



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southwest Region
777 Sonoma Ave., Room 325
Santa Rosa, CA 95404-4731

July 10, 2012

In response, refer to:
SWR/F/SWR3/JEA

Doug Bosco, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, California 94612
Attn: Trish Chapman

Dear Mr. Bosco:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) encourages the California State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) to authorize a grant of up to \$32 million to California American Water (CAW) for implementation of the Carmel River Reroute and San Clemente Dam Removal Project (CRRDR). The CRRDR will reroute approximately 0.5 mile of the Carmel River into San Clemente Creek to create a permanent disposal area for the sediment that has accumulated in the reservoir area and remove the San Clemente Dam. The CRRDR Project is part of the recovery strategy for the Carmel River steelhead population and is a high priority for NMFS in that it will remove a long-standing barrier to over 25 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead. South-Central California Coast Distinct Population Segment (S-CCC DPS) steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) are listed as a threatened species under the federal Endangered Species Act. NMFS has consistently ranked the Carmel River watershed as the most potentially viable watershed for recovery of the S-CCC steelhead.

The CRRDR Project would improve the federally threatened California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) population in the Carmel River by eliminating the reservoir pool (bullfrog breeding habitat) and return the reach of the Carmel River that would merge with San Clemente Creek to a natural, free-flowing state. Removal of the dam would also re-establish the natural sediment regime improving instream habitat downstream of the dam.

Through this project, our long-term commitment to restore the Carmel River and improve the habitat for steelhead is being realized. Not only will CAW's dam safety issues be addressed, but the restoration of the river will provide significant public benefits. We believe the CRRDR Project will result in a win-win situation for the resources and the people of California. As a co-manager for the CRRDR project, we are very excited to see this project become a reality. NMFS encourages the SCC to authorize a grant to CAW for up to \$32 million for the implementation of the CRRDR project.

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JUL 11 2012
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



If you have any questions regarding NMFS' support of this important restoration project, please contact Ms. Joyce Ambrosius at (707) 575-6064 or joyce.ambrosius@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dick Butler", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dick Butler
North Central Coast Office Supervisor
Protected Resources Division

cc: C. Yates, NMFS, Long Beach
T. Chapman, SCC
Copy to file: 151422SWR01SR956

United States Senate

HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
SUITE 112
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0505
(202) 224-3553
<http://boxer.senate.gov/contact>

October 30, 2008

Sam Schuchat
Executive Officer
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, California 94612-2530

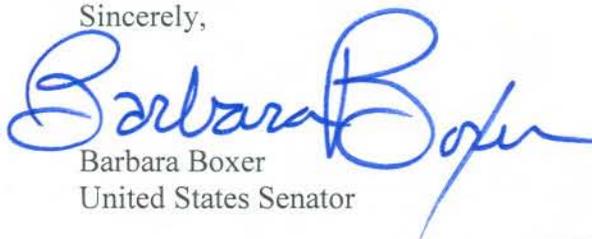
Dear Mr. Schuchat:

I am writing to support the cooperative efforts of the California State Coastal Conservancy, National Marine Fisheries Service, Planning and Conservation League Foundation, and California American Water to implement the Carmel River Reroute and Dam Removal Project.

Removal of the San Clemente Dam would provide numerous benefits to the public and environment. The project would eliminate the public safety risk posed by the potential collapse of the dam. It would also reduce erosion and associated damages to private properties and infrastructure along the Carmel River. Removal of the dam would restore vital habitat for threatened steelhead trout, California red-legged frogs, and other species. Furthermore, it would establish a contiguous connection between Garland Regional Park and San Clemente Open Space, establishing over 5400 acres of uninterrupted parkland for recreational use.

This project is a remarkable example of how public and private entities can work together to address challenges in water management and environmental protection. I fully support your efforts to secure funding for this project and complete implementation in a timely fashion.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer
United States Senator

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NOV 03 2008
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

1700 MONTGOMERY STREET
SUITE 240
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111
(415) 403-0100

312 NORTH SPRING STREET
SUITE 1748
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
(213) 894-5000

501 'I' STREET
SUITE 7-600
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 448-2787

2500 TULARE STREET
SUITE 5290
FRESNO, CA 93721
(559) 497-5109

600 'B' STREET
SUITE 2240
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101
(619) 239-3884

201 NORTH 'E' STREET
SUITE 210
SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401
(909) 888-8525

Exhibit 8: Project Letters

SAM FARR
17TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND
DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES
HOMELAND SECURITY
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS' AFFAIRS,
AND RELATED AGENCIES
CO-CHAIR, CONGRESSIONAL ORGANIC CAUCUS
CO-CHAIR, CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL AND
TOURISM CAUCUS
CO-CHAIR, HOUSE OCEANS CAUCUS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0517

