



HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

October 5, 2004

Richard Condit
Rural Water Quality Scientist
Regional Water Quality Control Board II
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Condit:

For several decades San Mateo County Environmental Health has been aware that groundwater in and near the small community of Pescadero is contaminated with bacteria and nitrates. This community has over 100 city-sized lots with existing businesses and residences. The area also has very porous soil and high ground water, which is currently and will continue to be used as a source of drinking water. All of these factors make the area unsuitable for the use of the conventional septic systems that currently serve as its method of sewage treatment and disposal.

I hereby declare that the groundwater in this area is contaminated by septic system effluent and that this constitutes a threat to public health. I also declare that this area is unsuitable for the use of conventional septic systems as a method of sewage treatment and disposal.

We ask that the Regional Board endorse this finding. This endorsement is an essential step to help this community qualify for state and federal sewage system funding.

If you need more information please call Steve Hartsell at (650) 363 – 4798.

Sincerely,

Dean D. Peterson, PE, REHS
Director, Environmental Health

Sam Stebbins
Deputy Health Officer

PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Board of Supervisors: Mark Church • Rose Jacobs Gibson • Richard S. Gordon • Jerry Hill • Michael D. Nevin • **Health Services Director:** Charlene Silva

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