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ENVIRONMENTAL
UNIT

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Los Angeles City Planning Department
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200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Canyon Hills Project—ENV-2002=24-EIR SCH#2002091018

One of the major defects, and perhaps the major defect, in this DEIR is that it does not address the fact that the ecological balance of Nature in the project area will NEVER again be achieved. When the digging starts, insects, rodents, reptiles, birds and animals will flee for their lives. Some will die or be killed on the spot, others will die or be killed attempting to escape, while some will successfully escape their natural homeland and be gone forever.

49-1

The attempts, in the DEIR, at "mitigation", all the varied concerns about flora and fauna, and all the illogical writing that the movement of 125 million cubic feet of earth, the uprooting of nearly 300 native trees and their replacement, by and large with acorns, the addition of more than 3000 daily vehicle trips, the elimination of hiking, equestrian and biker trails, and the carving away of ridgelines, will have little, if any SIGNIFICANT impact on the La Tuna Canyon area are for naught. Example: Page I-16, paragraph 2; 259 acres of mixed chaparral will be permanently impacted. However, "mixed chaparral is not listed as a Rare Natural Community. Therefore, impacts to mixed chaparral is considered adverse, but is not considered "SIGNIFICANT." The same faulty thinking is taken with about 19 acres of deerweed, chamise chaparral, coastal sage scrub, et,al the destruction of which is not SIGNIFICANT. Further, although nearly 300 acres of its habitat will be excavated or otherwise damaged, there will be no SIGNIFICANT impact to the San Diego coast horned lizard, the silvery legless lizard, or the orange throated whiptail!!

49-2

While some of Nature's creatures will remain in surrounding areas, the peaceful, pristine nature of La Tuna Canyon or Canyon Hills will be replaced with more vehicles, more pollution, both air and water, more noise and, more importantly, more people at a time when reason dictates that we attempt to stabilize population, not increase it!

49-3

In addition, the grading and scarring of the hillsides in the canyon and especially the construction of access bridges across the canyons off La Tuna Canyon Road will completely despoil the aesthetic and pristine nature of the La Tuna Canyon forever.

49-4

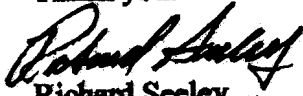
The citizens of L.A. County and the State of California are presently facing a decrease in public services, overcrowded and, in some areas, dilapidated schools without textbooks and other supplies, infrastructure in need of attention, in some cases immediate attention, potable water in ever decreasing quantity, an increasing shortage of agricultural land due primarily to overdevelopment, near traffic gridlock, a total lack of adequate alternative forms of transportation, and a lack of respect for the physical environment including increasing air, water and ocean pollution!

49-5

This DEIR is not only flawed in its concept, but, in many areas, inexact and, frankly, supercilious. This project is misconceived and is beneficial only to the developer! Your complete attention should be on its impact upon the community as a whole, not on the profit motive of an out of state corporation.

49-5

Thank you.



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