

**LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO**

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DATE: JUNE 1, 2009

FROM: KATHLEEN ROLLINGS-McDONALD, Executive Officer

TO: LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

**SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #5 – INITIATION OF SPHERE OF INFLUENCE
ESTABLISHMENT FOR PHELAN-PINON HILLS COMMUNITY SERVICES
DISTRICT**

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission initiate the sphere of influence establishment study for the Phelan-Piñon Hills Community Services District which will include a municipal service review.

BACKGROUND:

The Phelan-Piñon Hills Community Services District (hereafter PPHCSD) was officially formed on March 18, 2008. The Government Code requires the definition of a sphere of influence for all public agencies under the Commission's jurisdiction. By practice, the Commission has utilized the direction of 56426.5 to provide for the sphere of influence establishment within one year of the formation of a new district. Therefore LAFCO staff is recommending that the Commission initiate the sphere of influence establishment for the PPHCSD. Upon initiation, LAFCO staff will begin coordination with the administration of the PPHCSD on the preparation of the required documents for the review.

It has been the past practice of the Commission to establish the initial sphere of influence coterminous with an agency's boundaries. In this way, the Commission fulfills the requirement for assignment of a sphere, but does not obligate the new entity to assume planning for extension of service beyond its existing boundaries while still in the process of establishing its operations, staffing, internal operating procedures, etc. In keeping with this practice, staff is recommending that the Commission identify the review area will be coterminous within the PPHCSD's existing boundaries. Since this action will be initiated by the Commission and no change in service area or function/ service provided is contemplated, no filing fees will be assessed for processing.

However, if the PPHCSD expresses a desire to expand the territory in its sphere of influence establishment beyond its existing boundaries or requests a review of additional functions or services, staff will consider this as a new application. As an application, it will be subject to the payment of all filing fees for processing a sphere of influence proposal or service expansion request as well as submission of the required forms, plans, and application materials.

/krm

Attachment