit 7 G 4

We need to support regulations and voluntary efforts to curb emissions from school buses, as well as trucks and cars. One such voluntary program is the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency's Diesel Solutions program, a partnership that encourages retrofits of diesel vehicles and the use of low sulfur diesel fuel in public and private diesel fleets. This voluntary initiative will leverage ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel into western Washington and enable a wide range of public and private fleets to join a consortium to retrofit diesel vehicles. To learn more go to the Diesel Solutions page on the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency website: **Puget Sound Clean Air Agency - Diesel Solutions**

Health Studies:

EPA, the World Health Organization, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences have listed diesel exhaust as a likely carcinogen. Recent studies indicate lung cancer risk can be significantly increased by exposure to diesel exhaust. A 100-cities epidemiological study indicates an 87 percent increase in lung cancer rates for each 10 micrograms increase in fine particle (PM2.5) levels.

Fine particles and toxic emissions have been shown to reduce lung function growth in the developing lungs of children. Children with decreased lung function may be more susceptible to respiratory disease and more likely to have chronic respiratory problems as adults.

- **Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study in the South Coast Air Basin: MATESII, Draft Final Report.** South Coast Air Quality Management District, November 1999.
- **Lung Cancer, Cardiopulmonary Mortality, and Long-term Exposure to Fine Particulate Air Pollution.** Journal of the American Medical Association, 2002; 287:1132-1141.
- **US Department of Health and Human Services, 9th Report on Carcinogens (PDF file).** Revised January 2001.
- **Proposed Identification of Diesel Exhaust as a Toxic Air Contaminant. Part B: Health Risk Assessment for Diesel Exhaust.** California EPA, May 1998.
- **Health Assessment Document for Diesel Exhaust.** Office of Research and Development, US EPA/600/8-90/057E, July 2000.
- **Air Quality Criteria for Particulate Matter on health effects associated with PM2.5.** US EPA/EPA 600/P-99/002aB, bB, March 2001.
- **Children's Exposure to Diesel Exhaust on School Buses.** Environment and Human Health, Inc., February 2002.

School Bus Studies:

This February 2001 study from NRDC and the Coalition for Clean Air shows that children who ride a diesel school bus may be exposed to up to four times more toxic diesel exhaust than someone traveling in a car directly in front of it. The study found that excess exhaust levels on school buses were 23 to 46 times higher than levels considered to be a significant cancer risk according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and federal guidelines.

- **<http://www.nrdc.org/air/transportation/schoolbus/sbusinx.asp>**

Environment and Human Health, Inc. cites the particular risk to children from regular exposure to exhaust from diesel school buses.

- **http://www.ehhi.org/pubs/children_diesel.html**

Seattle Air Toxicity Study 2001:

The report confirms early results from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA), which show the Puget Sound region in the top five percent in the nation for air toxics. EPA plans to release its final NATA data soon.

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Exhibit 6A

Comment Letter No. 152
Attachment 152p

The Clean Air Agency's report is based on actual air monitoring conducted by the state Department of Ecology and on agency staff analysis of the sources of toxic air pollutants uncovered by the monitoring. The staff analysis includes review of monitoring data and NAT modeling, emission inventories, source apportionment and application of best available risk factors.

This is the first time a relatively large group of toxic air pollutants has been studied, analyzed for cumulative health effects and then ranked by their effect on people's health. The data indicate the cancer risk from outdoor air toxics could be as high as about 700 in a million.

- http://www.pscleanair.org/news/other_pubs.shtml#.20020516psatedf

For more information, email the American Lung Association® of Washington at alaw@alaw.org call us at (206) 441-5100, or 1-800-732-9339. No matter where you live in the United States, you can call **your local American Lung Association®** at 1-800-LUNG-USA.

ALA of Washington **Contact Information**

ALA National Web:

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Exhibit G4

California Applications Program

Last update: 3 February 2003

Santa Ana

- **What is a Santa Ana?**
 - **What is the historical record of Santa Ana events?**
 - **Are we currently experiencing Santa Ana conditions?**
 - **What atmospheric circulation features are associated with Santa Ana events?**
 - **Image from NASA - Dusty Skies over Southern California**
-

What is a Santa Ana?

