

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Environmental Health

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services
Jill Pahl, R.E.H.S., Director of Environmental Health

DATE: February 26, 2008

SUBJECT: Environmental Health Fees

ACTION REQUESTED:

- a. Conduct a public hearing to consider revising the permit, annual facility monitoring and inspection fees, as well as one-time construction plan check and inspection fees, in order to cover the cost of services provided by the Health and Human Services Department, Environmental Health Division.
- b. Adopt a resolution containing the fee schedule for Land Development Services provided by the Health and Human Services Department, Environmental Health Division.
- c. Adopt a resolution containing the fee schedule for certain services provided by the Health and Human Services Department, Environmental Health Division.
- d. Introduction of an ordinance deleting and replacing Chapter 2, Section 2.116.100 of the Placer County Code regarding Fees for Environmental Health.

SUMMARY:

This proposed fee revision is one of the initiatives the Department has undertaken this year to implement your Board's direction for Health and Human Services to pursue opportunities to reduce its dependence upon County General Funds and maintain service levels and operations. If approved, this budget is estimated to approach 100% user fee support. Certain fees are set and collected by the Community Development Resource Agency for all of the land development departments and distributed according to a formula based on a previous hourly rate and level of service. These fees will continue to be subsidized by General Fund until they are updated to the current hourly rate and current time analysis review.

The Environmental Health Division provides essential services; protecting the public health of the County's residents and visitors, and assuring the maintenance of the quality of the County's environment. The first resolution provides for a revision in annual fees for approximately 3,250 facilities which are mandated to receive regular monitoring and inspections (such as restaurants, public pools, small water systems, solid waste facilities, and hazardous materials facilities); these operating fees would be effective sixty days after approval. The Division is currently issuing six-month permits with expiration dates of June 30, 2008 at the current fee amounts. For the period of July 1 to December 31 2008, additional six-month permits will be issued for half of the full annual cost of service. The January 1, 2009 permits will incorporate the full cost of service of one year.

The second resolution provides for a revision for construction-related, one-time fees for plan check and inspection services (wells, septic and permitted facilities); these fees would be effective on the 61st day after Board approval of the resolution. Previously, fees had been set by ordinance; the listing of fees in the existing ordinance is being amended and future fees are to be set by resolution.

BACKGROUND:

Over the last 15 years Environmental Health fee increases have been based only on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) escalator. Recent CPI fee increases (3.9%, 4.2% and 3.4% respectively for the last three years) have not kept pace with the County's growth and service delivery cost of the Division. State regulations have mandated additional services that require new fees and/or increased levels of service. As a result, Placer County General Fund has increasingly subsidized Environmental Health with contributions of approximately \$1-2.3 million per year since FY 2003/04.

Environmental Health charges fees for its services. The current fee structure provides 65% of the Division's funding with 35% (\$1,975,283) subsidized through the County General Fund. It is anticipated in Fiscal Year 2008-2009, in order to offset these General Fund contributions and reinstate critical extra help and overtime funding that were held in abeyance from the Division's proposed budget, the total cost recovery will need to increase by \$2.3 million.

A comprehensive fee study was prepared to evaluate the true cost of services and will provide a basis for future reviews to assure the fees are appropriate for the services provided. The Division mailed all of its regulated facilities three times and other interested parties twice concerning the fee revisions and provided five public meetings to gain input. At the meetings most of the attendees understood the need to have the Division cover its costs, but felt that a phasing in over a longer period of time would be better.

The Division is committed to using all tools available to provide the best services to our customers in an efficient and timely manner. Our inspectors are using tablet computers in the field. After the initial start up, this has allowed for quicker customer service by having the appropriate information immediately available for businesses, as well as increased compliance by providing immediate corrections to violations. The Division standardizes staff to assure uniform and efficient services are provided. Standardization has occurred internally and externally with other counties. The Division is also implementing the Federal FDA Voluntary Retail Food Program Standards. These checks and balances assure that staff is conforming to industry standards for program implementation. This also validates the reliability of the full time accounting data that the Division uses to develop fees.

The Division is developing further efficiencies to assure staff is providing high quality services at appropriate levels of effort. For example, the Division is continuing to improve our website to provide user-friendly information that the public can access directly. We are participating in the land development departments' imaging and Document Management project which will ultimately save staff time by having information available at their computers, and have the opportunity for improved public access to land development files.

The Department is recommending an incentive program for food facilities that currently have no violations. The recommendation is to maintain the current fees for one year (July 1, 2008 to July 1, 2009) for food facilities that have had no violations in their last routine inspection. These food facilities would only experience a Consumer Price Index based increase effective July 1, 2008. Approximately 100 of the 1,800 permitted food facilities meet this criterion.

