

Holm, Carl P. x5103

From: rita [puffin@mbay.net]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 10:56 AM
To: Holm, Carl P. x5103
Subject: RE: GPU 5

Mr. Holms,

Thank you for responding. The Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club joins in all the comments and concerns of The Open Monterey Project as expressed in its October 17, 2008 letter to the County. It is not productive to detail the problems encountered by the Ventana Chapter, which are included in the 4-page October 17 letter and its 31 pages of detailed attachments. Our volunteer EIR reviewers have already experienced repeated frustration and wasted time in their attempts to track down nonexistent reference materials from the County. It would be a waste of time to duplicate the information already provided to you by The Open Monterey Project.

Of particular concern to our volunteer reviewers was the fact that the paper version of documents available at the Planning Department counter are in numerous instances not the same as the records available on the links from the County website, even though the County claims they are the same. The County should correct this inconsistency, because otherwise the County is producing two different versions of reference materials, and the public does know which version was relied upon by the EIR preparer.

Our concerns include the missing, partial, and incomplete reference materials on water, air, traffic, biology, land use, population, and other environmental issues and underlying data. Please advise us as soon as all the reference materials are available in hard copy and/or on the County website.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Rita Dalessio
 Ventana Chapter chair

-----Original Message-----

From: Holm, Carl P. x5103 [mailto:HolmCP@co.monterey.ca.us]
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 9:35 AM
To: puffin@mbay.net
Cc: Girard, Leslie J.; Strimling, Wendy; Knaster, Alana x5322; McKee, Charles J; Novo, Mike x5192; 100-District 1 (831) 647-7991; 100-District 2 (831) 755-5022; 100-District 3 (831) 385-8333; 100-District 4 (831) 883-7570; 100-District 5 (831) 647-7755
Subject: RE: GPU 5

Ms Dalessio:

Mike Novo is out of the office this week.

Reference documents are available in various formats. Many are made available via the web, others are available at our front counter in hard copy. Please specify the reference materials that you are having difficulty with and we will be more than willing to assist you to help find them.

Carl P. Holm, AICP
RMA - Planning Department
Assistant Director

-----Original Message-----

From: "rita" <puffin@mbay.net>
To: "Novo, Mike x5192" <novom@co.monterey.ca.us>
Cc: "105-Clerk to the Board Everyone" <105-ClerktotheBoardEveryone@co.monterey.ca.us>; "100-District 1 (831) 647-7991" <district1@co.monterey.ca.us>; "100-District 2 (831) 755-5022" <district2@co.monterey.ca.us>; "100-District 3 (831) 385-8333" <district3@co.monterey.ca.us>; "100-District 4 (831) 883-7570" <district4@co.monterey.ca.us>; "100-District 5 (831) 647-7755" <district5@co.monterey.ca.us>; "McKee, Charles J" <McKeeCJ@co.monterey.ca.us>
Sent: 10/21/08 10:58 AM
Subject: GPU 5

Hi Mike,

The Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club represents 6,300 members. We are currently reviewing the Draft EIR for the GPU-5 and have been involved in all the previous versions with due diligence for over 9 years. We are concerned that reference documents for GPU 5 are not available. Members of the Chapter have tried to gain access to reference documents listed in the DEIR section 11, but were unable to do so for several of the reasons. When we contacted The Open Monterey Project (TOMP) about this problem, we learned that they had, on October 17, 2008 advised the County of this problem. Even with this notification, we note that the referenced documents remain unavailable.

We are very concerned as this appears to be a violation of CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act). CEQA requires that all documents referenced in the EIR be available for public review. The County has failed to comply with this CEQA requirement. Many of the documents referenced in the DEIR are not available, in some cases not usable or not complete. There are problems with the links on the website and in the hard copy paper documents provided by the County Planning Department.

The County has not provided adequately the documents required by law. This could mean that the public's right afforded by CEQA could be delayed which is (1) a violation of the law and (2) denies the public the opportunity to review and analyze the DEIR.

As a result, we cannot adequately review the DEIR or make comments on it without access to the underlying reference data.

The Ventana Chapter joins with TOMP in their letter requesting that all complete reference documents be made available and that the public review of the Draft EIR not begin until the references are truly available.

Very truly yours,

Rita Dalessio

Ventana Chapter Chair