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CITY OF LOS ANGELES

DEC 22 2003

ENVIRONMENTAL
UNIT

LOS ANGELES CITY PLANNING DEPT.
MAYA E. ZAITZEVSKY
200 NORTH SPRING STR.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

**RE: ENV-2002-2481-EIR ;
SCH #2002091018
CANYON HILLS PROJECT- DEIR COMMENTS**

**FROM: KEVIN KELLY
8248 OSWEGO, SUNLAND**

FOR MS. ZAITZEVSKY:

I have resided in Sunland for over 54 years. I have family located in and around Sunland. Having worked, and lived here for numerous years, I feel I can bring a sincere and believable outlook as a 'citizen expert' to that which is presented by the Canyon Hills Whitebird DEIR.

Having grown up here, I feel I have especially valuable viewpoints to offer. I have seen the impact of additional people coming to live here. People come here for the same reasons I love living here. We're surrounded by magnificent mountains, un-damaged ridgelines and a panorama which gives this community the value it has. I see the DEIR fails to analysis effectively the cumulative effects the Whitebird Project may have on this community as a whole. The DEIR is deficient in its assessments of how the project may negatively impact the value of life people currently possess in living in Sunland-Tujunga.

79-1

IN RESPONSE TO THE DEIR; ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS:

SUBJECT: UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS:

Of special interest to me is the lack of conclusive evidence pertaining to the impact on the existing services we now have. We all understand that California is suffering an economic crisis, which affects our public services. What we have is all we have and for an indefinite period, will be all we have. In light of this, the DEIR is completely defective in its findings on the impact to these services. There is insufficient reporting in the DEIR on the impact on already overextended public services.

79-2

Not to mention the taxing on our garbage services , which cannot improve due to statewide monetary restrictions.

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**FROM: KEVIN KELLY
8248 OSWEGO, SUNLAND**

SUBJECT: WATER AND ELECTRICITY:

We are aware that the power grid is taxed, especially in summer. And with every home going in at Whitebird, each home could have 2 - 4 air conditioning systems per home. The result of this extra pull on the power grid and its affects to the community is inconclusively realized in the DEIR. If there are blackouts, who gets priority on re-establishing service?? The power companies are currently encouraging us to restrict our usage of electricity and we have power outages due to the excessive load on the power supply companies currently; I propose that the Canyon Hills DEIR is insufficient in its reporting of its impact on the power grid.

79-3

In relationship to the vague conclusions reached in the DEIR, there is the related light pollution directly related to energy consumption. Currently the community of Sunland-Tujunga utilizes the minumum of street lighting. The residents so enjoy the privilage of seeing the night sky clearly; the impact of the light pollution the project will introduce is not fully addressed in the DEIR.

79-4

There is a conflict on water usage and the DEIR is unclear about its proposed usage and whether it can even accurately present useable data since every household presents varying needs and requirements. The impact on the surrounding communities is inconclusive. What if the introduction of this project and its requirements actually adversely affect us? The current company (DWP) may restrict our water usage or increase our water charges which now stand at almost an intolerable levels of cost? The DEIR clearly presents incomplete analysis on the impact of extra water, electricity and garbage needs to the project.

79-5

SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION:

Anyone who has lived here over ten years all comment on the incredible increase of traffic. Since Foothill Blvd. is the main and ONLY major thoroughfare of Sunland-Tujunga, it has becoming increasingly evident that there is overcrowding going on. The DEIR does not present conclusive traffic observation results. The traffic accidents have increased to such levels that residents can observe an accident a week, sometime two or three accidents a week. The increased traffic load of the Whitebird Project on Foothill blvd. and all surrounding streets is completely misrepresented in the DEIR.

79-6

The DEIR also does not mention the impact on this community's byways of the thousands of heavy loaded vehicles which will utilize the strategically located Foothill Blvd. Foothill blvd. is not close to the project, but some residential streets lead right up to its proposed location. The DEIR gives evasive results on the impact of the project related traffic on these streets.

79-7

And since traffic requires roads, what about the priorty placed on paving roads leading up to the project or around the project? Some residents have been waiting years and years for repaving of badly maintained roads and of roads which need first time paving. The DEIR does not give attention to this aspect of community useage or maintainance.

79-8

FROM: KEVIN KELLY
8248 OSWEGO, SUNLAND

SUBJECT: LAND USE:

Probably the most glaring example of misused land acquisition and development is the project scarring the Tujunga wash hillside, NorthEast of our community. It has become a permanent eyesore. Though this could be under the heading of Aesthetics, it is ultimately about land use and how developers use the land they purchase. We ask that the Project adhere to slope density ordinances; abide the Scenic Preservation Plan, the Community plan and all governmental/city codes and restrictions.

79-9

As a resident, I can look at the mountains in question, slotted for development and logically understand that the Canyon Hills Project may be inticed to change laws for their benefit. As every community knows, by hard experience that once an area is opened for development, more developers want to take adjoining parcels and develop those for profit. I have no objections to a company making a profit. If the DEIR represents Whitebird Project's objectives, than the DEIR appears to be purposely misleading. The way the DEIR is currently structured it is a forgone conclusion that the profits made may cost the the surrounding community in untold, irreversible or irreparable ways.

79-10

SUBJECT: POLICE PROTECTION:

This portion of the DEIR shows numerous flaws in reasoning. Our local law enforcement division is already so overly taxed it takes longer than normal for a response to a call. There are traffic accidents which have increased over the years, where the wait time for a traffic officer is longer than most anywhere in the valley.

The DEIR gives no conclusive information on how having hundreds of new households will impact the surrounding communities to qualities of life issues, such as harassment, petty crimes, delinquency of minors, traffic accidents, and domestic disturbance. The DEIR cannot base its report on its lack of 'murders' or other more serious crimes. It is the less serious disturbances which are not properly responded to currently. The Project's disturbances could tax our current law enforcement agencies to the point of adversely affecting all.

79-11

SUBJECT: FIRE PROTECTION:

Of the DEIR report on fire, there is a complete lack of attention to paramedic response time or availability. And the DEIR is remiss in revealing plans associated with fire access roads? Whose land are they on? Or are they wide enough? In even of a major fire, how will all the residents escape on one road? All issues not addressed in the DEIR.

79-12

I strongly recommend the City Planning Office to review all community letters and encourage the Canyon Hills DEIR be re-issued. Please honor and uphold the Scenic Plan, the Community Plan and all ordinances applicable.

79-13

Thank you for your interest in this letter.

