

LAW OFFICE OF MARC CHYTILO

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

January 17, 2011

Santa Barbara County
Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

By email to sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

RE: California Coastal Commission Certification of the County's Land Use and Development Codes (LUDC) – P&D Item #2 on 1/18/11 Board Agenda

Dear Chair Gray and Honorable Members of the Board,

This letter is submitted on behalf of the Gaviota Coast Conservancy (“GCC”) and the Naples Coalition, two non-profit organizations dedicated to the long-term protection of Santa Barbara County’s coastal resources, and in particular the Gaviota Coast and the property known as “Naples” located thereon. Both organizations have been involved throughout the County’s public process for the LUDC amendment, and had representatives attending the Coastal Commission approval hearing.

The GCC and Naples Coalition strongly support the Coastal Act as an essential tool for controlling irresponsible development and protecting our coast. Both groups have previously expressed concern however that certain amendment modifications proposed by the Coastal Commission pertaining to the use of coastal agricultural lands may have the unintended consequence of undermining the viability of coastal farms.

As described in a memo from Director Russell, the Commission’s executive director Peter Douglas has generously offered the County one last opportunity to resolve the remaining differences in the suggested modifications. Through diligently working with the community and Commission Staff, we believe an amendment package can be crafted that resolves at least some of the remaining concerns that community members and the County expressed at the Commission approval hearing.

Accordingly we urge the Board to direct the Planning and Development Department to **pursue the third option of continued negotiations and expedited review of the amendment by the Commission**. In the event that the Board declines to pursue option 3, we urge the Board to accept the Commission’s certification of the LUDC.

Sincerely,

LAW OFFICE OF MARC CHYTILO



Ana Citrin

For GCC and the Naples Coalition

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