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November 26, 2010

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LAFCO
San Bernardino County

Ms. Kathleen Rollings-McDonald
Local Agency Formation Commission
215 North "D" Street, Suite 204
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0490

Dear Kathy:

LAFCO 3110 consists of a service review for the Lake Arrowhead Community Services District (District) pursuant to Government Code Section 56430 and Sphere of Influence Update pursuant to Government Code 56425. The District encompasses approximately 13 square miles generally bordered by a combination of section lines and parcel lines and the Crestline Village Water District sphere on the west, a combination of section lines and parcel lines on the north and east, and parcel lines (north and south of State Route 18 on the south.

The District provides water supply, wastewater service and other services within the area identified above. The Commission staff is recommending that the existing Sphere be expanded to include ten parcels located within and adjacent to the City of Hesperia where the District discharges treated effluent from it wastewater treatment operations. The properties are owned by LACSD and it will be able to save funds if these parcels are ultimately annexed. LAFCO 3110 also includes several sphere expansion areas to include surrounding private lands. Refer to the attached maps.

As we have learned from previous sphere and service reviews, the designation of a sphere and retention of existing services, which focuses on a planning boundary, does not by itself cause any modifications to the physical environment. Only when the subsequent step is taken to physically revise the jurisdictional boundary or range of services of a service agency does a potential for physical change in the environment occur.

The effects of the sphere and service review for the District, expansion of the Sphere as indicated, does not appear to have any potential to alter the existing physical environment in any manner. Expansion of the current Sphere does not have any potential for causing physical changes in the environment because it is solely a planning boundary. Therefore, I recommend that the Commission find that a Statutory Exemption (as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act, CEQA) applies to LAFCO 3114 under Section 15061 (b) (3) of the State CEQA Guidelines, which states: "A project is exempt from CEQA if the activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA." It is my opinion, and recommendation to the Commission, that this circumstance applies to LAFCO 3110.

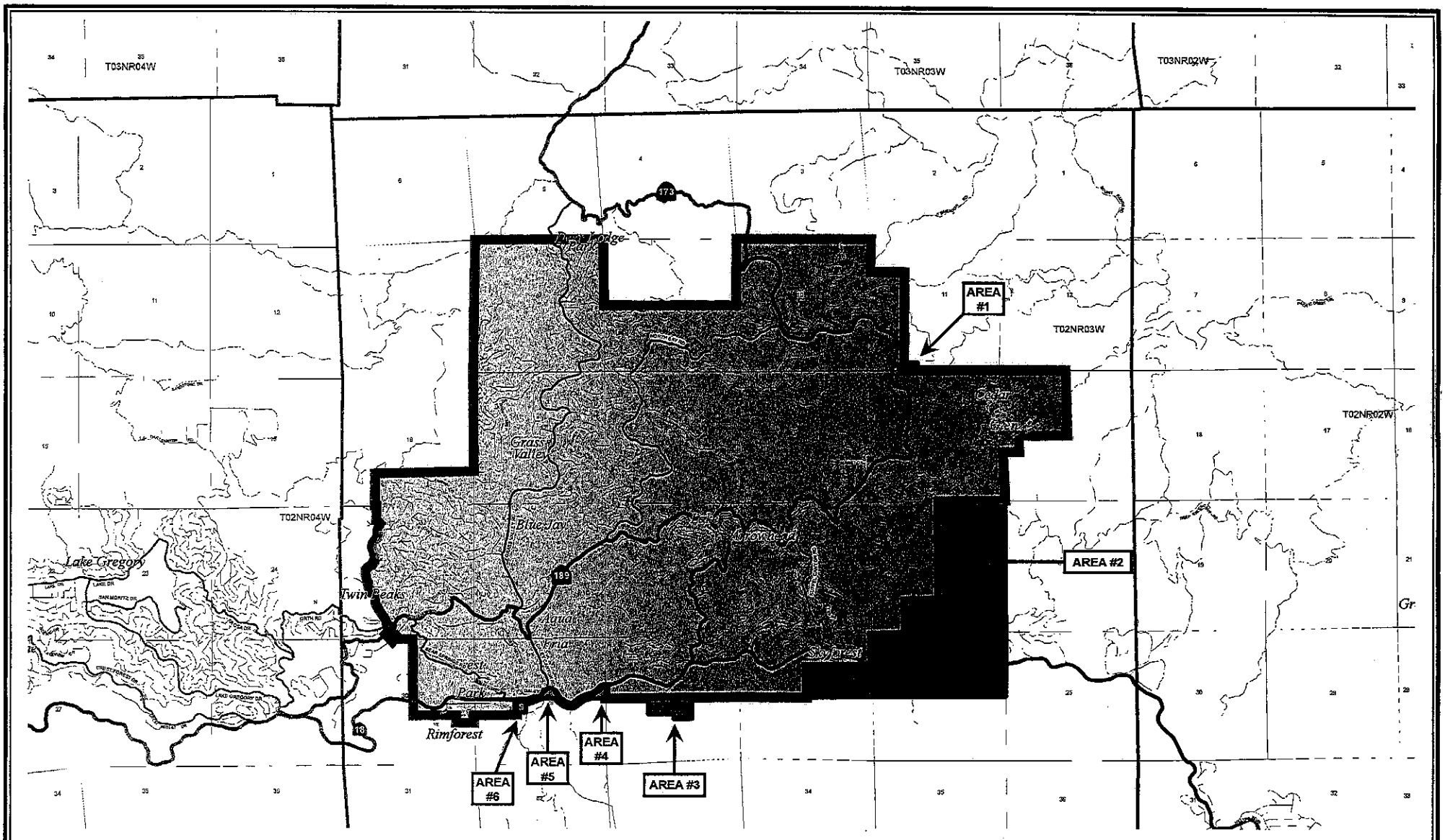
In this case, adopting the expanded Sphere of the District does not alter the existing operations or obligations of the area and does not adversely affect any existing physical facilities. It modifies a planning boundary only. Based on this review of LAFCO 3110 and the pertinent sections of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, I conclude that LAFCO 3110 does not constitute a project under CEQA and adoption of the Statutory Exemption and filing of a Notice of Exemption is the most appropriate determination to comply with CEQA for this action. The Commission can approve this review and finding for this action and I recommend that you notice LAFCO 3110 as statutorily exempt from CEQA for the reasons outlined in the State CEQA Guideline sections cited above. The Commission needs to file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the County Clerk to the Board for this action once the action is completed.