The Santa Ana is a dry, sometimes hot and dusty, wind in southwestern California that blows westward through the canyons toward the coastal areas. Santa Anas are a seasonal phenomena, occurring mostly during fall, winter and spring, tending to peak in December. The wind usually has its origin when cold air spills southward into the Great Basin, trapped between the Rockies to the east and the Sierras and Southern California coastal range to the west. This cold air mass is characterized by unusually high pressure near the land surface. Winds are driven into Southern California when the pressure of this interior air mass exceeds the pressure along the California coast. Winds are often strongest in mountain passes which are ducts for the continental air flow. Because the air over the higher elevations of the Great Basin sinks as it flows into coastal California, it is heated adiabatically, and temperatures are often quite warm. This continental air mass is invariably dry, so humidities in Santa Anas are low, often less than 25% relative humidity. Santa Anas have occurred irregularly over the time period since about 1950 when we have collected detailed wind and humidity observations, with some months experiencing Santa Ana conditions 30% the time, and other months less than 5% of the time.

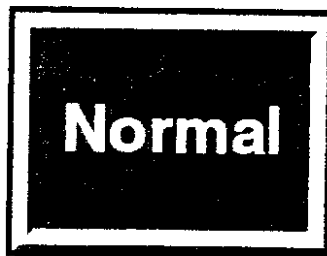
Santa Anas have several colorful nicknames including "devil's breath".

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What is the historical record of Santa Ana events?

Santa Anas typically occur from October into March. Many associate Santa Anas with autumn because at that time the winds often spread wildfires across areas that have gone months with little or no rain.

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Are we currently experiencing Santa Ana conditions?

Our current conditions are:

We use an index of three different weather parameters to detect Santa Ana conditions. These parameters are:

- the surface pressure difference (must be relatively high) between weather stations over the Great Basin and those sited along coastal Southern California
- at the coastal Southern California stations, the humidity of the air at or near the surface (must be relatively low)
- the direction of the wind at or near the surface (must be in the sector between north-northwesterly and easterly)

Detailed textual information of the data used to determine our current conditions can be found by clicking on the above condition image.

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What atmospheric circulation features are associated with Santa Ana events?

Any low-pressure system in the Pacific off the California coast may change the stability of the Great Basin High. The Great Basin High winds then turn southward along the eastern slopes of the Sierras. The low-pressure system over the Pacific literally sucks the winds through the mountain passes of Southern California toward the coastal areas.

