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COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Families of Turri Ranch
3730 Turri Ranch Road
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

January 24, 2009

Mark Hutchinson
Environmental Programs Manager
San Luis Obispo County Department of Public Works
County Government Center, Room 207
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Subject: Los Osos Wastewater Project Draft Environmental Impact Report

The environmental impacts addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Report of the Los Osos Wastewater Project directly affect our family. Our property, assessor's parcel number 067-041-003 and 067-031-021, are adjacent to and across Turri Road from the proposed treatment and effluent disposal site for Los Osos wastewater.

For over 100 years five generations of our family have lived and worked on the Turri Ranch and we are deeply committed to preserving its special environment. Turri Road is unique, a quiet country road little changed over the years despite being off busy Los Osos Valley Road. Artists, bicyclists, movie companies, hikers, and TV advertisers enjoy its tranquil beauty and spectacular view of Hollister Peak.

To locate what is essentially an industrial plant in this serene setting is not environmentally sensitive. The possibility of odor problems, noise pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, light pollution and view shed issues cannot be dismissed or readily mitigated.

The spray fields intended to dispose of the treated effluent by a combination of evapotranspiration and percolation are adjacent to our property. The soil on the Tonini site is identified as Copley clay. We call it Los Osos adobe that turns to gumbo in wet years, takes forever to dry out and often spontaneously produces springs. We are concerned about run off from saturated ground onto our land.

During the dry season much of the treated wastewater would be lost to the atmosphere, a waste of a resource that might be used to replenish the Los Osos groundwater basin and to counter seawater intrusion.

Each of the proposed treatment projects uses a combination of the Tonini and Broderson sites for effluent disposal. To pump wastewater from the town of Los Osos to the most distant site for disposal, and then to return some of it back to a location in town surely is more costly both in energy and dollars.

We recognize the ongoing and serious problem facing Los Osos. Exporting their problem to our neighborhood at the expense of the environment does not seem to be the best solution. Therefore we are strongly opposed to locating the treatment plant or spray fields on the Tonini site.

Virginia Alford
Virginia Alford
The Alford Family

Elizabeth Soderstrom
Elizabeth Soderstrom
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