

Drumm, Kristin

From: IConlan@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2015 3:13 AM
To: Drumm, Kristin
Cc: conlanranches@live.com
Subject: Errata re LCP Hearing August 25, 2015 ERRATA

Hello Kristin,
Errata notice

My dear old AOL, (I am often asked by my gmail friends, "*is AOL still in existence?*") *any wonder*, AOL oftentimes inexplicably drops out sections of writing in emails, and addressees, and makes other significant omissions and errors.. It finally showed up in my sends that my email to you had indeed been sent, so please disregard my email inquiring about receipt.

As I reread, I noticed errors of grammar, spelling, syntax and a critically important paragraph dropped from #1 Objection,

Apologies Kristin, for your extra work, but can you replace my previous email with the email below which includes the corrections?

Thank you for all the extra work. Best Regards, Ione

From: IConlan@aol.com
To: kdrumm@co.marin.ca.us
Sent: 8/14/2015 1:58:09 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time
Subj: LCP Hearing August 25, 2015

Honorable Marin Board of Supervisors:

I am aware of the years of diligent work of our professional and honorable Marin County Supervisors, Planning Department Director Brian Crawford, Principal Planner Jack Liebster, Senior Planner Kristin Drumm and the entire tireless staff, who have worked so hard to weigh the equities of those of us with concerns on opposite ends of the continuum of the proposed LCP.

We acknowledge and thank you for your hours and hours and years of work.

We appreciate the modifications made to the original document but protest and object to those items mandated by the California Coastal Commission Staff. and the approval of the Coastal Committee Members, who were *politically appointed*, and not elected by the people of California, with the exception of Marin County Supervisor Steve Kinsey, an elected official, highly respected by all of the constituency of Marin County.

Some of our Marin constituents in good faith, who arrived in our county from elsewhere, selected this County because the farmer/rancher pioneers and others, of this County preserved the lands they drive around, or cycle out to view and enjoy...

However these folks want nothing to impair the skylines of the lands, after all, they left city congestion to come out to clean air, large expanses of farmland and ranch lands. Now they would like to make the rules for those of us, who have lived and worked those large expanses of land, some generational farmers and ranchers dating back a century.

Some of these "new" and State politically appointed folks claim a greater love of our Planet than we, who lived and worked our beloved lands long before they arrived.

They claim that their environmental concerns are more noble, more just, their vision more honorable than those of us who have preserved these lands.

They believe their vision and provisions for the future is a better plan than those of us, perhaps parochial farmers and ranchers whose great grandfathers, grandfathers and parents who now work the lands, well we don't matter at all.

These probably well meaning folks, who have never lifted a shovel on a farm to clean out manure, been in a chute with a thousand pound animals, well they just believe, farmers and ranchers, who own and live on the land, who work the land, should be bridled, restricted, diminished and perhaps removed.....

especially if farmer/rancher becomes ill or too old to do their chores, and never mind sustainability, if one of the family has to get a job in town to support the marginal income of farming, well too bad, they have to get out, and leave the family farm/ranch. Why? because these newcomers who make the rules, don't want to see generational housing, nope, there has to be a CCC limit (27 in the whole coastal county!) on that too..... never mind the sweat and toil of the past, these are *their* new rules.

But it doesn't end merely at old age, the old farmer/rancher has to leave if he isn't actively engaged in farming!

And, as to the family members, well they may or may not live on the land, depending on whether they were able to rush into and get one of those limit of only 27 generational houses in the whole Marin coastal area!

That's a great concept when you don't make a living on your lands, but are receiving mailbox income, or you or your mate are well paid professionals who have never cleaned out a chicken coop, never had to see the ravages of a badger who can tear apart and kill your heritage chickens just for the fun of it, see your precious lambs throats torn out and left to die by coyotes, or precious baby calves killed and dragged off by cougars to their lair in the willows.(I recite these tragedies from personal knowledge, sight, and presence).

I represent the constituents who work the land, and have preserved it, as in our case, **Conlan Ranches California-True Grass Farms, which will reach 150 years next year, and receive a prestigious Heritage Award for preserving land, continually in agriculture in the same family, having achieved a previous award for 100 years, 125 years and next year 150 years at the California State Fair.**

(I will mail a copy of the latest Heritage Club Program Booklet along with a copy of this email for your easy reference)

How many members of our several Marin County conservation, environmental, or other overreaching advocates, clubs and organizations and Coastal Commissioners can claim this achievement? By what legal or God given right do they have the privilege of depriving us

of our right to make a living, steal our lands, deprive our children and family from living on the lands they have sacrificed and worked so hard to preserve?

Our family dedication has not been without enormous personal sacrifices, many inheritance taxes; probate litigation, ten years of bankruptcy where I and my late husband paid every creditor in full with interest. We have suffered drought; floods; predators human and animal; and more "*blood, sweat, tears and toil*" than anyone can ever imagine.

Livestock do not acknowledge the Sabbath, nor any holidays, they must be fed, watered oftentimes twice daily, and since we perform intensive grazing to preserve and maintain our pastures, every twelve hours our livestock herds are moved to new forage.

Only the love of our lands and our death bed promises to our spouses, parents, and grandparents, sisters, brothers, aunts and uncles, have kept us dedicated and fighting to survive on our hard earned family lands.

In north Marin county, we have preserved over one thousand acres of land, which is Certified Organic, Animal Welfare Approved, producing wholesome grass fed livestock.

Last year my great nephew won for our lands, the Western States Environmental Award which I invite you to visit, and be sure to click on the arrow on the cow at the bottom of the page to see our work:

<http://environmentalstewardship.org/regionvi-conlanranchescalforniatruegrassfarms.aspx>

Now comes the California Coastal Commission with draconian plans to which this letter will be our formal protest to preserve landowner plaintiff issues in the event of future litigation.

