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Original in Matt Carpenter's  
Office

2000  
Plant

November 24, 2002

Newhall Ranch Company  
23823 Valencia Boulevard  
Valencia, California 91355

Attention: Mr. Mark Subbotin, Senior Vice President

Re: Results of 2000 Rare Plant Surveys on Newhall Ranch

Dear Mr. Subbotin,

URS Corporation (URS) was retained by Newhall Ranch Company to conduct rare plant surveys in portions of the Newhall Ranch project area in Spring 2000 in support of the proposed river management plan and associated project-specific environmental documents for the Newhall Ranch Project. The field surveys were conducted on 12 days during the period April 29 to June 3, 2000 by botanical experts that were subcontractors to URS. Per your request, we have presented the results of the rare plant surveys on the enclosed maps.

In early May 2000, URS botanists identified the presence of what we believed to be the San Fernando Valley spineflower one-half mile south of the Santa Clara River near Grapevine Mesa. Thereafter, our field botanists continued to survey certain other portions of Newhall Ranch south of the Santa Clara River for this and other sensitive plants through the end of May 2000. The surveys were terminated at the beginning of June when Newhall Ranch Company advised URS that plant surveys would be suspended so that Newhall could focus on the steps required to comply with a recent decision by Kern County Superior Court regarding the project. URS was not asked to prepare a report or maps documenting the surveys at that time.

In November 2002, we were asked to review our field maps from the 2000 surveys and assist Newhall Ranch Company in preparing graphics displaying our field observations. The attached figures accurately portray our observations of the spineflower and other sensitive plant species in the areas that our subcontractors surveyed.

Sincerely,

John T. Gray, Ph.D.

cc: Ms. Kathy Rindlaub

Enclosures: Figure 1: Index Map; Figures 2 through 8 (plant locations)

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