1221 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0517
(202) 225-2861

100 WEST ALISAL
SALINAS, CA 93901
(831) 424-2229

701 OCEAN STREET
ROOM 318
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(831) 429-1976

www.farr.house.gov

October 27, 2008

Sam Schuchat
Executive Director
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, California 94612

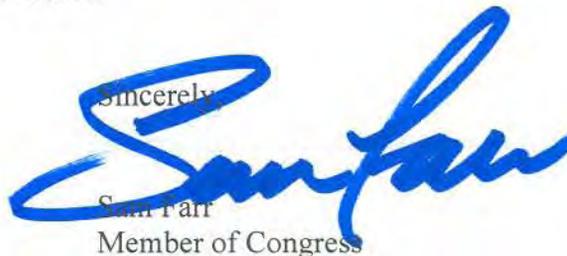
Dear Sam,

I am writing to express my support of the California State Coastal Conservancy's efforts to obtain funding for the removal of the San Clemente Dam on the Carmel River in Monterey County, California.

The Carmel River provides essential habitat for federally-threatened steelhead and California red-legged frog, which will both benefit by the removal of the dam. The Carmel River Reroute and Dam Removal Project (CRRDR) represents an extraordinary opportunity for public and private interests to work together to remove an unsafe dam and initiate a watershed restoration process that will bring this river back to life.

I am confident the Coastal Conservancy, working in conjunction with California American Water and the other project partners, can carry out this project successfully and therefore, wish to support your efforts to obtain funding for this important project. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Sam Farr
Member of Congress

SF/aa

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OCT 29 2008
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, California 93003

IN REPLY REFER TO:
81440-2011-CPA-0107

April 27, 2011

Doug Bosco, Chair
c/o Trish Chapman
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, California 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) encourages the California Coastal Conservancy (CCC) to approve the \$4.5 million in funding for the construction phase of the San Clemente Dam (dam) removal project (project). In addition, we encourage the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) to approve the \$7 million in funding for the construction phase of the project. The project would re-route an approximately 0.5-mile portion of the Carmel River via San Clemente Creek to create a permanent disposal area for sediments that have accumulated in the dam reservoir. The approximate 0.5-mile re-route through San Clemente Creek would enable passage by federally threatened adult and juvenile steelhead (*Oncorhynchus* spp.); thus, providing up to 25 miles of additional spawning and rearing habitat for the species. The project would also provide benefits to the federally threatened California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) through habitat enhancement and elimination of the reservoir pool, a known breeding location for non-native bullfrogs (*Rana catesbeiana*).

For a species such as the California red-legged frog to disperse beyond the dam (i.e., upstream or downstream), an individual must ascend or descend extremely steep slopes on either river bank adjacent to either dam abutment. Even in the unlikely event that an individual California red-legged frog is able to negotiate this slope, its exposure to predation is greatly increased during this movement. Although dispersal of individual California red-legged frogs in the project area has not been rigorously studied, it is reasonable to conclude that a structure such as the San Clemente Dam poses a substantial barrier to dispersal. Removal of the dam would allow California red-legged frogs to freely disperse upstream and downstream at what is now a likely barrier for the species.

The dam's reservoir pool is a source of bullfrog breeding due to the permanent aquatic breeding conditions that the pool provides. The Service considers the proliferation of bullfrog populations along the central California coast (e.g., Monterey County) to be a substantial threat to the persistence of the California red-legged frog in this area. The project would eliminate the reservoir pool (bullfrog breeding habitat) and return the reach of the Carmel River that would merge with San Clemente Creek to a natural, free-flowing state. Free-flowing reaches of the



Doug Bosco

2

Carmel River upstream and downstream of the project area meander seasonally, and periodically create off-channel pools and backwater areas. These features support high-quality breeding habitat for the California red-legged frog and the Service believes that returning the project area to a free-flowing state would enable this reach of the Carmel River to eventually function similarly for the subspecies.

The Service encourages the CCC and WCB to approve \$4.5 million and \$7 million, respectively, in funding to support the construction phase of the project. The project would provide several conservation benefits for steelhead and California red-legged frogs. If you have any questions regarding our support of this important restoration project, please contact Chad Mitcham of my staff at (805) 512-6805.

