SLO CSH #1 LOS OSOS

NTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

HEALTH AGENCY

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Environmental Health Division

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Susan G. Zepeda, Ph.D.
Health Agency Director

Gregory Thomas, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Officer

Curtis A. Batson, R.E.H.S.
Director

CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BD.
RECEIVED
99 JAN 19 PM 1:50
81 HIGUERA STE. 200
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401

January 15, 1999

Sorrel Marks
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
81 Higuera St., Suite 200
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-5414

Dear Ms. Marks:

As the Health Officer, I am concerned with the potential of water that accumulates in low-lying areas during storm events becoming contaminated with surfacing sewage from failing septic systems. There is potential for children to play in these puddles and accidentally swallow the contaminated water and for tracking bacteria and viruses of sewage origin into living quarters. Given the history of failing septic systems and poor surface drainage in some areas of Los Osos, it is my intention to conduct a sampling survey of these areas where water tends to accumulate. I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to a meeting in the conference room between the Agriculture Commissioner's office and Environmental Health at 2156 Sierra Way on Thursday January 21, 1999 at 8:30am to discuss the nature and extent of this public health survey. The invited participants in this meeting are representatives of the Public Health Department, Los Osos Community Services District, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

I recognize that a survey of this type has limitations in differentiating sources of contamination. However, it is important to look at this issue and then decide if conclusions can lead to a suitable solution. It is my intent to conduct this survey this winter if there are suitable storm events. Your input will be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions please give Curt Batson a call at 781-5550.

Sincerely,

Curtis A. Batson for

Gregory Thomas, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Officer

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