

**JANICE VOGEL ACKLES
7100 FLORA MORGAN TRAIL
TUJUNGA, CALIFORNIA 91042**

RE
CITY

DEC 31 2003

ENVIRONMENTAL
UNIT

December 22, 2003

Los Angeles City Planning Department
Maya E. Zaizevsky
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: ENV-2002-2481-EIR: SCH#2002091018
Canyon Hills Project-DEIR Comments**

Dear Ms. Zaitzevsky:

As a resident of Tujunga for the past 26 years, I have become quite attached to the natural beauty and cultural diversity of the surrounding communities. Because I live in the Verdugo Hills, I am situated a short distance from the proposed Canyon Hills project area and therefore take an interest in the impact this project will have on the community.

71-1

I have studied the DEIR and have noted dozens of inaccuracies and omissions in the total environmental impact. While I recognize I am not an environmental expert, I feel it is important to underscore two major existing conditions which have far-reaching ramifications for the well-being of all citizens.

1) Fire Protection:

There are only three fire stations in an already heavily taxed, high fire area. The total area to be covered by these facilities is vast in both wild, mountainous terrain and close-density urban sprawl and the resources are currently stretched to the limit. Should we experience fires in this vicinity like those of the past months in Simi, San Bernardino and Riverside counties, I suspect the death toll could be even higher and hundreds of acres of wilderness would perish. This area cannot support another cluster of high-density homes as proposed by the Canyon Hills developers.

71-2

2) Police Protection:

There are currently two police officers assigned to cover all crime-related incidents in a huge, sprawling area of the Northeast San Fernando Valley. While they are diligent in their assignment, they are unable to respond to most calls in under ½ hour. This certainly can mean the difference between life and death in many instances. Any more additional strain on the current system will inevitably result in greatly-increased crime rates. We want our community to be as safe as is possible.

71-3

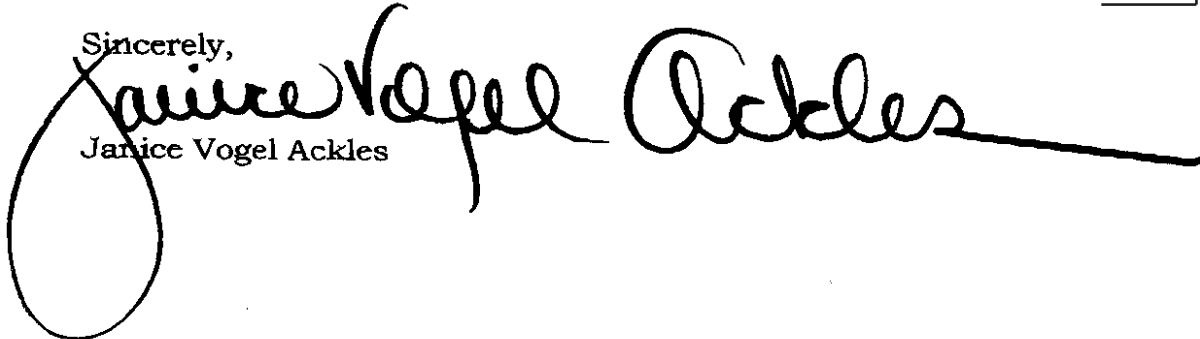
While I can certainly understand anyone wanting to better themselves through commerce, land development being one such area, I also believe it is possible to make money and still have regard for the people in a community and for the environment.

Perhaps Edward Abbey, noted writer and naturalist, expressed it best, "Though men now possess the power to dominate and exploit every corner of the natural world, nothing in that fact implies that they have the right or the need to do so."

71-4

I urge the City to require the Canyon Hills DEIR to be re-issued after all the environmental impacts have been adequately addressed, and to hold the Project to comply with all laws and to the Scenic Plan.

Sincerely,

A large, handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janice Vogel Ackles". The signature is written in a cursive style and extends across the width of the page.

Janice Vogel Ackles