

January 15, 2013

Dear Members of the Board,

This letter is in reference to the Staff recommendations for agriculture found in exhibit #1 of January 15, 2013 report before the Board.

I would like to call to your attention some potential issues that have significant consequences to the Coastal zone. In the revised LCPA's section 22.68.030 the underlined part "change in the intensity of use of water, or access thereto" means the development of new water sources such a construction of a new well or the creation or expansion of a surface impoundment can lead to a watershed's aquifer being tapped by a deep wells thereby rendering the adjacent properties without the needed ground water to continue their operations. Water is extremely limited in Marin and should not be a resource that is controlled by whomever has the resources to put in the deepest well or the most ponds. Vineyards require roads and wineries depend on large trucks and road traffic. My neighbors will have over 800 people (on a particular day) travel on our one lane road creating potential dangers for the neighbors who share the same access. With viticulture also comes extensive pesticide use. We have an neighboring organic vineyard and we have all been made ill from the "organic spraying" that drifts downwind from the vineyard. Even organic has its downside as chemicals such as copper and arsenic are allowable. Vineyards will soon become wineries. All you have to do is see what has happened in Sonoma County.

Lastly relative to industrial scale wind turbines for agricultural use grading has not been addressed. How are the planners going to look at the site preparation for industrial scale wind turbines which require removal of large masses of earth for their base, as well as roads and trenches to underground the transmission lines. As turbines are set to be sited on agricultural lands grading and landform alterations will occur. These are ongoing issues that those of us who aren't in the Coastal zone are already experiencing. Thank you for your attention in these matters.

Susie Schlesinger