February 9, 2005

Mr. Wes Maffei, Manager
Napa County Mosquito Abatement District
PO Box 10053
American Canyon, CA 94503

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Study of the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District

Mr. Maffei:

At its February 7, 2005 meeting, the Commission adopted two resolutions as part of its Comprehensive Study of the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District. Resolution No. 05-01 codifies the municipal service review portion of the study and makes determinations with respect to the District’s vector control operations pursuant to California Government Code §56430. Resolution No. 05-02 codifies the sphere of influence review portion of the study and makes determinations pursuant to California Government Code §56425. Notably, in adopting this resolution, the Commission affirms the District’s existing sphere of influence, which is coterminous with its jurisdictional boundary and includes all unincorporated and incorporated territory in Napa County.

Please note that the effective date of the sphere update is contingent upon the receipt by the Executive Officer of a written statement by the District confirming that it presently provides vector control services relating to mosquitoes, yellowjackets, ticks, and rodents. This statement of service provision is required by California Government Code §56425(h) and is included as a term and condition for final approval by the Commission. Please submit this statement to the LAFCO office no later than April 20, 2005.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at your earliest convenience at (707) 259-8645.

Sincerely,

Keene Simonds
Staff Analyst II

Enclosures:
1. LAFCO Resolution No. 05-01
2. LAFCO Resolution No. 05-02
RESOLUTION NO. 05-01

RESOLUTION OF
THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF NAPA COUNTY
MAKING DETERMINATIONS

COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF THE NAPA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
SERVICE REVIEW

WHEREAS, the Local Agency Formation Commission of Napa County (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”) may conduct service reviews of local agencies pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (Government Code Sections 56000 et seq., hereinafter referred to as “Act”); and

WHEREAS, the Commission adopted a schedule for service reviews on October 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code Section 56430, the Executive Officer designated a service review of the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to its adopted schedule, the Commission held a public workshop on the “Comprehensive Study of the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District” on October 14, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer prepared a written report of this service review that was presented to the Commission in the manner provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the Commission heard and fully considered all the evidence presented at its public workshop on October 14, 2004 and at meetings of the Commission on December 9, 2004 and February 7, 2005; and

WHEREAS, as part of this service review, the Commission is required pursuant to Government Code Section 56430(a) to make a statement of written determinations with regards to certain factors.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DETERMINE, AND ORDER as follows:

[Signature]
Kenny [Signature]
COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF THE NAPA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
SERVICE REVIEW

1. In accordance with the adopted Local Agency Formation Commission Environmental Impact Report Guidelines, and applicable provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Commission hereby determines that this service review is exempt from the provisions of CEQA under Section 15306 of the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Section 15306). The service review is a data collection and research study. The information contained within the service review may be used to consider future actions that will be subject to environmental review.

2. The Commission adopts the statement of determinations set forth in “Exhibit A” which is attached and hereby incorporated by reference.

The foregoing resolution was duly and regularly adopted by the Local Agency Formation Commission of Napa County, State of California, at a regular meeting held on the 7th day of February, 2005, by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners DODD, KAY, SLAVENS, MOSKOWITE & LUPORINI

NOES: Commissioners NONE

ABSTAIN: Commissioners NONE

ATTEST: EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Executive Officer

By: [Signature]
EXHIBIT A

COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF THE NAPA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT SERVICE REVIEW

STATEMENT OF DETERMINATIONS

1. With respect to infrastructure needs or deficiencies [Government Code §56430(a) (1)], the Commission determines that:

   ▪ The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District provides vector control services with respect to mosquitoes, yellowjackets, ticks, and rodents. The District has appropriately planned its resources to provide effective vector control for residents of Napa County within the timeframe of this study.

   ▪ Service demands for the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District are guided by a variety of factors. These factors primarily stem from seasonal, environmental, and land use activities in Napa County. Based on the variable nature of these activities, the capacity of the District to effectively address service demands is dependent on its continued ability to adapt and redirect resources as needed.

   ▪ The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District has established reliable surveillance procedures to measure the effectiveness of its vector control services. The use of surveillance as an evaluation standard reduces the District’s dependency on infrastructure and increases the importance of staff training in terms of addressing service needs and deficiencies in a timely manner.

   ▪ The emergence of the West Nile Virus in California precipitated a significant change in service objectives for the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District. This change is characterized by an increased vigilance concerning mosquito abatement and highlights a transition in service priorities from nuisance control to public safety.

   ▪ The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District recently implemented three new vector control programs relating to yellowjackets, ticks, and rodents. These new programs, which complement a long-standing mosquito management program, may result in a significant increase in service demands for the District. Future studies should evaluate the development of these new programs and their impact on the ability of the District to maintain current service levels.