A copy of this memorandum and the NOE should be retained in LAFCO's project file to serve as verification of this evaluation and as the CEQA environmental determination record. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Tom Dodson

Tom Dodson

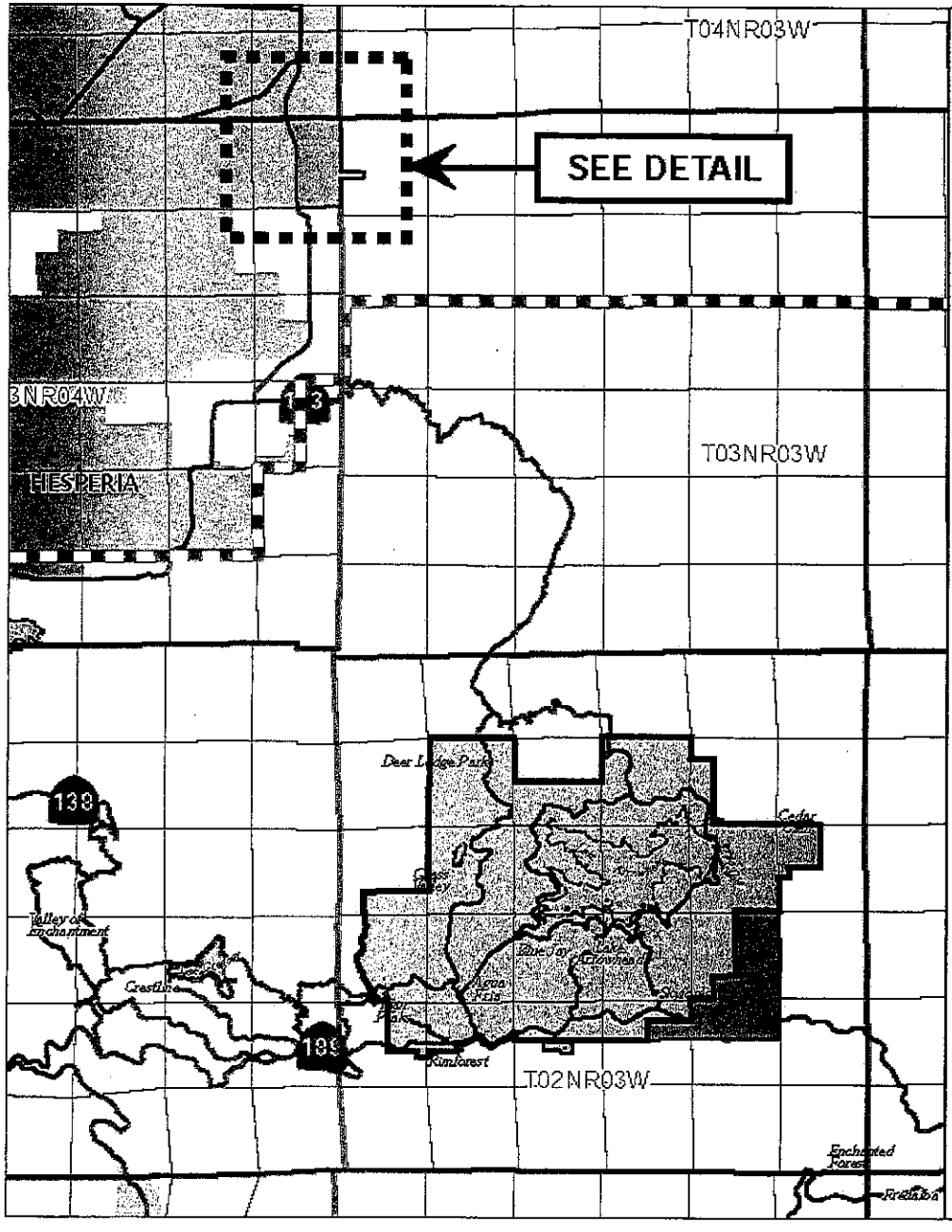


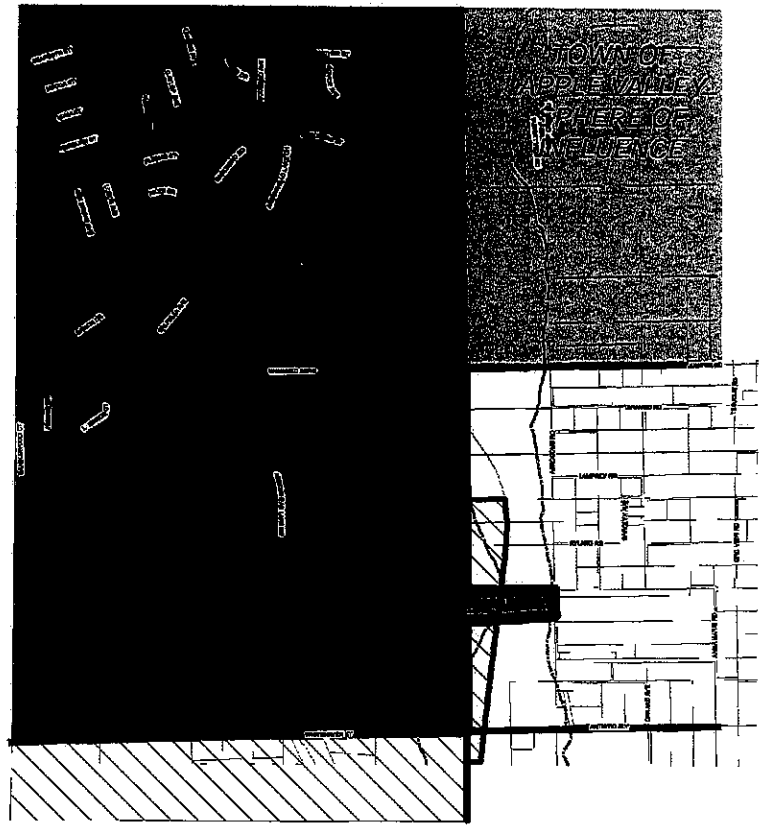
LAFCO 3110 - SERVICE REVIEW AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE FOR LAKE ARROWHEAD COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

LACSD

LACSD Existing Sphere

Proposed Sphere Expansion Areas





DETAIL MAP

LAKE ARROWHEAD CSD PROPOSED SPHERE OF INFLUENCE EXPANSION TO INCLUDE ALL THE DISTRICT-OWNED PROPERTY WITHIN AND ADJACENT TO THE CITY OF HESPERIA

LEGEND:

- LACSD Proposed Sphere Expansion
- City of Hesperia Sphere
- City of Hesperia
- Town of Apple Valley Sphere