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September 9, 2014

Honorable Steve Lavagnino, Chairman, and  
Members, Board of Supervisors  
County of Santa Barbara  
105 E. Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RE: Santa Barbara County, Hydraulic Fracturing and Other Advanced Oil and Gas Extraction Processes

Dear Chairman Lavagnino and Members:

On behalf of the Goleta Water District (District) Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for your demonstrated leadership on issues pertaining to the oil extraction technique known as hydraulic fracturing. The Board of Supervisors' amendment of the Land Use and Development Code and Coastal Zoning Ordinance in 2011 enhanced permit requirements for hydraulic fracturing and increased local awareness of drilling operations in the County.

Groundwater from the Goleta Groundwater Basin is a critical and cost-effective component of the District water supply portfolio, which is used to serve a population of over 87,000 in the Goleta Valley. Given the breadth of scientific study on the potential effects of hydraulic fracturing and other advanced petroleum extraction processes on the natural environment, including water supplies, the County's ongoing vigilance in overseeing these and related activities is critical to protecting local water resources. The District encourages your Board to work with relevant organizations and state agencies to strengthen the environmental review process for hydraulic fracturing and other high intensity petroleum operations and to support regulations that will ensure adequate safeguards are in place to protect natural resources and public health and safety.

Worsening drought conditions and dwindling regional water supplies underscore the importance of protecting local groundwater resources. The health of the Goleta Groundwater Basin is vital to providing safe, reliable water supplies to the current and future residents of the Goleta Valley. The Goleta Water District Board of Directors encourages and appreciates your continued close oversight of oil and gas extraction activities in the County to support the District's ability to protect this critical community asset.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

BILL ROSEN  
President  
Goleta Water District Board of Directors

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DIRECTORS  
BILL ROSEN, *PRESIDENT*  
LAUREN HANSON, *VICE-PRESIDENT*  
BERT BERTRANDO, *DIRECTOR*  
JOHN F. CUNNINGHAM, *DIRECTOR*  
RICHARD M. MERRIFIELD, *DIRECTOR*

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
CLERK OF THE  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GENERAL MANAGER  
JOHN D. MCINNES