2. With respect to growth and population projections for the affected area [Government Code §56430(a) (2)], the Commission determines that:

   ▪ Projected population growth within Napa County Mosquito Abatement District’s jurisdictional boundary will increase at a level identical to projected growth rates for Napa County. However, any increase in population or development in Napa County will not have a significant impact on the vector population due to the presence of vector habitat within both urban and non-urban areas.
• Population projections issued by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) are reasonable estimates of Napa County’s current and future population. Population projections issued by ABAG for Napa County should be incorporated and used by the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District as reasonable population projections for its jurisdictional boundary.

• Future changes in demographics in Napa County present additional service challenges for the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District regarding the prevention and control of vector-borne diseases. These challenges emanate from the introduction of new vector-borne diseases and exposure to existing vector-borne diseases.

3. With respect to financing constraints and opportunities [Government Code §56430(a) (3)], the Commission determines that:

• In 2003, Napa County property owners approved an annual assessment for the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District to expand its mosquito abatement program and to provide new services relating to yellowjackets, ticks, and rodents. It is expected that this assessment, which more than doubles the revenue previously generated for the District, will provide sufficient resources to provide and sustain a higher level of vector control service within the timeframe of this study.

• Opportunities for the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District to increase revenues for its vector control service programs through additional assessments are constrained by Article XIII of the California Constitution, which requires two-thirds voter approval to raise special taxes.

4. With respect to cost avoidance opportunities [Government Code §56430(a) (4)], the Commission determines that:

• The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District is empowered under its principal act to impose a civil penalty against a property owner that has failed to comply with a notice to prevent a vector nuisance on his or her land. This measure reinforces the powers of the District and helps to ensure that public funds are not disproportionately allocated to serve one property at the cost of others.

• The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District has established a service program with a number of property owners in Napa County to provide long-term mosquito abatement services through individual contracts. This program allows the District to recover its costs for providing a higher level of service from property owners that have persistent mosquito problems.

• The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District is a member of the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California. This organization is comprised of 56 public agencies and provides its members with a number of valuable services, including cost avoidance opportunities relating to training services and publication materials. Other notable services offered by this organization include serving as a legislative advocate for statewide vector control and abatement issues and facilitating the exchange of service information between member agencies.
5. With respect to opportunities for rate restructuring [Government Code §56430(a) (5)], the Commission determines that:

- Services provided by the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District are primarily funded from property taxes and a special assessment. This revenue stream ensures that each property owner pays a proportionate share of the District’s operational expenses and supports the equitable distribution of vector control services in Napa County.

- The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District has established a reasonable rate schedule for property owners that have entered into service contracts to receive long-term mosquito abatement service for their land. This rate schedule, which is designed only to recover the District’s labor and cost of materials, encourages cooperation from property owners to pay for a higher level of service to control reoccurring mosquito problems on their land.

6. With respect to opportunities for shared facilities [Government Code §56430(a) (6)], the Commission determines that:

- The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District works closely with a variety of federal, state, and local agencies in the development and operation of its vector control services. These efforts help to coordinate the implementation of effective vector control measures in Napa County and strengthen regional planning objectives through shared resources.

- The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District maintains informal mutual-aid agreements with the Marin-Sonoma and Solano Mosquito Abatement Districts. These agreements provide a mechanism for the District to pursue cost-efficiencies through joint-use projects and support formalizing vector control services within the North Bay region.

7. With respect to government structure options, including advantages and disadvantages of consolidation or reorganization of service providers [Government Code §56430(a) (7)], the Commission determines that:

- The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District is empowered under California Heath and Safety Code to provide a broad range of services relating to the control of vectors and vector-borne diseases. Based on its principal act, a decision by the District to expand its services to include vectors other than mosquitoes, yellowjackets, ticks, and rodents is not the activation of a new power and does not need prior approval by LAFCO.

- LAFCO is authorized to consider the consolidation or reorganization of two or more special districts upon an application by the affected agencies or based on the recommendations of a study prepared pursuant to California Government Code. Preliminary analysis suggests that consolidation or reorganization of the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District with a neighboring vector control district would improve regional objectives, but diminish existing service levels due to the loss of local control. The loss in local control would limit the ability of the District to meet the service needs of the community in a timely and efficient manner.
The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District has been successful in achieving its original service objective to provide mosquito control for residents of Napa County. The District, which has expanded its services to include programs relating to yellowjackets, ticks, and rodents, continues to serve as an appropriate instrument in the prevention and control of vectors by localizing costs for the benefit of its constituents.

8. With respect to evaluation of management efficiencies [Government Code §56430(a) (8)], the Commission determines that:

- The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District provides an annual summary of past and projected expenditures as part of its annual budget. This budget is adopted following a publicly noticed board meeting in which members of the public are allowed to comment and offer suggestions with regard to District expenditures. In addition to enhancing the accountability of appointed representatives, the budget process provides a clear directive towards staff in terms of prioritizing District resources.

- In 1999, the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District prepared and adopted a mitigated negative declaration as part of its Integrated Mosquito Management Program. This decision represents a strong commitment by the District to provide sound, effective, and efficient services in concert with the California Environmental Quality Act.

