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November 20, 2008

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street  
Room 407  
Santa Barbara, California 93101

*VIA FACSIMILE AND EMAIL 805-568-2249*

Re: Case No. 08APL-00000-00036 (Miramar Beach Resort and Bungalows Project)

Dear Clerk of the Board:

We write on behalf of Jean and Stan Harfenist as well as other homeowners located near the proposed Miramar Beach Resort and Bungalows Project. We are in the process of preparing detailed comments on our appeal of the Montecito Planning Commission's approval of this ambitious new project without the preparation of a full environmental impact report to study the project's likely impacts. We hope to have those comments prepared by November 25, 2008.

In advance of those comments, we would like to give notice to the Board of Supervisors and employees of the County of Santa Barbara that we request the presence of several County employees and former employees at the December 9, 2008, hearing before the Board of Supervisors. As our October 8, 2008, letter to the Montecito Planning Commission set forth in detail, internal emails among County employees make evident that the staff reviewing the proposed project had serious concerns about the applicant's study of the flood risks posed by filling in a significant portion of the floodplain on the site. The record is clear that the political process was brought to bear upon these employees in order to expedite the project's approval. Since these emails were written, these employees have either resigned, been reassigned, or have washed their hands of any review of this project. It is critical that the following employees be made available for questioning by appellants and by Boardmembers, so that it may be disclosed what these employees' specific concerns were and whether or not these concerns were ever satisfied:

Jon Frye  
Candace Constantine  
Julie Harris  
Michelle Gibbs  
Tom Fayram

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Where the written record before the Board is so clear that concerns have been swept under the rug and that employees who have been most persistent in articulating those concerns have been removed from the approval process, it is not enough to rely on the words of the applicant that the concerns have been addressed. A thorough examination of each of these employees is needed to bring transparency into what has otherwise been an approval process cloaked in secrecy and consummated in backroom negotiations.

Please inform me by December 1, 2008, whether you intend to require the presence of these employees for questioning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fredric D. Woocher". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Fredric D. Woocher