


		CITY OF LOS ANGELES California	
		Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council	
BART PAUL president BILLY HAYS vp administration CRIS HUGHES vp communications KEVIN DAVIS treasurer ROYAN HERMAN recording secretary NANCY WOODRUFF correspondence secretary	BOARD MEMBERS CILE BORMAN FRITZ BRONNER ERWING DAVIS DALE GIBSON CHERYL GRESLIE JOHN BLUE HERGET TERRY KAISER KEN KEEBLE KRISTIN SABO	 ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA MAYOR	9747 WHEATLAND BLVD, SHADOW HILLS, CA 91040 818-353-2000 www.ftdnc.org C/O DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT Attn: Grayce Wey Liu Project Coordinator 14410 Sylvan St, 4th Floor Van Nuys, Ca, 91401 818-374-6851 grayce.liu@lacity.org

December 11, 2008

City of Los Angeles
Environmental Affairs Department
200 N. Spring St.
19th Floor, Mail Stop 177
Los Angeles, CA 90012
ATTN: Wayne Tsuda

Dear Mr. Tsuda,

The Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council, which includes Sun Valley (the La Tuna Canyon and Stonehurst neighborhoods), Shadow Hills and Lake View Terrace, was never notified as to the proposed Athens Waste Disposal Project to nearly quadruple and expand their business in order to process 1500 tons per day of C@D materials and municipal solid waste at 11121 Pendleton St. in Sun Valley. As this would be the first such project on the east side of Glenoaks Blvd. and just blocks away from residential properties, it's impact will be much greater than one might expect for an industrial neighborhood.

The DEIR document evaluated impacts on freeways and intersections all west of the project. It is likely that trucks coming from the east will use the Sunland Blvd. and La Tuna Cyn. Rd off-ramps from the 210 Freeway. Trucks over 6000 pounds are prohibited on La Tuna Cyn. Rd. but the LAPD seldom enforce this and the truckers know it. Both of these routes are a shortcut compared to going west to the 118 and south on the 5. An additional shortcut to the project is on Stonehurst off Sunland Blvd. which passes through a quiet residential neighborhood with an elementary school and people riding their horses all day long.

The DEIR document addresses significant but unavoidable diesel emissions. As the primary meteorological feature in this area is an on-shore flow and/or minimal air movement, the gases

and particulates will flow toward the same residents and get trapped by the adjacent hills to the north and east, compounding their effect.

Noise has been an ongoing issue for the residents as well, as they report hearing trucks and their back-up warnings from early morning until after dinner every day of the week. Most other industrial businesses close over the weekend but tripling the truck activity at Athens will not enhance the rural way of life that so many of our residents have moved here to enjoy. And the potential for odor problems cannot be underestimated given that up to now Athens has just processed building materials. The ongoing litigations and AQMD suits presently filed against Athens do not indicate their genuine interest in addressing the complaints of the neighborhoods in which they operate nor complying with existing Government regulations.

With these thoughts in mind, we recommend the following:

- 1) Athens is to implement a Community Outreach Program that is both in English and Spanish to an area with a 3 mile radius. This should be comparable to the Bradley Landfill effort with a fee to Athens of no less than \$100,000 to pay for consultants, outreach and community education.
- 2) Increase the scope of evaluated street impacts to include both eastbound and westbound on and off-ramps for the 210 Freeway at Sunland Blvd. Create a penalty for any Athens trucks or subcontractor trucks for driving on La Tuna Cyn. Rd. and Stonehurst of not less than \$100 per incident to be put into a Neighborhood Improvement Fund.
- 3) Not only should Athens install particulate traps on their collection vehicles as required by the South Coast Air Management District but they should require the same for sub-contractors entering the facility. Athens should follow Bradley Landfill's plans to replace existing vehicles with clean burning vehicles and create a time line to accomplish this. On-site vehicles should be electric.
- 4) Yearly surveys by independent researchers should be funded by Athens for a minimum of 3 years and then every other year thereafter to analyze environmental features including, but not limited to noise, odor, pests, hazardous material reports and cleanliness at and nearby the facility. In addition, any complaints made to authorities will be included. These surveys will be made available to interested Neighborhood Councils, City Council Offices and the public upon request.
- 5) As the community will be adversely affected on a continuing basis with no determined end, we feel that Athens and any subsequent owner should pay Host and Tipping Fees.
- 6) We believe that by creating a Community Advisory Committee where Athens will be willing to work with the community and follow guidelines already in existence with similar businesses, will benefit all.

In conclusion, Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council appreciates the 30 day extension but is very concerned that Community Outreach for this Project has been minimal at best. Sun Valley has and will continue to have a disproportionately high number of trash and waste processing facilities. It is crucial that they operate in a comparable fashion to best serve the entire community. This Project appears to have too many unanswered issues and should be delayed until properly investigated.

Thank you for your help,

Bart Paul

President, Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council

CC: Councilmember Wendy Greuel, CD-2
Dale Thrush, Director of Planning CD-2
Councilmember Tony Cardenas, CD-6
Daniel Skolnick, Director of Planning CD-6