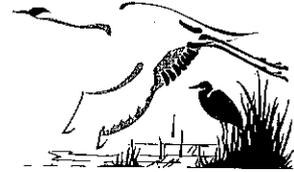
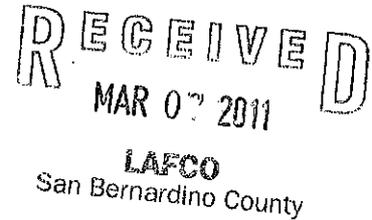


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February 24, 2011

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



Dear Kathy:

LAFCO 3131 consists of a service review for the County Service Area 79 (CSA 79) pursuant to Government Code Section 56430 and Sphere of Influence Update pursuant to Government Code 56425. CSA 79 encompasses approximately 2.5 square miles generally located in two separate areas: Area 1 is approximately 1,440 acres generally located within the community of Green Valley Lake and Green Valley Lake itself; and Area 2 is approximately 160 acres generally located along Green Valley Lake Road between Crab Flats Road and Camp Cedar Crest Road encompassing the Calvary Chapel Christian Camp area.

CSA 79's authorized powers include wastewater collection services. However, CSA 79's improvement zone R-1, also provides road maintenance and snow removal services. The Commission staff is recommending that the Commission consider establishing a single sphere of influence for the four districts (Running Springs WD, Arrowbear Park County WD, CSA 73 and CSA 79) by expansion of CSA 79's Sphere to encompass the Hilltop community, as defined by the Commission, and affirm the balance of the existing sphere. There are two alternative decisions available to the Commission: affirm the existing sphere; or expand the sphere to encompass private lands and split parcels. The Staff also proposes to modify the service description for the CSA 79's sewer function by adding "transportation" and removing "disposal," and affirm the remainder of the functions and service descriptions.

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 CSA 79, retain the existing Sphere, expansion of the current Sphere, or creating a single sphere as indicated, does not

appear to have any potential to alter the existing physical environment in any manner. Affirmation, expansion of the current Sphere, or expansion to create a single 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 3131 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 3131.

In this case, creating a single sphere including CSA 79 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 3131 and the pertinent sections of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, I conclude that LAFCO 3131 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 3131 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Dodson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom Dodson