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**Date:** Fri, Mar 1, 2002 4:56 PM

**Subject:** Osias letter on notice of intent to appear

We have received by facsimile Mr. Osias' letter of 1 March commenting on Imperial County's notice of intent to appear. Mr. Osias raises several issues that would deserve response if the State Board or staff were contemplating taking any action on his letter at this time. This writer will respond to those issues no later than next Wednesday, 6 March, unless we are advised that a response is not necessary.

For the moment suffice it to say that the County intends to participate in the hearing as appropriate pursuant to its existing protest and in accordance with the hearing order. We may not in fact designate any additional witnesses. If we do, we understand that we will concurrently be requesting and justifying the need for an exception to the 25 February date established for identification of witnesses.

Respectfully,

Tony Rossmann
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