- The recent decision by Napa County property owners to approve an annual assessment for the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District exemplifies the ability of the District to effectively articulate to its constituents the relationship between cost and the delivery of a higher level of service.

9. With respect to local accountability and governance [Government Code §56430(a) (9)], the Commission determines that:

- The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District’s board meetings are conducted once a month and are open to the public. Public inquiries involving the District’s vector control services can be addressed to the Board at this time. Regularly scheduled meetings provide an opportunity for District constituents to ask questions of their appointed representatives, while helping to ensure that service information is being effectively communicated to the public.

- The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District has established reasonable measures to maintain public dialogue with its constituents regarding its vector control services. These efforts, which have helped raise the level of public awareness regarding vectors and vector-borne diseases, facilitate local accountability and strengthen the ability of the District to provide effective service.

- The decision by the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District to minimize the use of pesticides demonstrates a concerted effort by the District to modify its service programs to reflect the needs of the community.
- Trustees for the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and the city councils from each of the five cities in Napa County. The composition of the Board makes it more accessible to the public and fosters a countywide range of perspectives regarding existing and future service needs.

- The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District is governed by a responsive and dedicated board and staff. These characteristics enhance local accountability and cultivate desirable working relationships with members of the public as well as other agencies.
RESOLUTION NO. 05-02

RESOLUTION OF THE
LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF NAPA COUNTY
MAKING DETERMINATIONS

NAPA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATMENT DISTRICT SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE

WHEREAS, the Local Agency Formation Commission of Napa County, hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”, adopted a schedule to conduct studies of the provision of municipal services within Napa County and studies of spheres of influence of the local governmental agencies whose jurisdictions are within Napa County; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer of the Commission, hereinafter referred to as “the Executive Officer”, conducted a study of the sphere of influence of the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District pursuant to said schedule and Title 5, Division 3, commencing with Section 56000 of the California Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer prepared a report of this study, including his recommendation to affirm the existing sphere of influence; and

WHEREAS, said Executive Officer’s report has been presented to the Commission in the manner provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the Commission heard and fully considered all the evidence presented at a public meeting held on said proposal on February 7, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Commission considered all the factors required by law under Section 56425 of the California Government Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DETERMINE, AND ORDER as follows:

1. The Commission hereby determines that a proposal to affirm an agency’s existing sphere of influence qualifies for a general exemption from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Approval to affirm an existing sphere of influence will not result in any land use changes or physical impacts to the environment. This proposal, which has been properly noticed for consideration at a public meeting, qualifies for a general exemption under CEQA because there is no possibility that it will adversely affect the environment [CEQA Guidelines, Section 15601(b)(3)].

2. The proposal to affirm the existing sphere of influence for the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District is APPROVED.
3. This sphere of influence update is assigned the following distinctive short-term designation:

NAPA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE

4. The sphere of influence for the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District is hereby affirmed to include the affected territory as shown on the attached vicinity map identified as “Exhibit A.”

5. Pursuant to Section 56425 of the Government Code, the Commission makes the statements of determinations in the attached “Exhibit B.”

6. The effective date of this sphere of influence update shall be final upon the receipt by the Executive Officer of a written statement by the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District pursuant to Section 56425(h) of the Government Code. This statement shall confirm that the District presently provides vector control services relating to mosquitoes, yellowjackets, ticks, and rodents.

7. The Executive Officer shall revise the official records of the Commission to reflect this change to the sphere of influence.

The foregoing resolution was duly and regularly adopted by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of Napa, State of California, at a meeting held on the 7th day of February, 2005, by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners SLAVENS, DODD, KAY, MOSKOWITE & LUPORINI

NOES: Commissioners NONE

ABSTAIN: Commissioners NONE

ATTEST: EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Executive Officer

By: [Signature]
EXHIBIT B
STATEMENT OF DETERMINATIONS

NAPA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE

1. With respect to the present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands, the Commission determines:

   The present and future land uses of the subject area are planned for in the general plans prepared by the six land use authorities whose jurisdictions overlap the jurisdictional boundary of the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District. These general plans provide for multiple planned land uses, including urban, industrial, open-space, and agriculture. The exercise of the District’s vector control powers, which are needed within both urban and non-urban areas, will not affect the level or type of development identified in the general plans of the land use authorities.

2. With respect to the present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area, the Commission determines:

   The provision of vector control services in the subject area helps to ensure the public health and safety of residents of Napa County. The need for vector control is greatest in areas characterized by the presence of stagnant water. The need for the District was affirmed by the recent voter-approved assessment expanding the services of the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District.

3. With respect to the present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide, the Commission determines:

   The Napa County Mosquito Abatement District has developed policies, service plans, and revenue streams to provide adequate and effective vector control services for the residents of Napa County.

4. With respect to the existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the Commission determines that they are relevant to the agency, the Commission determines:

   The social and economic well-being of the subject area is dependent on the effective control of vectors and vector-borne diseases.