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October 24, 2008

Monterey County Board of Supervisors
Fernando Armenta, Chair
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Re: *Unavailable Reference Documents for GPU5 DEIR*

Dear Chair Armenta and Supervisors:

I am writing on behalf of our client, Friends, Artists, and Neighbors of Elkhorn Slough (“FANS”). We are concerned that numerous documents referenced in the draft environmental impact report (“DEIR”) for General Plan Update 5 (“GPU5”) have been unavailable for public review. The attached letter from Molly Erickson lists dozens of documents referenced in the GPU5 DEIR that were either inaccessible or incomplete at the time the DEIR was released. Upon review, we have encountered many of the same problems documented by Ms. Erickson. CEQA requires the County to make all documents referenced in a DEIR available for public review. (CEQA Guidelines, § 15087, subd. (c)(5).) Without complete and accurate information, the public is unable to provide meaningful review and comment on the GPU5 DEIR. Confirming the adequacy of all documents referenced in the DEIR is a time-consuming task that should not be the burden of each individual reviewing the DEIR. Accordingly, we request that we be informed of all documents, and their contents, that have been made available to the public for the first time since the beginning of the public comment period for the GPU5 DEIR. In order to provide sufficient time to review and comment on the DEIR, including any newly released documents, we request that the public review and comment period for the DEIR begin anew once all referenced documents are made available to the public in adequate form.

1

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

/s/ Jason R. Flanders
On Behalf of FANS

cc: Charles McKee, County Counsel, mckeej@co.monterey.ca.us
Mike Novo, Planning Director, novom@co.monterey.ca.us