

Homestead Valley Community Council

PO Box 3694

Landers, CA 92285

Phone: 760-418-4023 Web site: www.HomesteadValleyCC.org

May 18, 2009

Re: LAFCO SOI application 3134

Local Agency Formation Commission for San Bernardino County
215 North D Street, Suite 204
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0490

Dear LAFCO Commissioners,

We are writing to introduce ourselves to you, and to express our concerns over the application submitted to LAFCO by the Town of Yucca Valley, to expand its sphere of influence into the Homestead Valley community of Yucca Mesa.

We are the Homestead Valley Community Council (HVCC), comprised of delegates from the four unincorporated communities of Flamingo Heights, Johnson Valley, Landers, and Yucca Mesa in the third district of San Bernardino County. This area has historically been referred to as "Homestead Valley". HVCC has officers, bylaws, and meets on a monthly basis.

HVCC was organized by consensus of the four Homestead Valley communities. It is our privilege to be the representative body to the office of the County Supervisor and to any other County, State or Federal administrative body on matters affecting and benefiting the well being of our community members. We work to support and promote projects of benefit to the collective interests, safety, and security of all residents in the areas that are represented by our member organizations.

On March 30, 2009, the Town of Yucca Valley filed an application with LAFCO to extend its sphere of influence into one of our member communities, Yucca Mesa. The town of Yucca Valley states this SOI expansion, if approved, could bring benefits like new and improved services to the community of Yucca Mesa. This assertion contradicts statements by town manager Andy Takata, published in the April 11 edition of the Hi-Desert Star newspaper. Mr. Takata advises that the Town of Yucca Valley will not have the funds to extend its municipal services to Yucca Mesa for another 20 years (copy attached). More importantly the residents of Yucca Mesa have expressed their approval of the county services currently offered, and have no desire for the town of Yucca Valley to provide additional services.

We have been informed that over 2200 signatures have been collected opposing the SOI application. This is a very compelling number. Our Yucca Mesa delegates report that the overwhelming majority of residents in that community adamantly oppose this SOI application by the Town of Yucca Valley.

As the representative body of the communities of Homestead Valley, we strongly oppose any efforts by the Town of Yucca Valley to impose unwanted sphere of influence over the Homestead Valley community of Yucca Mesa. We ask that you deny this application and defend the wishes of the Yucca Mesa residents against what appears to be a very misguided and extremely unpopular SOI proposal.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters.

Homestead Valley Community Council



Rick Sayers, President