

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: March 30, 2015

From : 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 9(a): Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the Los Angeles County Sanitation District on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for Alternate Deep Well Injection Site (SCH No. 2014081077), Santa Clarita Valley.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy potentially address, but not take any action on, the subject item until a new environmental document is circulated.

Background: The subject deep saline injection well was proposed in open space area that the County required Newhall Ranch and Farming to dedicate to a public joint powers authority as part of its Westridge project approval. The fee simple transaction never occurred. A conservation easement was recorded in 2013. The property is within a Los Angeles County-designated Significant Ecological Area (SEA).

At the March 11, 2015 Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District Board meeting, the Board unanimously voted to permanently reject a deep well injection site at the Tournament Players Club (TPC) and any other sites in Stevenson Ranch and Westridge. A Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR) focused on a deep well injection site at the TPC was withdrawn from consideration and further comment on the Draft Supplemental EIR was suspended.

Sanitation District staff was directed to investigate other locations for deep well injection not near homes and allow appropriate time for public input and environmental review in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

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