



COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Building ♦ Environmental Health ♦ Planning

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GREG PLUCKER
DIRECTOR

STEPHEN KOPACOFF, M.D.
HEALTH OFFICER

March 23, 2016

Richard Weklych
Crystal Geysers Water Company
501 Washington Street
Calistoga, CA 94515

RE: Crystal Geysers Water Company Facility, 210 Ski Village Drive, Mt. Shasta, California
Use Permit #16-03, Installation of a Caretaker's/Security Home
Review for Completeness and Environmental Review Determination

Dear Mr. Weklych,

The County is in receipt of the above referenced application and has begun processing it. Based on our initial review, the application appears to be substantially complete. There are, however, several agreements that still must be submitted. These include an indemnification agreement and the Right-to-Farm statement. However, because the application is substantially complete, the County will begin processing the application while these agreements are finalized.

As you are aware, the use permit application is a discretionary project and subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In the subject application, the installation of the caretaker's unit appears to be directly related to the whole of Crystal Geysers's bottling facility operations on the property. As such, and in the context further explained below, the County intends to consider the entirety of the bottling plant operations as the CEQA defined project.

Upon review of the project, County staff believes that there are unique and unusual circumstances with respect to the project. As you are aware, the bottling facility operation is a permitted use under the subject property's heavy industrial zoning. While the project does require discretionary permits from other agencies, these other agencies only have permitting responsibilities for certain limited aspects of the entire bottling facility. This permitting arrangement has led to considerable concern voiced by the community over the potential of unaddressed environmental impacts. To address these concerns, I believe that it is in our mutual interest that an environmental impact report (EIR) be prepared in conjunction with the submitted use permit application.

In preparing the EIR, the County will be acting as the lead agency and any other permitting agency would be a responsible agency pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. Under this scenario, any responsible agency could then rely on the County's comprehensive environmental document as part of their discretionary project review.

BUILDING

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Pursuant to Section 10-6.1601(m) of the Siskiyou County Code, you will be responsible to fund the cost of the EIR, plus the County's administrative costs. We will need to coordinate the necessary EIR funding agreement to begin this process. It is suggested that this agreement be incorporated within the previously mentioned indemnification agreement.

Should you have any questions, I can be contacted at (530) 842-8203 or at gplucker@co.siskiyou.ca.us at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Plucker". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Greg Plucker
Community Development Director