

RICHARD GORDON

Board of Supervisors
County of San Mateo

RECEIVED

July 30, 2004

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Jim Rourke
P.O. Box 222
Pescadero, CA 94060

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your patience in waiting for a response to your March 3, 2004 letter regarding the well for County Service Area 11. The issues that you raise in your letter are, of course, important one. I wanted the opportunity to consult with appropriate staff, and to thoroughly review the materials you provided, before responding.

Your have asked for answers to three questions, all of which relate to the authority to use water from wells on County property for purposes other than those contemplated by Coastal Development Permit 90-62, issued for the development of a community water supply and fire protection system. After consulting with staff and County Counsel, my belief is that, it was the intent of CDP 90-62 to limit the distribution of water from the constructed system to within CSA 11, and for the purposes stated in condition number 6 in the permit. I am not sure that the CDP 90-62 prohibits the County from limiting the water extracted from its property to only uses within CSA 11. However, after discussing this matter with the Director of Public Works, we have reached an agreement. From this point forward water from these wells will not be used for any other purpose except to serve the needs of CSA 11. The only exception to this policy will be if the water is needed for a declared emergency use and/or the Director of Public Works first brings the matter to the Board of Supervisors.

You have also expressed concern that water is being used for irrigation beyond that allowed for limited landscape purposes. The Director of Public Works is exploring a tiered rate system to charge for water use. We believe that such a system will discourage or eliminate such use.

I intend to communicate the issues and views expressed in this letter to the Pescadero Municipal Advisory Council. My goal will be to solicit the assistance of the community to help identify any illegal use of the water.

Please call if you have any questions about this matter.

Sincerely,



Richard Gordon

Cc: Neil Cullen



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