



Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment

SCOPE

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SCOPE Appeals Castaic Lake Water Agency Court Decision that would permit the illegal acquisition of Valencia Water Company and the related Contract that promises the community's water supply to Newhall Ranch and other Lennar projects

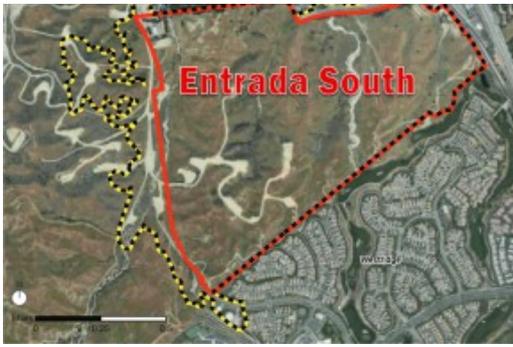
In its April decision, the California Superior Court made several unusual rulings including limiting the administrative record to not admit relevant facts, an incorrect finding that a Public Utilities Commission Decision was not final and ignoring State laws that say Castaic Lake Water Agency may not serve water at retail or own stock in another corporation.

“Our community is now left to deal with a water company that does not exist in state law and therefore has no public oversight or checks and balances,” said SCOPE President, Lynne Plambeck as she discussed the Board’s reasons for the appeal. “In other circumstances everyone would applaud the move of a private water company to public status, but in this case, the transaction appears structured to benefit the parent development company, Newhall Land and Farming/Lennar Corp. at the public’s expense. Moving nearly \$74 million into the pockets of the Newhall’s hedge fund owners while illegally committing future water supplies is not in the public’s interest, especially in light increasing water well closures in Valencia due to ground water pollution in this area. The lack of transparency and secret back room deals that assures these huge Newhall developments a water supply while attempting to avoid a fair and thorough public review is a clear attempt to skirt state law It is not only poor planning, it is just plain illegal.”

To read the entire press release, click [here](#).



Newhall Proposes Yet another 1574 Housing Units in the Middle of a Drought! Hearing On the Draft Impact Report



Thursday June 4th, 6 PM Your Presence is Needed

Rancho Pico Jr. High School
26250 W. Valencia Blvd.
Westridge, 91381

A few weeks ago the [Los Angeles Times ran a story](#) about NASA reports indicating that California may have as little as one year of water left. Now Newhall Land is proposing yet another unsustainable project built on an old oil field (you can see the remaining oil well pads in the picture). Would you want to invest in or live in a house built over an old oil field? What are the health and safety implications? Newhall has already received approval for their Landmark and Mission tracts- app. 6000 units total (Mission will be built in an old oil field also), both of which are currently being reviewed by the California Supreme Court. But that hasn't stopped this company, now owned by an out of state corporation (Lennar) and hedge funds. They have already put out new Notices of Preparation for Homestead (app. 3400 housing units and Entrada North 1250 housing units. Not to mention the 3150 units for North Lake, also beginning their process. Where will the water come from? How will existing residents deal with all the additional traffic and water cutbacks needed to accommodate these new houses? Other communities are not subjected to such massive uncontrolled growth. What is happening in Santa Clarita?

We must change these kinds of land use approvals to something more sustainable. If you have concerns, this is the time to voice them. Please attend this hearing. For more information on this proposal, info on where to write letters and to download the Environmental Impact Report by section, click [here](#).

Did you miss our May Meeting?

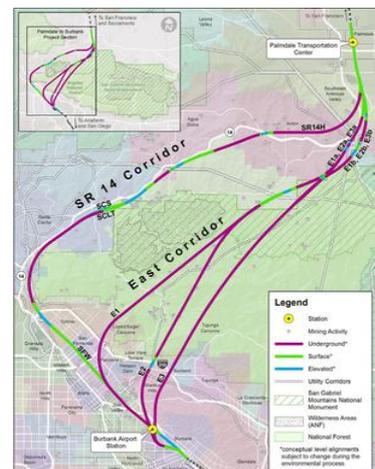
Then you missed a great presentation by Senator Pavley's field representative, Dusty Russell, discussing current environmental legislation in Sacramento. Sen. Pavley is carrying legislation on Climate Change, fracking rules, ground water and well data reporting in the hopes of making water supply reporting and water quality issues more transparent and continuing the fight to stop global warming. But you can still view his power point presentation by clicking [here](#).

High Speed Rail Meeting

Are you worried about the high speed rail routes through the Santa Clarita Valley? Or other issues such as noise? What will it look like? How much will it cost? Here is your chance to learn more.

The High Speed Rail Authority will be holding a Community Open House Meeting in the Santa Clarita Valley on:

Monday June 1st, 5PM-8PM
Santa Clarita Activities Center
20880 Centre Point Parkway
Santa Clarita, CA 91350



SCOPE in the News -

["SCOPE Appeals CLWA Takeover of Valencia Water Co."](#)

["SCOPE Joins with Local Residents to Demand Review"](#)

["Activists to Demand Hearing on Landfill Expansion"](#)

["Supreme Court Accepts Review of Newhall Ranch Project"](#)

["Suit Challenges Purchase of Water Company to benefit Newhall Ranch"](#)

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No time to volunteer? Then you can ease your conscience by making a donation. Even small gifts are a big help and greatly appreciated. You can donate through Paypal on our website or download a donation form.

Help us to help you save the Santa Clara River
with your donation to SCOPE.



Don't forget! - You can get in depth information on our current activities and additional articles by visiting our new

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Contributions are tax deductible and may be sent to:

[SCOPE](#)

(click for donation form)

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Canyon Country,
91386

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