

January 31, 2009

David Sylvester
5600 Los Osos Valley Road
San Luis Obispo, CA

Re: Los Osos Wastewater Project

Mark Hutchinson,

As a property owner in the very near vicinity to the proposed project at Tonini Ranch, my 55+ acre parcel located at 5600 Los Osos Valley Road (L.O.V.R.), the draft EIR raises significant concerns in many categories in ways that it would affect agricultural and visual aspects of the properties proposed and surrounding. Our ranch has direct views of the Turri Ranch site.

The Turri Road and the scenic byway of L.O.V.R. are a significant part of the aesthetic beauty that attracted us as landowners to the area. The EIR addresses some concerns but does not properly and fully address all aspects of the impact - specifically those related to the scenic and known regular uses of Turri Road by motion pictures and advertising due to its scenic beauty, and as a recognized bicycle corridor.

In many ways, the report seems boldly contradictory in its assessments of any detrimental effects the placement of the wastewater plant on the Tonini site would have. The EIR downplays any visual impact of an industrial plant built on an historically agricultural property and downplays any visual impact of a fence built to 'prevent public contact' along a road with mainly 3-strand barbed wire grazing fences for miles until you get into city limits.

Most puzzling, the EIR states "the proposed project would not conflict with the local goals and policies protecting agricultural resources". This is a slap in the face to local farmers and landowners who simply want to build a modest residence on the land they own, and completely contrary to their experiences with the process, many whom we know are turned down, have given up completely, or are highlighted in local papers after years of frustration. This does not appear to protect a long-standing prime A-1 agricultural resource, but rather develop it, even more than any residential project might.

1. Section 5.12-A states, "This project will not have an adverse effect on a scenic vista" and rates it as less than significant. In the EIR, section 3, page 44, paragraph 2 states, "The spray field area would be fenced off to prevent public contact with the water." Any subsequent type of fencing along Turri Road would do irreparable harm to the visual and aesthetic value associated with the area.

2. Traffic & Circulation - The EIR does not outline the number of truck trips nor

the use of Turri Road as the primary access point and how it may impact the road, surrounding areas and existing traffic.

3. Section 5.12-C1 does not specify the hours of operation of the facility lights and regardless of shielding whether they would be bothersome to adjoining properties at night and on weekends.
4. Section 5.11-A - The fenced-off area and the use of the public spray fields also represents a totally unmitigated loss of prime Agricultural Land that has remained unchanged for over 75 years. It also does not address the Coastal Commission's assessment as to loss of this prime Ag Land within the area.

The list is substantially longer but these are the main issues that would directly impact us and other citizens of the county.

I am adamantly opposed to the options for using spray fields outside the city of Los Osos.

Sincerely,
David Sylvester