

From: [Isabelle Meyer](#)
To: [Wildfire Safety Advisory Board](#)
Subject: Potential for high loss of life in Glenoaks Canyon, Glendale, in case of wildfire
Date: Thursday, October 1, 2020 1:08:30 PM

Dear Sir or Madam:

I have lived in Glenoaks Canyon in Glendale for the past 46 years. I have created an extensive Disaster Preparedness program with 50 volunteers that for the past 30 years has helped prepare the residents of the 720 single-family homes in our cul-de-sac canyon for a variety of natural and man-made disasters. We are at great risk, however, for loss of life among our approx. 1,700 people in a wildfire. Our neighborhood is surrounded by chaparral and the only exit for all of us is Glenoaks Blvd., a one-lane dead-end road that would have to funnel approx. 1,170 cars out of the canyon in case of wildfire evacuation. In addition to the homes, we have two public parks on the floor of the canyon and a baseball field, tennis courts and a 18-hole public golf course on the landfill above.

I have expressed my urgent concern to the Glendale City Council in a presentation and to the Glendale Fire Chief in an e-mail. I did not receive a response from either party. I talked to Glendale Fire Marshal Jeff Ragusa yesterday, and he confirmed a general concern on the part of public agencies for our situation. Captain Joe Flahaven of Fire Station #25 (the nearest to our canyon) agreed that the danger is real and needs mitigation. In spite of their acknowledgement, I see no action being taken to prevent considerable loss of life in a wildfire. In view of the fire storms devastating our state and the deaths in the Paradise fire, we cannot help but be fearful of a similar fate.

In addition to our present worries, the City of Glendale has just published the EIR for the construction of a Biogas Renewable Generation Plant on top of the landfill that is the eastern terminus of our canyon. We fear that the construction and operation of this facility will increase the fire danger in our canyon, since it includes 24/7 flaring of methane and two proposed storage tanks for used oil and fuel on site. I must add that there is an earthquake fault running the length of our canyon which makes our situation even more precarious.

It is quite evident that our concerns are not being addressed on a local level. I hope that we can count on you as a State agency to intervene in the construction of the power plant, etc. and the creation of a secondary emergency exit for our residents and park visitors. We are in a very high risk fire zone and it is my understanding that municipal projects can no longer be built in such an area.

I would be happy to answer any questions you have and provide you with a copy of the EIR and other documents that illustrate our valid concerns. I feel a real sense of urgency about this issue and am making it my personal mission to protect our neighborhood from present and future fire danger and its resulting effects on our beautiful canyon.

Sincerely,

Isabelle H. Meyer