

LA HONDA-PESCADERO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION # 04-05-16

RESOLUTION Expressing Concern for the Quality of the Water Supply and the Health and Safety of Students and Staff at La Honda School

WHEREAS La Honda Elementary School has operated without interruption as an integral part of the La Honda community for several decades; and

WHEREAS the school is widely cherished for its secluded, bucolic setting; and

WHEREAS the students and staff at La Honda Elementary School have in recent years lacked potable water due to agricultural contamination of the wells serving the school, requiring staff and parents to expend significant time and money in a successful effort to prevent illness due to the contaminated water supply; and

WHEREAS the completion of a water project funded through a grant from the California Department of Water Quality and approved by the County of San Mateo, scheduled for completion in April, 2005, will soon provide potable water to the school; and

WHEREAS the Cuesta La Honda Guild reservoir system, upon completion of this project and the testing and certification of the water, will become the sole source of drinking water for the school, now and into the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS this new water supply for the school is downhill and downstream from Clos de la Tech vineyards and the proposed winery, which proposes to plant grapevines above the area that supplies more than 80% of water in the Cuesta La Honda reservoir system; and

WHEREAS the developments at Clos de la Tech, under the aegis of both current and future owners, may thus affect not only the quality, quantity, and availability of the water supplied to the school, but may also expose students and staff to sedimentation, pesticides, herbicides and other chemicals used by the winery; and

WHEREAS initial construction at the winery in 2003, which entailed a series of explosions accompanied by alarmingly loud noises, did negatively affect the quality of instruction and the educational atmosphere at the school; and

WHEREAS operation of the winery, as well as future construction, may again negatively affect the quality of instruction and the educational atmosphere at the school as the result of intrusive noise, glare, dust, odors, and other artifacts;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the La Honda-Pescadero Unified School District, with regard to current and future activities of the Clos de la Tech winery, expresses its concern for and interest in the long-term protection of the community water supply, safeguarding of the health and safety of the students and staff at La Honda Elementary School and protection of the school and individuals associated with it from adverse impacts to the surrounding environment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the La Honda-Pescadero Unified School District, with regard to current and future activities of the Clos de la Tech winery, call upon the County of San Mateo, other governmental bodies, and their agents to exercise extraordinary and diligent oversight in assessing environmental impact; actively involving the surrounding community and its representatives; and carefully studying alternative plans that emerge from that community and those representatives, remembering always to consider the health, safety and well-being of La Honda Elementary students and staff in their deliberations and decisions.

REGULARLY passed and adopted this 21st day of April, 2005

Board Members

Superintendent

Date