The Division will work with the two newly formed ad hoc Food Advisory Group (Auburn and Tahoe) comprised of interested parties that have come forward during this fee process. They will assist the Division in determining the best ways to implement additional food safety initiatives and related program improvements. This group will consult on proposed program improvements such as internet inspection posting, which is a proven tool to increase compliance. In addition, they will assist with improved marketing of safe food handling practices to increase consumer confidence. The Division will further focus on facilities whose operations have the greatest potential to lead to food borne illness to encourage full compliance through education.

FEE STUDY:

The Fee Study on file with the Clerk of the Board includes an in-depth presentation of the fee development. The methodology used was similar to a model developed by Sacramento County Environmental Management. That methodology was adapted to fit the operations and services provided by Placer County Environmental Health. Direct and indirect staff was evaluated to determine direct, billable staff hours for use in determining the hourly rate.

The Division's database maintains full-time accounting for all staff, both direct and indirect. The historical time expended for each detailed program area was used to evaluate the cost of service. This time was used with the billable hourly rate to determine the full cost of service of each fee area.

A few fee categories are being revised and some new ones added due to changes in the State retail food code definitions of food facilities. Two other new fees are proposed. One is to provide new stormwater inspections at food facilities in order to comply with the County's stormwater permit. The fee is proposed at \$112 annually. The other is to cover costs for the ongoing, biannual alternative sewage disposal system monitoring at \$74 annually. The Division currently has 79 systems in this program and the number is growing every year. The systems are required to provide monitoring data, which requires staff time to oversee its collection and review. Owners have signed an operating agreement that acknowledges the potential for charging this fee for service.

FISCAL IMPACT:

With the approval of these proposed fee revisions, the Division will approach 100% cost recovery for services provided. The net impact to our Division budget will be an increase in revenue of approximately \$2.3 million in Fiscal Year 2008-09. The actual impact will depend on the number of land use applications submitted and the growth in the number of permitted facilities. No growth was considered in the development of the land development fees. A five percent growth rate was used in development of the permitted facilities in comparison to the historical growth rate of ten percent. This increase in annual revenue will significantly offset General Fund obligations for the Division.

The following documents for:

Environmental Health Fees

- **Resolution - Land Development Services**
- **Resolution - Certain Services**
- **Ordinance**
- **Environmental Health Fee Study**

is on file with Clerk of the Board

for BOS meeting:

February 26, 2008

**Before the Board of Supervisors
County of Placer, State of California**

In the matter of:

Resolution No: _____

**A Resolution adopting fees for Land Development
Services provided by the Health and Human Services
Department, Environmental Health Division**

The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held **February 26, 2008** by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Attest: _____

Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, the Environmental Health Division of the Health and Human Services Department allocates staff time and other costs for providing various services for processing and review of certain land development applications; and

WHEREAS, the Board has previously determined that the costs associated with such processing and review is to be supported, in part, by project applicants; and

WHEREAS, the Board has adopted a fee schedule by ordinance to ensure cost recovery consistent with the Board's direction and authorized the Health and Human Services Department to annually update the fee schedule based upon the Consumer Price Index-California For All Urban Consumers and the fees included in this Resolution on the effective date supersede the fees set out in the prior ordinance; and

WHEREAS, State law requires that where a local entity imposes a new fee or increases an existing fee for processing and review of land development applications, then it must prepare a study documenting that the amount of the fee does not exceed the estimated reasonable cost of providing the services; and

WHEREAS, a fee study to document the estimated costs to justify the proposed increases has been prepared and filed with the Clerk of the Board and all notices as required by State law have been given and a public hearing has been held;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved that the Board of Supervisors of Placer County adopts the Health and Human Services Department, Environmental Health Division, Land Development Services Fee Schedule as set out in the attached Exhibit A. These fees shall be effective 60 days after the date of this resolution.

