

Los Osos CSD WWT



California Environmental Protection Agency



Air Resources Board • Department of Pesticide Regulation • Department of Toxic Substances Control
Integrated Waste Management Board • Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
State Water Resources Control Board • Regional Water Quality Control Boards

Terry Tamminen
Agency Secretary

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

August 9, 2004

Mr. Mike Reilly, Chairman
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, California 94105-2219

Dear Chairman Reilly and Commissioners:

RE: LOS OSOS CSD WASTEWATER PROJECT, SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

The Coastal Commission plans to conduct a de novo review of a Coastal Development Permit for the Los Osos Community Services District's proposed wastewater project on August 11, 2004. The project will stop ongoing degradation of coastal resources from discharges from septic systems. I am writing to urge your support for the project. This project will resolve the community's septic wastewater quality problems by building a community wastewater system.

Resolving water quality problems in Los Osos has been a priority for the State and Regional Water Boards for decades. The Water Boards, Department of Health Services, San Luis Obispo County, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Morro Bay National Estuary Program, Department of Fish and Game, other resource agencies, and Coastal Commission staff have worked closely with Los Osos Community Services District (CSD) to develop a technically, environmentally, and economically sound project which meets regulatory requirements and community goals. In 1997, your Commission was instrumental in formation of the Los Osos CSD specifically to assure project development proceeded under local control.

Building the Los Osos CSD wastewater project is an important component of your Commission's Critical Coastal Areas and Nonpoint Source Programs. In fact, your Commission's Web site highlights the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) for the Morro Bay State and National Estuary as a model for effective Critical Coastal Areas plans. Assisting the Los Osos CSD in completing the wastewater project is specified in the CCMP as a priority action needed to protect and restore water quality in the estuary.

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In summary, approval of a Coastal Development Permit for the Los Osos wastewater project at your August 11, 2004 meeting is vital to addressing public health and environmental impacts resulting from septic systems discharges. Further project delays will result in further degradation of coastal resources, and greatly increase costs to property owners.

State Water Resources Control Board Member Nancy Sutley will be in attendance at the hearing and be able to address the importance of the issue from the State Board's perspective. If you would like to discuss this project in further detail, please call Assistant Secretary Drew Bohan of my staff at (916) 322-1769. Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,



Terry Tamminen
Agency Secretary

cc: California Coastal Commission Members
California Coastal Commission
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