

>>> "Barbara Dugal" <DUGALB@slc.ca.gov> 11/17/2009 4:35 PM >>>

Could you please let me know as soon as possible the status of the EIR for the Newhall Ranch project and when DFG anticipates taking action on the document?

Sincerely,
Barbara Dugal, Chief
Land Management Division
California State Lands Commission
(916) 574-1940

148. E-mail from Barbara Dugal, California State Lands Commission, dated November 17, 2009

Response 1

The comment requests information regarding the status of the EIS/EIR and when the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) may take action on the document. The request for information was sent to the Newhall Ranch e-mail website established by CDFG, which was provided to allow the public to comment on the Draft EIS/EIR. The public comment period was from April 27 through August 25, 2009. The e-mail message from the State Lands Commission was sent to the CDFG website on November 17, 2009, after the close of the public comment period, and as a result, the message was not discovered until April 7, 2010. In response to the request for information regarding the status of the Draft EIS/EIR, the information provided below was given to the State Lands Commission.

During the last several months, CDFG and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) have been preparing responses to the many comments received and making changes to the Draft EIS/EIR, where appropriate, in response to those comments.

The Corps also has produced a draft Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA). In approximately June 2010, the Corps will release the Final EIS/EIR to the public, and a 30-day notice period for the Final EIS will be published in the Federal Register. At the end of that time, the Corps will adopt a final LEDPA. Thereafter, both agencies will independently review the Final EIS/EIR. The Final EIS/EIR would also be used to inform the lead agencies' decisions regarding the applicant's requested project approvals.