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I have been going to these dunes since the late 1970's. A lot has changed in the years and mostly it has been the reduction of the size of the dunes.

There used to be a time when we could go there and just show up and find a place to camp. Now it's very difficult to do that because of the reduction of the dune area and the reservation system which is limited to how many people can come to the dunes, there are no reservations because lots of people make reservations far in advance, especially on holiday weekends. So when we as a business owner can get away, we can't go to the dunes because the reservation system.

We try to get to the dunes at least twice a year for a week or more. Usually during the summer when the high desert is baking and we need some relief from the hot dry conditions and blowing sand here in the Antelope Valley.

As I type this letter to you the winds are 25-30 mph with 50 mph wind gusts. The wind is the culprit that makes the sand blow onto these homes and neighboring communities. Even with all the brush growing here around my home we have sand blowing and making it hard to breathe.

I realize that the area has had these homeowners move into the area. Which I noticed that all the eucalypts trees are now gone. Those trees use to be the landmark that we were almost to the beach. My advice to the homeowners who have breathing problems is: move away where the sand or dirt doesn't blow. The cities have lots of concrete which keeps mother earth more in its place.

California has always had bad air problems. I remember when we had smog days here in Los Angeles in the 60's through even today. Now they call them unhealthy air days, No Burn Days even in the winter when it is cold people can't use their fireplace.

Definition of Nipomo Mesa: The landform that is Nipomo Mesa was formed by westerly winds blowing and forming sand dunes over 10s of thousands of years. In the past 10,000 years the mesa was stabilized by vegetation. Prior to that the area was defined by wind erosion and flooding. So no matter how much you try to shut off the sand with vegetation, you will still have sand blowing and the marine biological material blowing into town Nipomo Mesa.

As a member of the group Friends of Oceano Dunes. We would like to have the following questions answered:

a) After a decade of studying the dust issue, what percentage of the dust on the Nipomo Mesa is from the ODSVRA?

- What percentage of the dust is from: construction, roads, agriculture, train tracks or refinery?

b) The recent SCRIPs report identifies marine biological material (PM2.5 & PM 10) being blown from

the ocean into the surrounding community and found in the same monitors used in the APCD dust studies.

- How did the APCD account for these particulates in all of their studies?

- When will the APCD update all of the studies (i.e. Phase I & Phase II) over the past 10 years to clearly delineate the marine biological material influence?

- What is the ODSVRA contribution to the dust with the correction to include the marine biological material?

c) The APCD has made numerous statements (written & verbal) stating that there is a significant amount of silica PM particulates coming from the ODSVRA, however recent studies by both the APCD and State Parks prove there is no silica PM particulates originating from the ODSVRA.

- When will the APCD publicly state it was wrong and that there is no silica particulates coming from the ODSVRA?

d) The APCD has focused on vegetating the dunes to a condition back to the 1930's, but has made no mention of replanting the Eucalyptus trees on the Nipomo Mesa that were used to filter out the dust that has been blowing since the beginning of time.

- How many acres of Eucalyptus trees is the APCD recommending be planted?

- When will the APCD recommend that the farm land in front of the homes on the Nipomo Mesa be returned to the same size as the 1930's?

Thank you for your time and answers to our questions.

Respectfully,

Joanne Fern

Native Californian 56 years old

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