DATE: July 3, 2014

TO: Laura Hocking, RMA/Planning Technician

FROM: Sergio Vargas, P.E., Permit Manager

SUBJECT: RMA 14-014, Los Angeles County Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan
Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR): Request for Comments

Pursuant to your request, this office has reviewed the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Los Angeles County Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The County of Los Angeles is preparing an environmental impact report for the comprehensive update of the Los Angeles County Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan, which is part of the Los Angeles County General Plan. The project area is the unincorporated area of the Antelope Valley in Los Angeles County and is approximately 4,083 square miles. It is bordered to the west by Ventura County, to the east by the counties of Orange County and San Bernardino, and to the north by Kern County. The Plan proposes to protect environmental and agricultural resources and preserve the rural character of the Antelope Valley communities while accommodating new housing and employment opportunities in defined, specific areas of the Valley. The Plan will replace portions of the existing Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan that was adopted in 1986.

WATERSHED PROTECTION DISTRICT PROJECT COMMENTS:

The Ventura County Watershed Protection District (District) would like the Los Angeles County Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan to acknowledge the importance of managing the flood hazard along the Santa Clara River on a collaborative inter-County (Los Angeles/ Ventura) basis so as to ensure that both Counties can mutually achieve their General Plan goals of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of their respective residential and business communities as well as protecting their natural environments. The District would like to suggest the following additional flood hazard policy for inclusion in Chapter 5: Public Safety, Services and Facilities, in the Los Angeles County Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan.

Policy PS 3.5: Require potential development in Flood Zones designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to achieve No Adverse Impact to downstream locations including the Santa Clara River which traverses westerly into Ventura County. Where applicable, work in collaboration with Ventura County so that both Counties can mutually achieve their respective goals of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of their respective residential and business communities as well as protecting their natural environments.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this document. Feel free to contact me for any further information or if you have further questions.

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