

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

SOOKY GOLDMAN NATURE CENTER
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June 23, 1997

Via Facsimile

The Honorable. Michael D. Antonovich
Supervisor, Fifth District County of Los Angeles
500 West Temple Street, 8th floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element
Towsley Canyon - Santa Clarita Woodlands Park**

Dear Supervisor Antonovich:

Between 1989 and 1995 the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy has acquired over 3500 acres in the Santa Clarita Woodlands for public parks. Six hundred and fifty acres of that total is within the lower Towsley Canyon watershed.

Along with the 476 acres acquired from 1989 to 1991, this agency's acquisition from the Chevron Land Corporation in 1995 essentially created a 5-mile-long, 3,530-acre, contiguous band of parkland from Pico Canyon to East Canyon. No potential landfill access is available to the upper half of Towsley Canyon without crossing this 5-mile-long Santa Clarita Woodlands Park. This property was acquired with public funds to permanently protect a regionally significant natural area and County-designated Significant Ecological Area.

Neither an access road to, nor a landfill in, upper Towsley Canyon are compatible with any existing or future park uses in the Towsley Canyon portion of the Woodlands. Under no circumstances would this agency consider the allowance of such uses. Our May 20, 1996 comment letter to the Department of Public Works regarding the Draft Siting Element addressed its inadequacy relative public parkland ownership constraints.

We support the immediate removal of Towsley Canyon altogether from the Siting Element. Given the constraints of the site, even the current term "Tentatively Reserved Landfill Site" makes no sense. If you have any questions, please contact me at (310) 589-3200 ext. 112.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rorie Skei".

Rorie Skei

Northern Division Chief

cc: The Honorable Zev Yaroslavsky
George Carvalho, City of Santa Clarita