

March 7, 2019

Dear members of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board,

My wife and I have been lucky enough to live in Cambria for over 30 years. It is a great community, and we have enjoyed raising our three children here. Unfortunately, it has one major flaw; we have an unstable water supply. I'm not going to get stuck in the weeds about all of the things that this community has been through due to water shortages, and trust me, it has been rough. I also know that you are well aware of the fact that Cambria is in dire need of a solution, so rather than go into all the technical reasons for why the RWQCB should move forward with the EWS proposal, I am going to talk about misperceptions regarding the community's desire to move forward with this project.

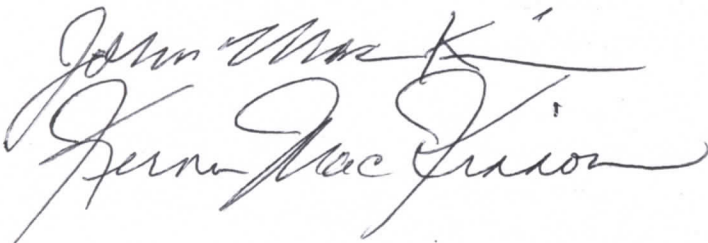
I hope this is not true, but I was told that at a past meeting regarding the EWS proposal, that the RWQCB was misled into thinking that a handful of people that showed up at a meeting represented the majority view of the town. I would like to point out that good-old -fashion American democracy is working well in the town of Cambria. That being said, I want you to know that what is being proposed to you has been well vetted by this community for over 30 years. The proposal before you is presented by a CSD board that was fairly elected by the majority of Cambrians. So I hope that the RWQCB will help our community move forward with a solution, rather than taking the time to question what our representative CCSD board has been mandated to present to you through elections. Trying to figure out the wishes of our community has already been decided through elections.

I know I said I wasn't going to get in the weeds, but here are some issues that I don't think people are talking about. Twenty years of an emergency water shortage is taking its toll on this community. With zero building, comes zero community planning. I cannot tell you how many of my working-age friends with families and good jobs have had to leave Cambria due to a shortage of affordable housing. That has taken its toll on our schools with dwindling enrollment. And with dwindling enrollment, comes dwindling funds which unfortunately causes cuts to curriculum in our schools. I have a friend that is a teacher who has to teach classes in all three schools (Grade School, Middle School, and High School) here in Cambria due to low enrollment. Our teachers are already asked to do a lot; asking them to learn and teach three different curriculums is a bridge too far. The only ones that are suffering are the children.

Please help the small town of Cambria to take a step forward to solving a problem that has gone on way too long. I hope we all can take some responsibility for the situation we find ourselves in and work together to find a solution.

Sincerely,

John and Kernn MacKinnon

The block contains two handwritten signatures in cursive. The top signature is 'John MacKinnon' and the bottom signature is 'Kernn MacKinnon'. Both are written in dark ink.