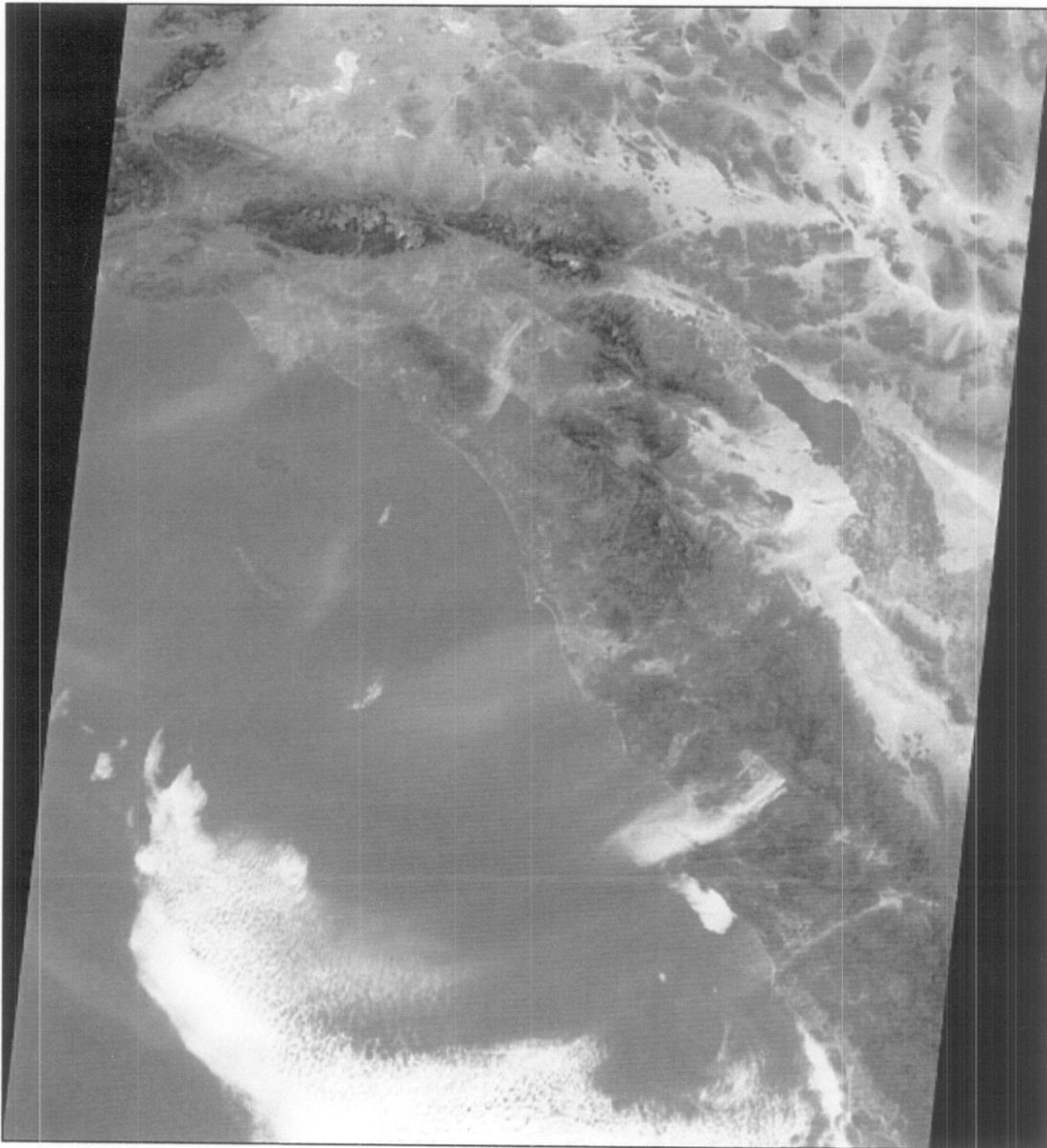


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Dusty Skies over Southern California - From NASA Earth Observatory New Images (June 2002)

The following image and news article were taken from the NASA Earth Observatory News site:

<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Newsroom/NewImages>



Southern California's "Santa Anas" are dry, north-easterly winds having speeds in excess of 25 knots (46 kilometers/hour). Santa Ana conditions are commonly associated with gusts of more than twice this level. These offshore winds usually occur in late fall and winter when a high pressure system forms in the Great Basin between the Sierra Nevadas and the Rocky Mountains. The air warms as it flows downslope from the high plateau, and its speed increases dramatically when forced through narrow canyons and mountain passes. Due to Southern California's uneven terrain, the strength of the winds varies greatly from place to place, and the Santa Anas can be sufficiently strong to pick up surface dust.

This view from the Multi-angle Imaging SpectroRadiometer shows the pattern of airborne dust stirred up by Santa Ana winds on February 9, 2002. The image is from MISR's 70-degree forward-viewing camera, and airborne particulates are especially visible due to the camera's oblique viewing angle. Southeast of the Los Angeles Basin, a swirl of dust, probably blown through the Banning

John Steven McGroarty
(1862-1944)
Third State of California Poet Laureate, 1933-1944

Comment Letter No. 152
Attachment 152r



John Steven McGroarty
1862 - 1944

Published Works

Biography

John Steven McGroarty, poet, historian, dramatist, journalist, and Congressman, was born in Foster Township, Lazerene County, Pennsylvania and educated in public schools and Hillman Academy in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. At age 16, John McGroarty was certified to teach in public schools, at 19 began his career in journalism, at 21 was elected Justice of the Peace, elected Treasurer at 27, and admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar at age 32.

