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LOS ESTEROS RANCH PARTNERSHIP

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Brad Whetstone, CPUC
 Aspen Environmental Group
 235 Montgomery St #800 SF, CA 94104

Nov. 21, 2000

RE: Northeast San Jose Transmission Supplemental Draft Environ. Impact Report 99-09-029

Dear Sir:

As a property owner affected by the proposed transmission line my family would like to comment on the supplemental report to the DEIR issued in June 2000.

Los Esteros Ranch (the Standish Ranch) was condemned in 1971 for the construction of the San Jose Water Treatment Plant. Of 640 acres of pears, dairy, and duck ponds we were able to retain 20 acres which were under lease to Hobbs Co as a briquette factory. In 1988 we dedicated 5 of these 20 acres to the Santa Clara Valley Water District as a flood control plain for their Coyote Creek Project. The loss of private property does not become easier over time.

Both the proposed and the alternative route of the transmission line adversely affects our remaining property. The westerly route impacts a 10 acre parcel which we have leased to BFT as the Recyclery. While certainly not endorsed by us, it at least is in line with the industrial aspect of the existing recyclery and the cellular telephone tower on this site.

The proposed McCarthy Boulevard alternative would negatively affect the possibility of our development of the two parcels on either side of this roadway in a much more dramatic fashion.

Of these two remaining parcels, one 2.5 acres and the other 1.5 acres, our proposed development on the larger or easterly site is conditioned with a riparian set back. To reroute the transmission lines close to or over an area dedicated to riparian restoration in order to avoid bird collisions is contradictory. If the transmission lines can cross the creek, as the supplemental report contends, in areas with little or no riparian habitat, why are we required to set aside a section of this property for a riparian corridor?

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Will Oswald
 Will Oswald

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San Jose Mercury Wed., April 7, 1971 27

S.J. Buys Standish Ranch For Sewer Plant Expansion

The Standish Ranch, some 630 acres in the Alviso area, has been purchased by the city of San Jose following long negotiations in order to expand its sewage treatment plant.

The \$2.8 million purchase, (Other council stories on page 23.)

According to David Boggin, city property manager, approved by the City Council Monday, must be approved by the city of Santa Clara because as a joint owner of the

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Attorneys for the ranch owners told the City Council in December the price would increase \$20,000 in January and \$10,000 a month thereafter until the sale was closed because of loss and inconvenience involved in the long negotiations.

Boggin said the \$60,000 covered this condition. He said the reimbursement figure was negotiated against anticipated expenses by a May closure of nearly \$80,000, according to the owner's accountants.

Northeast of the intersection of Zanker and Los Esteros Roads, the land will be purchased with sewage plant bond funds. City officials say the land is needed for plant expansion. Hugh A. Oswald Jr., and the Bank of America, trustees, have been named the ranch owners.