Sincerely,



Diane K. Noda
Field Supervisor

cc:
John Donnelly, Wildlife Conservation Board

California State Senate

CAPITOL OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 651-4015
FAX (916) 445-8081

SENATOR.BLAKESLEE@SENATE.CA.GOV

SENATOR
SAM BLAKESLEE, PH.D.
FIFTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICES
1104 PALM STREET
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401
TEL (805) 549-3784
FAX (805) 549-3779

590 CALLE PRINCIPAL
MONTEREY, CA 93940
TEL (831) 657-6315
FAX (831) 657-6320



November 19, 2010

Sam Schuchat
Executive Officer
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13thFloor
Oakland, California 94612-2530

Dear Mr. Schuchat:

I am writing to support the funding commitments and cooperative efforts of the California State Coastal Conservancy to implement the Carmel River Reroute and Dam Removal Project. This public-private project with National Marine Fisheries Service and California American Water is a remarkable example of how public and private entities can work together to address challenges in water management and environmental protection.

Removal of the San Clemente Dam would provide numerous benefits to the public and the environment. As a seismologist who has spent extensive time studying seismic activity, I know that a catastrophic seismic event is possible and could cause the San Clemente Dam to fail. This would endanger the 1500 homes downstream from the dam, and would cause significant environmental damage.

Removing the San Clemente Dam would also reduce erosion and associated damages to private properties and infrastructure along the Carmel River. Removal of the dam would restore vital habitat for federally threatened steelhead trout, California red-legged frogs, and other species. Furthermore, it would transfer approximately 900 acres of land to the Bureau of Land Management for open space purposes, establishing over 5400 acres of uninterrupted parkland for recreational use.

I fully support your efforts to secure funding for this project and complete implementation in a timely fashion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sam Blakeslee", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Senator Sam Blakeslee

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Exhibit 8: Project Letters

COMMITTEES
CHAIR, LABOR & EMPLOYMENT
BUDGET
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 5 ON
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/
TRANSPORTATION
ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY & TOXIC
MATERIALS
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY

WEBSITE
www.assembly.ca.gov/monning

Assembly California Legislature



WILLIAM W. MONNING
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TWENTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0027
(916) 319-2027
FAX (916) 319-2127

DISTRICT OFFICES
701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 318-B
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(831) 425-1503
FAX (831) 425-2570

99 PACIFIC STREET, SUITE 555-D
MONTEREY, CA 93940
(831) 649-2832
(831) 649-2935

SANTA CLARA COUNTY DIRECT LINE
(408) 782-0647

September 11, 2009

Robert G. MacLean, President
California American Water Company
1033 B Avenue, Suite 200
Coronado, CA 92118

Michael Chrisman, Secretary
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. MacLean and Secretary Chrisman:

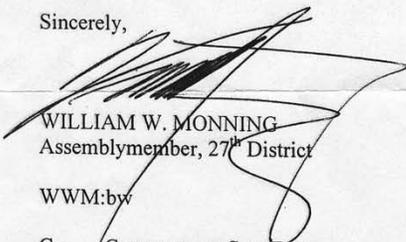
This letter is to express my support for the San Clemente Dam Removal and Reroute Project (Project) located on the Carmel River. The Project is being undertaken jointly by the California American Water Company (Cal Am), state departments within the California Natural Resources Agency, and various federal agencies.

Since the issue of safety about the San Clemente Dam was raised by the California Department of Water Resources' Division of Safety of Dams, discussions have focused on whether to buttress the dam or remove the dam altogether. I am pleased and encouraged to see that all interested parties are working together to implement the San Clemente Dam Removal and Reroute Project.

I understand Cal Am, along with the participating state and federal agencies are committed to devoting their time and available resources to develop an implementation strategy for the Project that meets the needs of all interested parties. Once implemented, this Project will improve the environmental ecosystem of the Carmel River.

Again, I would like to express my support the San Clemente Dam Removal and Reroute Project and hope that all those involved in the discussions continue to work together to ensure that the Project comes to fruition.

Sincerely,


WILLIAM W. MONNING
Assemblymember, 27th District

WWM:bw

Cc: Congressman Sam Farr
Monterey County Supervisor Dave Potter
Public Utilities Commissioner John Bohn
Dave Guterriez, Division of Safety of Dams, Department of Water Resources
Rodney McInnis, Regional Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service
Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer, California State Coastal Conservancy
Curtis Weeks, General Manager, Monterey County Water Resources Agency
Darby Fuerst, General Manager, Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

MONTEREY COUNTY



Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Dave Potter
Monterey County, Fifth District Supervisor

Kathleen Lee, Chief of Staff
Jayne Mohammadi, Aide
Bryan Flores, Administrative Assistant

1200 Aguajito Rd., Suite 001
Monterey, CA 93940
(831) 647-7755
Fax: (831) 647-7695
Email: district5@co.monterey.ca.us

July 10, 2012

Doug Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco:

Please accept this letter of support for the Coastal Conservancy's staff recommendation for approval of a grant of up to \$32 million to California American Water for implementation of the San Clemente Dam Removal Project.