In 1901, Mr. McGroarty moved to California, and worked for the Los Angeles Times. In 1934, he was elected to the 74th Congress of the House of Representatives and served two terms.

Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD) from the University of Santa Clara. Decoration of Knight of Saint Gregory from Pope Pius XI. Decoration of Knight Commander, Order of Isabella, from King Alphonso XIII of Spain, later confirmed by the Spanish Republic

• **Published Works**

Books

California, Its History and Romance
California of the South Los Angeles from the
Mountains to the Sea
Mission Memories
The King's Highway
Everybody's St. Francis
The Mass
Poets and Poetry of Wyoming Valley
Songs Along the Way
Just California and Other Poems
Wander Songs

Plays

The Mission Play
La Golondrina
El Dorado
Osceola
Babylon
La Gitana
Jan

Made Poet Laureate of California by joint action of the Assembly and the Senate of the Legislature of the State of California in 1933. The office is for life. He regarded this as his greatest honor.

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Exhibit I 1

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CULTURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Comment Letter No. 152
Attachment 152r

The goal of the Cultural Affairs Department is to enhance the quality of life for Los Angeles' 3.9 million residents and 25.1 million annual visitors. We accomplish this goal by generating and supporting high quality arts and cultural experiences. We ensure access to those experiences through grant making, marketing, development, communication, and building relationships with our community partners. Our challenge is to be a catalyst for the delivery of art, culture, and heritage to every neighborhood in the City of Los Angeles.

FACILITIES:

City-Owned and Operated Arts Centers and Theaters

Barnsdall Art Park

4800 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90027

Barnsdall Arts Center – 213.473.8457

Gallery Theatre – 213.473.8434

Hollyhock House – 213.473.8436

Junior Arts Center – 213.473.8457

Municipal Art Gallery – 213.473.8432

Canoga Park Youth Arts Center

7222 Remmet Avenue
Canoga Park, CA 91303
818.346.7099

Craft and Folk Art Museum

5814 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90036
323.937.4230

Los Angeles Theatre Center

514 South Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013
213.473.0636

Madrid Theatre

21622 Sherman Way
Canoga Park, 91303
818.347.9419

Performing Arts Firehouse

438 North Mesa Street
San Pedro, CA 90731
310.548.2496

Warner Grand Theatre

478 West 6th Street
San Pedro, CA 90731
310.548.2493

Watts Towers Arts Center

1727 East 107th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90002
213.847.4646

William Grant Still Arts Center

2520 South West View Street
Los Angeles, CA 90016
213.847.1540

PARTNERSHIP ARTS CENTERS:

City-owned facilities managed by community based organizations.

Arroyo Seco Art in the Park

5568 Via Marisol
Los Angeles, CA 90042
323.259.0861

Benning's Landing Community Center

100 East Water Street
Wilmington, CA 90748
310.522.2015

California Traditional Music Society

16953 Ventura Boulevard
Encino, CA 91316
818.817.7756

Croatian Cultural Center of Greater Los Angeles

510 West 7th Street
San Pedro, CA 90731
310.548.7630

Eagle Rock Community Cultural Center

2225 Colorado Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90041
323.226.1617

Lankershim Arts Center

5108 Lankershim Boulevard
North Hollywood, CA 91602
818.752.7568

McGroarty Arts Center

7570 McGroarty Terrace
Tujunga, CA 91042
818.352.5285

William Reagh Los Angeles Photography Center

2332 West Fourth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90057
213.382.8133

CANYON HILLS DEIR

Exhibit F2



Writing Classes UCLA Extension Online:
Introduction to writing workshop, fiction, non-fiction writing, screenwriting, structure analysis, writing

Comment Letter No. 152
Attachment 152r

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Respectfully Quoted: A Dictionary of Quotations. 1989.

NUMBER: 302

AUTHOR: John Steven McGroarty (1862–1944)

QUOTATION: One of the countless drawbacks of being in Congress is that I am compelled to receive impertinent letters from a jackass like you in which you say I promised to have the Sierra Madre mountains reforested and I have been in Congress two months and haven't done it. Will you please take two running jumps and go to hell.