1. We object to clustering of farm buildings for the benefit of viewers, touted ostensibly to maximize ag lands, which is what the farmer trying to make a living understands more about where to build a dwelling than *someone sitting in an air conditioned office 100 miles away, whose only farm implement is a pencil, noted Pres Eisenhower.*

We object to the merging of *legally established land parcels*, (sometimes termed "legal lots"), whether or not contiguous, now called " farm tracts" or any other description of legal parcels, which proposals now seeks to merge and amalgamate these legally established parcels into one parcel, now described as a "farm tract", apparently for the purpose of limiting buildings to a sole allowed dwelling (one home and limited sq ft buildings) to the "one per 60 acre" limitation. merely on the basis, of a nexus of title ownership, apparently whether a single owner, family members or corporate entity. The result being a taking without compensation, so that a thousand acres of contiguous land, or land non contiguous under one title of ownership, which may include in separate legal parcels, different family members, is now reduced to a 60 acre farm tract with attendant limitations, which is so contentuous, that we are shocked such an insidious proposal is offered with a straight face.

2. We object to unreasonable restrictions on land use, changing We object to restriction of permits for a business decision to change an orchard to grazing or vice versa, limiting agricultural decisions about vineyards, size and type of, crops, and other management decisions made to survive.

3. We object to home restrictions as to size as evidently the authors of size restrictions have never had to perform the tasks of caregiver, such as I, where a wheel chair, hospital bed, commodes, medical supplies must be managed maneuvered and stored, not to mention a sunroom for a shut in.

I was a caregiver for ten years for my wheelchair bound mother, the same for a brother on dialysis having special equipment in the home needs space, a husband with liver cancer also in a wheel chair, and as I have been a guest and visited, and observed the size of homes in Tiburon and Belvedere, and elsewhere in Marin County, it occurs to me, that their exclusion from Coastal Commission jurisdiction smacks of gerrymandering, where one may have a boat dock, over 10 thousand sq.ft homes on relatively small lots, when a thousand acre ranch has to limit their covered buildings to 7 thousand sq ft including barn, shop home and chicken coop, all clustered and jammed in an out of sight area.

4. We object to the restrictions placed on tours, only to be given by third parties for the benefit of our only local land conservation organization MALT. Farmers/ranchers should be able to host tours as Agritourism is touted at the State level and by the California University system as a method of income diversity .

Events, weddings, tours, concerts, farm visits, and other social gatherings should be principally permitted uses, when there is adequate off road parking, and should not be reserved solely as fund raising for non profits which are rarely audited and in some instances may participate in conflict of interest activities.

5. We object to the size restrictions of farm processing units and farm stands which should be principally permitted uses.

6. We object to the arbitrary jurisdictional lines drawn to designated appealable lines.

7. The CCC act of 1976 should be revisited and fairly realigned with jurisdictional lines drawn after, and subject to stakeholders and public review and modernized.

8. We object to the proposed taking of property rights of Marin County residents and stakeholders, by an out of county state staff, supervised by politically appointed officials, (with the exception of Commissioner Kinsey). who have no knowledge of the unique county boundaries, flora, fauna, historical uses

9. We object to the discrimination of the farm/ranch elderly who have spent a lifetime of work and sacrifice which these proposed regulations seek to sweep away with a stroke of a pen, and displace the old and handicapped off their farms and ranches, as well as their family members with complete disregard and limitations as to generational housing.

10. We object to the Coastal Commission Staff's acceptance of conservation easements presented by MALT, within their jurisdiction, which requires the landowner to assign all "*exploitation of solar rights to MALT and its assigns*", which is not an agricultural preservation element.

In Monterey County over two thousand acres of land has been taken out of agricultural production of hay, grain and irrigated pasture to accommodate Apple Corporation, (according to local public records, and newspaper reports in Monterey County) and on which 1,900 acres will be placed solar panels, with miles of roads, an internal electrical underground system, fencing, lighting, traffic of trucks for building and later for cleaning the panels and for maintenance. removal of 25 protected Oak trees grading of 470 K cubic yards of earth, pad mounted inverters and transformers, two substations and an operations and maintenance building. California Flats Solar is now under construction.

As I understand it, First Solar (a Wal Mart principal owner operation) is currently performing the installation, and in 20-30 years when most of us will not be on Planet Earth, I want to be sure on my watch, my own family preserved lands in Marin County, will still be in agriculture, and not some Political Correct Solar operation on these beautiful lands for which we have worked so hard, shed so many tears, made so many sacrifices to keep the land as we promised our predecessors.

11. We object to merging of legal parcels, as a taking without compensation, and find this a most outrageous provision.

12. We object to the discriminatory provisions of this plan, drawing arbitrary boundaries, which appear politically drawn, which allows Oceana Marin homes on the skyline, which we and anyone traveling past, may observe from county roads and a stone's throw from our lands, and the open sewer pit which birds visit and then fly over and defecate on our properties

Yet we are mandated to cluster our homes, avoid the skyline ridge lines and views, so as not to offend the eye of the occasional drive-by visitor, who apparently finds homes on the skyline of Oceana Marin acceptable, while we are left to hope and pray our livestock and poultry are not infected by disease of open sewer pits, which are conveniently ignored by our venerable California Coastal Commission Staff..

In summary, I am a widow and a member of historical family of land owners

land preservers, who saved these family farms from subdivisions and commercial developments, Marin County would not have these pristine lands to plan their use were it not for our sacrifices. We should not now be penalized for being the last farmer/rancher standing.

Let us discard this new proposed plan and rest with the existing CCC plan as had been accomplished by another coastal county in Southern California.

Sincerely,

Ione Conlan
Conlan Ranches California

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