This public-private project with California American Water is a remarkable example of how public and private entities can work together to address challenges in water management and environmental protection. The Conservancy's authorization to enter into a grant agreement with California American Water to allow public funds to be used for initiating construction on the project will solidify the public commitment to the project and allow the project be implemented without further delay.

I strongly encourage the Coastal Conservancy to concur with the staff's recommendation of approval. Removal of the San Clemente Dam will provide numerous benefits to the public and the environment. The project will eliminate the public safety risk posed by the potential collapse of the dam. The erosion and associated damages to private properties and infrastructure along the Carmel River will also be reduced. Removal of the dam will restore vital habitat for federally threatened species such as the steelhead trout and California red-legged frog. Furthermore, the project will transfer approximately 900 acres of land to the Bureau of Land Management for open space purposes, establishing over 5,400 acres of uninterrupted parkland for recreational use.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Potter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dave Potter
Fifth District Supervisor, County of Monterey



National Wildlife Federation

Pacific Region - Seattle Office
6 Nickerson Street, Suite 200 ♦ Seattle, Washington, 98109
(206) 285-8707 ♦ Fax: (206) 285-8698 ♦ www.nwf.org

April 25, 2011

Doug Bosco, Chair,
California Coastal Conservancy
Attention: Trish Chapman
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

and

John Donnelly, Executive Officer,
Wildlife Conservation Board
Attention: Peter Perrine
1807 13th Street, Suite 103
Sacramento, CA 95811

Dear Mr. Bosco and Mr. Donnelly,

The National Wildlife Federation, on behalf of its 140,000 members in California strongly recommends that the California Coastal Conservancy and the Wildlife Conservation Board approve funds needed for the removal of San Clemente Dam on the Carmel River.

The Carmel River represents one of the best opportunities for river restoration on California's Central Coast. San Clemente Dam is a major barrier to threatened steelhead trout, which have significant natural spawning habitat and natural rearing habitat located above the dam. Essentially all of the steelhead spawning habitat in the river exists above San Clemente Dam which is located 18.5 miles upstream of the mouth.

Removing the San Clemente Dam will help to re-establish a healthy connection between the lower Carmel River and the watershed above the dam and improve habitat for threatened red-legged frogs. It will also expand public recreation by preserving over 900 acres of coastal watershed lands, resulting in over 5400 acres of contiguous regional park land.

Sincerely,

Les Welsh
Pacific Regional Representative,
National Wildlife Federation

July 12, 2012

Doug Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA

Dear Mr. Bosco:

Please accept this letter of support from the Carmel River Watershed Conservancy for the Coastal Conservancy's staff recommendation for approval of a grant of up to \$32 million to California American Water for implementation of the San Clemente Dam Removal Project.

This public-private project with California American Water is a remarkable example of how public and private entities can work together to address challenges in water management and environmental protection. The Conservancy's authorization to enter into a grant agreement with California American Water to allow public funds to be used for initiating construction on the project will solidify the public commitment to the project and allow it to be implemented without further delay.

Removal of the San Clemente Dam will provide numerous benefits to the public and the environment. The project will eliminate the public safety risk posed by the potential collapse of the dam. It will also reduce erosion and associated damages to private properties and infrastructure along the Carmel River. Removal of the dam would restore vital habitat for federally threatened steelhead trout, California red-legged frogs, and other species. Furthermore, it will transfer approximately 900 acres of land to the Bureau of Land Management for open space purposes, establishing over 5400 acres of uninterrupted parkland for recreational use.

The Carmel River Watershed Coastal Conservancy strongly supports your approval of this grant to California-American Water Company.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lorin Letendre
President
Carmel River Watershed Conservancy

From: roy.thomas
To: tchapman@scc.ca.gov
Subject: Comments on Conservancy Role in San Clemente Dam Removal
Date: Tuesday, July 10, 2012 4:39:30 PM

Doug Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy

Dear Mr. Bosco;

The State Coastal Conservancy should make sure that the valuable bed load (sand, gravel, cobble and boulders) that is to be stored away from riverflow can still be accessed in the future. This valuable river commodity has been lost to the riparian community and the beaches since San Clemente Dam was built. It should be made accessible for controlled releases to feed the river and the beaches. Los Padres Dam is still intercepting most of the river's bed load. As I understand it, no provisions or planning to accomplish this goal is in the plan.

