



## Response to DEIR for the proposed Excelaron /Mankins Project

Lyn o jdmckenzie

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John McKenzie, Project Manager, County Planning and Building Department

976 Osos Street, Room 300

San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

July 22, 2011          Response to the Excelaron/Mankins DEIR

If the SLO County Planning Commission looks at what is appropriate to permit for defined areas of the county, let's look at what one finds present in the Huasna Valley area and what is being proposed to permit in that same area.

### **Huasna Area is**

... Valued for its living and quiet recreational characteristics

... Semi-remote, rural, modest density, little disturbed since the original land grants

... Populated by ranchers, equestrian interests, light agricultural, families, retirees, who have come there because they value the peaceful, quiet, clean, healthful, beautiful, surroundings.

... Attractive to the native animals as well as those more self-sufficient families who rarely disturb others. The natural resources of good air, night sky, sufficient water, quiet oak-covered hills are in harmony with and reflected by individual and community values.

### **The proposed project is**

A Class One noise impact fraught with risks of water and air contamination, traffic increase from proposed use and allowing a road ending in private property to become a throughway, whether legal or not, unknown complications from seismic activity.

Proposes to burn 500 gallons of diesel a day for 8 weeks of the year (with much greater

potential) for 20 years for the drilling activities

Proposes to run drilling rigs for 24 hours a day during that time

Risks air, ground water pollution

Permitting a land use by a class of operation (oil exploration and production) which is characterized by doing what they want to do for their own purposes while paying lip service to ideas of better behavior such as common sense and regard for environment, commonly preferring to pay fines rather than preventing “accidents,” using the permitting of small and very limited projects to set a precedent for greatly expanding activities, high rate of use of drugs of employees. Have you looked at oil operations in this county and neighboring counties? Does it look, smell or sound like Huasna Area?

The proposed activity simply is not compatible with current land use.

Lyn Schultz and Joseph Gerber

6445 Huasna Townsite Road

Arroyo Grande, CA 93420