



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Coast Region



Terry Tamminen
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

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December 3, 2003

Steve Monowitz
California Coastal Commission
725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Mr. Monowitz:

REQUEST FOR EARLIEST HEARING BY COASTAL COMMISSION REGARDING APPEAL OF COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT/PLAN APPEAL NO. A-3-SLO-03-113 (LOS OSOS WASTEWATER PROJECT)

We have received the Coastal Commission's Notice of Appeal for the Coastal Development Permit/Plan for the Los Osos community wastewater project filed by appellants Bhuta, Tacker and Barrow. This letter is to formally request that the Coastal Commission take action on the appeal as soon as possible, and to offer our assistance in addressing technical issues addressed in the appeals. Based upon the date of appeal (November 18, 2003), we understand that the next available public meeting of the Coastal Commission is the week of January 14, 2004 in Laguna Beach. We request the Commission take up this appeal at the January meeting in order for the project to proceed, avoiding delays and unnecessary additional costs to the community. In addition, taking action on the appeal at the January meeting will meet requirements of Sections 30621* of the California Code of Regulations.

As you know, resolving Los Osos' water quality problems, caused by inadequate waste management, has been a priority for this Regional Board for many years (decades). We support the Los Osos Community Services District's efforts to implement a community-based wastewater management plan, and look forward to completion of the project. We also recognize the large costs associated with the project and hope to assist the District in minimizing any further cost increases. As you know, delays with this project over the years have increased the total cost of the wastewater project by several million dollars. A delay of even several months would result in hundreds of thousands of dollars additional costs to the community. Therefore, if there is any technical assistance my staff can provide regarding water quality issues or the history of the Los Osos wastewater project, please do not hesitate to ask.

*Section 30621 (a) The commission shall provide for a de novo public hearing on applications for coastal development permits and any appeals brought pursuant to this division and shall give to any affected person a written public notice of the nature of the proceeding and of the time and place of public hearing. Notice shall be given to any person who requests, in writing, such notification. A hearing on any coastal development permit application or an appeal shall be set no later than 49 days after the date on which the application or appeal is filed with the commission.

California Environmental Protection Agency

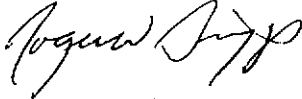


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EO REPORT ATTACHMENT No. 1
FEBRUARY 6, 2004 MEETING
REG. BD. LTR DTD 12-3-03 TO
CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

We are currently reviewing the appellant's documents and will provide written comments by separate letter. If we can provide assistance in this matter or you would like to discuss it in further detail, please contact Sorrel Marks at 549-3694 or Gerhardt Hubner at 542-4647.

Sincerely,



Roger W. Briggs
Executive Officer

cc:

Bruce Buel, General Manager
Los Osos CSD
P. O. Box 6064
Los Osos, CA 93412

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