Sincerely,

Roy Lincoln Thomas

ANTHONY LOMBARDO & ASSOCIATES

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

ANTHONY L. LOMBARDO
KELLY MCCARTHY SUTHERLAND
LINDA NEFF SUNDE

450 LINCOLN AVENUE, SUITE 101
P.O. Box 2330
SALINAS, CA 93902
(831) 751-2330
FAX (831) 751-2331

July 13, 2012

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

File No. 742.000

Doug Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: San Clemente Dam Removal Project

Dear Mr. Bosco:

We have been retained by the Sleepy Hollow Homeowners Association Board of Directors to represent it and its members ("Sleepy Hollow") with regard to the San Clemente Dam Removal Project (the "Project"). We write to express numerous concerns regarding the Project, especially as it will impact Sleepy Hollow.

As a result of these concerns, until and unless Cal American Water Company ("CAW") provides a construction management plan or a traffic/transportation plan which are sufficient to address the concerns of the Sleepy Hollow community, we request that the State Coastal Conservancy:

- Refuse to authorize a grant of up to \$32 million to CAW for the implementation of the Project;
- Refuse to disburse the \$4.5 million previously authorized on May 19, 2011 for implementation of the Project to CAW instead of the California Ocean Protection Council;
- Refuse to disburse an additional \$27.5 million to CAW for the Project;
- Refuse to execute a grant agreement with CAW for the Project;
- Refuse to certify Supplemental Environmental Impact Report No. 2 for the Project;
- Make findings on the two SEIRs consistent with the concerns expressed herein; and
- Refuse to adopt a statement of overriding considerations.

Alternatively, we request that the Project provide that all vehicles seeking access to the Project be required to take the alternative route which will be built on the eastern end of the Project.

Sleepy Hollow is a small, quiet, gated community in Carmel Valley which is zoned by Monterey County as "Rural density residential". According to the SEIRs, the Project will attempt to

Doug Bosco, Chair
July 13, 2012
Page Two

include the routing of construction traffic through Sleepy Hollow, and the traffic will have “short-term, significant unavoidable” impacts on the neighborhood quality of life.

The SEIRS are vague regarding this part of the Project, and neither provides any details regarding how many additional vehicles and how many construction vehicles are contemplated to be driving through Sleepy Hollow. They are also not specific regarding what kinds of mitigations will be included in a required construction management plan and traffic/transportation plan. As of today, CAW has not provided a construction management plan or a traffic/transportation plan which are sufficient to address the concerns of the Sleepy Hollow community.

CAW maintains a limited use easement providing restricted access through Sleepy Hollow. However, this easement does not encompass such heavy use of the roads within Sleepy Hollow as is proposed with the Project. The magnitude of traffic that is proposed by this Project (specifically by parties that are not guests, agents or employees of the parties) was never contemplated by or included in the easement language. This Project clearly overburdens the use of this easement and use of this easement for this Project should not be allowed.

As noted in previous correspondence on this matter, the Project may result in significant traffic, security, safety and aesthetic impacts on San Clemente Road and to those individuals and families who reside in the Sleepy Hollow neighborhood. Identified impacts include but are not limited to the following:

- Degradation and premature failure of the roadways and bridge structure within the gated community due to heavy traffic loads and dramatically increased traffic activity which the roadways and bridge are not designed to handle;
- Erosion and degradation of both the road surface and its edges causing material damage to its footing and the underlying structure
- Many months of elevated noise, elevated vibration and elevated dust levels which could cause harm to residents, wildlife, and adjacent structures;
- Decreased aesthetics throughout the community for an extended period of time;
- Decreased property valuations;
- Loss of privacy for all residents and guests;
- Increased exposure to liability;
- Decreased personal safety within Sleepy Hollow due to increased traffic on the road system and distribution of an access code to the private gated community; and
- Increased security liabilities due to distribution of access codes to the private gated community.

Based upon the potential for significant unavoidable impacts to the Sleepy Hollow community, as identified above and in the SEIRs, we respectfully request that all vehicles seeking access to the Project be required to take the alternative route which will be built on the eastern end of the

Doug Bosco, Chair

July 13, 2012

Page Two

Project. This will avoid the significant impacts caused by the increased neighborhood traffic and uphold the integrity of the Sleepy Hollow/CAW easement agreement.

Sincerely,



Kelly McCarthy Sutherland
KMS/SPB/gp

CC: Sharon Pezzolo, President, Sleep Hollow HOA