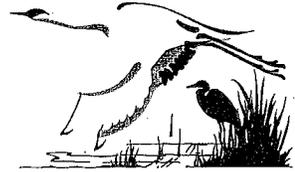


**Letter Response from the
Commission's Environmental
Consultant Tom Dodson of
Tom Dodson and Associates**

Attachment 3

TOM DODSON & ASSOCIATES
2150 N. ARROWHEAD AVENUE
SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405
TEL (909) 882-3612 • FAX (909) 882-7015
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July 30, 2016

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

RECEIVED
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LAFCO
San Bernardino County

Dear Kathy:

LAFCO 3208 consists of an amendment to the West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (District). The District currently provides mosquito and vector control services for a portion of the west San Bernardino Valley. In areas where the District does not provide such service, the San Bernardino County Department of Environmental Health Vector Control Division provides comparable services. LAFCO 3208 proposes a Sphere of Influence expansion in the west San Bernardino Valley that encompasses about 18.3 square miles, which includes the entirety of the City of Upland's existing corporate boundaries and its northern unincorporated Sphere known as San Antonio Heights. In this instance the proposed expansion of the District's Sphere of Influence is accompanied by a Reorganization to include annexations to the District and its Assessment District No. 1 and Zone A, which includes the areas encompassed by this Sphere Expansion.

However, in this instance the proposed Sphere expansion does not involve any physical changes in the environment. This is because even with the follow-on approval of LAFCO 3209 (referenced Reorganization), the services provided by the District will simply replace that currently provided by the County, i.e., the Sphere expansion will not result in any physical changes to the environment.

Therefore, I recommend that the Commission find that a Statutory Exemption (as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act, CEQA) applies to LAFCO 3208 under Section 15061 (b) (3) of the State CEQA Guidelines. This General Rule exemption 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 3208.

In this case, adopting the proposed Sphere expansion, in conjunction with the Reorganization (LAFCO 3209) will simply replace the existing mosquito and vector control activities carried out by the County with the same services, but conducted by a new agency. Thus, no physical changes in the environmental will

be adversely impacted by approving LAFCO 3208. Based on this review of LAFCO 3208 and the pertinent sections of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, I conclude that LAFCO 3208 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 3208 as statutorily exempt from CEQA for the reasons outlined in the State CEQA Guideline section cited above. The Commission needs to file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the County Clerk of the Board for this action once it is completed.

A copy of this memorandum and the NOE should be retained in the LAFCO project file to serve as verification of this evaluation and as the CEQA environmental determination record for LAFCO 3208. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Dodson".

Tom Dodson