

Mary Dona Paras

From: Bill Cotter [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2026 10:04 AM
To: megahouse@earthlink.net; Clerk of Board
Cc: Wayde Hunter; Andrea Provenzale Neighbor Alert; Yelena Goldman; Elizabeth Mitev Neighbor Alert; Katri Tyni Neighbor Alert; Nurha Hindi-Chahayed; Roxie Neighbor Alert; Jon Norris; Grigory Goldman Neighbor Alert; Ellie Katoyan Neighbor Alert; Meg Volk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sunshine Canyon Landfill Case #3448-18 Order of Abatement

Dear members of the SCAQMD Board:

While I thank you for the matters included in the proposed stipulation agreement, I must strongly comment that they do not go anywhere near as far as needed.

1) You have given Republic an extended period of time to respond with plans, and then, possibly, implement the listed requirements. During these months we will continue to be subjected to the very well documented odor issues that we are facing today. There should be an order to act immediately to reduce tonnage and hours so the community sees relief TODAY. With this curtailment Republic would have a real incentive to act on these issues as quickly as possible. Instead, it is all too likely we will see more requests for more studies or extensions, as has been their consistent track record.

With restrictions in place, the tonnage and hours could be brought back up in incremental amounts to ensure the stipulated changes are actually working.

2) Your document shows a very high number of NOVs. However, without actually enforcing a fine for each and every NOV, you have made them essentially worthless. What is the point of issuing a NOV if there is no teeth behind it? Republic is about to spend a billion dollars on landfill acquisitions – they have the money, so make them pay for what they are doing. Right now the NOVs are likely a joke inside their offices, as nothing is done when they get one.

3) You made too much of the rain having impacted the landfill. We have plenty of complaints on file for periods of no rain. Also, even if rain is an issue, as weather patterns change and we get atmospheric rivers, the landfill should be proactively upgrading their systems to deal with these issues. Instead, for years, we get told they were unprepared for the surprise of rain. How many years can they play that same broken record? We are not talking about the “100 year flood” worse case scenario – we are talking about something now happening on an ANNUAL basis.

You have the power to make Republic act NOW. Stop kicking the can down the road and take action so your regulations provide relief to the community NOW.

Look at the past year – the numbers have been steadily getting worse. Republic knows it and chooses not to take action.

Unless you force them to do something they won't change. Please let's not be in this same position another year from now saying “My, but those numbers are bad.” DO SOMETHING.

Bill Cotter
Granada Hills resident for 40 years