ATTRIBUTION: Attributed to Representative JOHN STEVEN MCGROARTY.—Senator John F. Kennedy, *Profiles in Courage*, p. 10 (1956).

McGroarty served in Congress 1935–1939.

SUBJECTS: Congressmen

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University of Phoenix - Choose Your Program

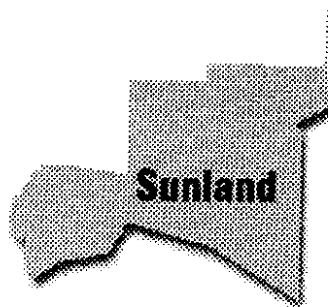
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Health Care	Education	Technology

CANYON HILLS DEIR

Exhibit I3

More on Sunland...

The McGroarty Art Center is also in Tujunga. It was built in 1923 by poet laureate and Congressman John Steven McGroarty. The statesman named his home "Rancho Chupa Rose," and upon his death in 1944, it became the property of his niece, Margaret McHale. The home and 16 adjoining acres were purchased by the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks in 1953. The complex was declared a historical monument in 1970, and four years later it opened the restored John Steven McGroarty Memorial Archive Library.



Comment Letter No. 152
Attachment 152r

[← back](#)

CANYON HILLS DEIR

Exhibit 1A

Comment Letter No. 152
Attachment 152r



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OUR NEIGHBORHOODS



This month, Huell travels to the northeast section of the San Fernando Valley to the beautifully modest towns of Sunland and Tujunga, which is a Shoshone Indian word, meaning, "place of the old woman" or "mother earth." Upon his journey, he learns that in the early 1900's, the land in Tujunga had been advertised to incoming settlers as small plots of land with a large supply of river rock with which to construct homes. Sunland is widely known for its vast orchards and is also the original location of the Sunland Olive Company, which has since moved to Porterville, but has retained the "Sunland" name. Huell stops first at the Bolton Hall Museum, built in 1913 entirely from river rock, and number two on the list of the most historic sites in the City of Los Angeles, where almost all the town's events were held, and where events are still held today. Huell also saunters over to the McGroarty Arts Center in Tujunga, originally built for a wealthy congressman, also constructed from river rock, and today is used for piano, dance, and ceramic classes, among other art-related activities. Huell concludes this sixth episode of **Our Neighborhoods** in the backyard of Sunland/Tujunga, in the beautiful San Gabriel Mountains. Tune in to LA CityView 35's production of **Our Neighborhoods: Sunland/Tujunga** on **October 7, 2:30 p.m.** & **October 10, 8:00 p.m.**

Our Neighborhoods AIRS Mondays, 2:30 P.M. & Tuesdays, 8:00 P.M.
Our Neighborhoods AIRS on NETV On Tuesdays, 8:00 P.M.

SECESSION 101

On November 5th, Los Angeles voters face a momentous decision on Valley and Hollywood secession. With a heated, confusing political campaign underway, how can you get the reliable, balanced information you need to make up your own mind? Watch "Secession 101", the only weekly half-hour television series on the secession issue.

"Secession 101", sponsored by The Gas Company and a production of L@36 and USC's Trojan Vision, has been created by The Civic Forum, an independent, neutral organization devoted solely to educating voters on this complex issue. Each program, hosted by Civic Forum Chair Ken Bernstein, brings together top experts to give you insights into the potential impacts of secession: on public safety, water and power, neighborhood services, your pocketbook, and much more.

AIRS MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS, 10:00 P.M.; TUESDAYS, 2:00 P.M.; THURSDAYS, 11:00 A.M.; SATURDAYS, 3:30 P.M., AND SUNDAYS, 4:00 P.M.
"SECESSION 101" WILL BE SHOWN WITH SIMULTANEOUS SAP TRANSLATION IN SPANISH.
COURTESY OF LA CITYVIEW 35.

CANYON HILLS DEIR

Exhibit IS