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To: <mthompson@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: 4/12/2006 6:33:07 AM
Subject: Interested Party Status

As a homeowner of 24 years in Los Osos I am interested in being an "Interested Party" in the CDO issue to be discussed at the April 28, 2006 RWQCB hearing.

While I have a number of objections to the current CDO situation, I will briefly discuss two, and hope to elaborate a bit at public comment:

1) The CCRWQCB has written in FAQ in Spring 2002 (Edition 2 of 4) that "Previous studies conducted in Los Osos indicate nitrates in groundwater come PREDOMINATELY FROM SEPTIC SYSTEMS..." I disagree that the septic tanks in Los Osos are the primary source of nitrate contamination in our groundwater (see Dr. Kitts recent study), and therefore do not think that pumping on the schedule suggested by RWQCB staff is either reasonable nor necessary. This is especially true as the LOCSO is moving forward on developing a viable WWT Project (Ripley Pacific engineering firm is being contracted with to help create the Project in a form that meets the standards of both the RWQCB and the Los Osos Community).

2) Affordability issues are not being adequately considered in the cost to individual dischargers/homeowners as required by EPA Affordability Criterion (see EPA's 832-B-97-004/Feb.1997), and Water Code Section 13327 regarding "...the ability to pay, the effect on ability to continue in business [which for homeowners would mean the financial ability to remain in their homes without having to move away]...". I would also like to further explain this at public comment on April 28.

Thank you,
Lacey Cooper
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