

5th November, 2011

City of Newport Beach
3300 Newport Boulevard
Newport Beach, California 92663
Attention: Patrick Alford

RE: Newport Banning Ranch DEIR

Dear Mr. Alford,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Newport Banning Ranch Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). Please include the following comments and concerns in the official record. Please include the following comments and concerns in the official record.

Have the potential negative impacts of long term exposure to artificial fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides associated with development been thoroughly evaluated? These impacts would result when developing natural landscapes into active park grass fields and other artificial landscaping. Isn't groundwater quality degradation of utmost concern on, or adjacent to multiple vernal springs and other natural pools? Additionally, considering the presence of this surface water and its associated groundwater, will the lessons learned by Costa Mesa's South Coast Plaza Crystal Court development be applied to Banning Ranch development? Severe and widespread damage was caused to the surrounding neighborhoods due to extensive land subsidence damage caused by the pumping out of groundwater for construction. Will the city of Newport Beach be held liable for permitting a repeat of this mistake since it now has prior knowledge?

Sincerely,
Mr. David Cooley
3 Landfall Court
Newport Beach, California, 92663-2306

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