

Simi Valley Landfill Expansion Task Force

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9 August 2007

Mayor Paul Miller
City of Simi Valley
2929 Tapo Canyon Road
Simi Valley, CA 93063

RE: Simi Valley Landfill Expansion Task Force – Neighborhood Councils

Dear Honorable Mayor Miller:

Thank you for your timely response of August 8, 2007 concerning the Simi Valley Landfill Expansion Task Force's request to appear before Neighborhood Councils for the purpose of discussing the proposed 371 acre Simi Valley Landfill Expansion. In your letter you deny our request on the basis that only groups above "political approach" may be considered.

The Task Force was established and named by a long tenured member of your City Council to independently review the complexity of the expansion and impacts on our community. To clarify any misconceptions, the Task Force is not a political organization or political committee, and its volunteer members are not paid for their efforts. The Internal Revenue Code makes this clear in its definition of a "political organization" as one that operates to accept contributions and make those contributions to specific parties or organizations.

Clearly, the Task Force is not a "political organization" under law, guideline, rule, charter, by-law or other definition to the best of our knowledge. Therefore, we respectfully request, in writing, the City policy defining "political organizations" and qualifying parameters determining "political approach" so as to determine the basis for our exclusion from a City established public process. This will greatly assist the Task Force in determining the City's interpretation of our rights and equality under the law.

With respect to the Neighborhood Councils, our understanding has always been that the Councils primarily serve as public forums for the dissemination of information on topics relevant to the City and that the City Council supports this open public dialogue process without prejudice. Certainly, there is agreement with our understanding that public service is not exclusively reserved to the City Council.

Please extend our best wishes to Mr. Sedell.

Sincerely yours,

Louis J. Pandolfi
Task Force Member
Technical Committee

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