EXHIBIT A

LAND TEAM COST CALCULATIONS FEE SERVICE INFORMATION

Fee Title	Current Fee (07:08)	Full Cost of Service Unit (Potential Fee)
WELLS		
WELL - DOMESTIC/PUBLIC WELL PERMIT	\$ 413	\$ 669
WELL - DESTRUCTION PERMIT	\$ 195	\$ 372
WELL - MODIFICATION PERMIT	\$ 195	\$ 299
WELL - PERMIT RENEWAL	\$ 39	\$ 112
WELL - SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT PERMIT	\$ 227	\$ 299
WELL - DEEPENING	\$ 195	\$ 372
LIQUID WASTE		
SEWAGE PIT REPAIR	\$ 525	\$ 669
MOUND SYSTEM	\$ 1,139	\$ 1,413
SITE EVALUATION	\$ 379	\$ 632
SITE EVALUATION - > 10 LOTS	\$ 3,796	\$ 6,251
SITE EVALUATION - RECERTIFICATION	\$ 126	\$ 149
SEPTIC SYSTEM - GRAVELESS CHAMBER	\$ 252	\$ 595
SEPTIC SYSTEM - STANDARD TRENCH	\$ 252	\$ 372
SEPTIC SYSTEM - DEEP TRENCH	\$ 252	\$ 521
SEPTIC SYSTEM - STEEP SLOPE	\$ 252	\$ 446
SEPTIC SYSTEM - CAPPING FILL	\$ 379	\$ 595
PRESSURE DISTRIBUTION - DEEP TRENCH	\$ 379	\$ 595
PRESSURE DISTRIBUTION - CAPPING FILL	\$ 379	\$ 744
PRESSURE DISTRIBUTION - GRAVEL	\$ 379	\$ 446
SEWAGE SYSTEM - LARGE	\$ 1,266	\$ 1,795
SEPTIC SYSTEM - SEEPAGE PITS	\$ 507	\$ 744
PRESSURE DISTRIBUTION GRAVELESS CHAMBER	\$ 379	\$ 521
SEWAGE SYSTEM - REPAIR PERMIT	\$ 418	\$ 595
SEWAGE SYSTEM - EXPANSION PERMIT	\$ 398	\$ 521
OUTBUILDING/POOLS FIELD VISIT	\$ 191	\$ 223
OUTBUILDING/POOL - OFFICE REVIEW	\$ 19	\$ 37
SAND FILTER WITH GRAVITY	\$ 1,139	\$ 1,488
SAND FILTER WITH PRESSURE DISTRIBUTION	\$ 1,139	\$ 1,636
SAND FILTER W/ CAPPING FILL & PRESSURE DIST	\$ 1,139	\$ 1,636
SAND FILTER WITH SEEPAGE PITS	\$ 1,139	\$ 1,636
SAND FILTER WITH DEEP TRENCH	\$ 1,139	\$ 1,636
SAND FILTER WITH SUBSURFACE DRIP GEO FLOW	\$ 1,139	\$ 1,636
SAND FILTER MONITORING	\$ -	\$ 74
ADVANTEA / SEPTIC*	\$ 1,139	\$ 334
HOLDING TANK/SEPTIC	\$ 126	\$ 372
ENVIRONCYCLE / SEPTIC*	\$ 1,139	\$ 334
HOOT / SEPTIC*	\$ 1,139	\$ 334
SINGULAR SEPTIC*	\$ 1,129	\$ 334
OTHER		
VARIANCE NO HEARING	\$ 207	\$ 223
VARIANCE HEARING	\$ 519	\$ 595
APPEAL TO HEALTH OFFICER	\$ 126	\$ 299
HOURLY RATE	\$ 126	\$ 149
REINSPECTION		Hourly rate for a two hour minimum
PENALTY-ANNUAL INVOICES		25% if not received before expiration
PENALTY-HOURLY INVOICES		30 days of invoice date
CONSTRUCTION/OPERATION WITHOUT PERMIT		Double fees
PLAN CHECKS		Additional hourly rate if actual time is over the hourly rate charged
REFUNDS		Fee minus the actual cost of time spent and a 1/4 of an hour administration fee
PRO-RATE FEES:		New Permits and Ownership changes will be issued on a pro-rated quarterly basis

*The fee is for a six hour minimum. Additional costs will be billed at the hourly rate.

**Before the Board of Supervisors
County of Placer, State of California**

In the matter of:

Resolution No: _____

**A Resolution adopting fees for certain services
provided by the Health and Human Services
Department, Environmental Health Division**

The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held **February 26, 2008** by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Attest: _____
Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, the Health and Human Services Department allocates staff time and other costs for providing various services to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Board has previously determined that the costs associated with such services is to be supported, in part, by consumers of those services; and

WHEREAS, the Board has adopted a fee schedule by ordinance to ensure cost recovery consistent with the Board's direction and authorized the Health and Human Services Department to annually update the fee schedule based upon the Consumer Price Index-California For All Urban Consumers and the fees set out in this resolution once adopted shall supersede those fees set by ordinance; and

WHEREAS, State law requires that where a local entity imposes a new fee or increases an existing fee, then it must prepare a study documenting that the amount of the fee does not exceed the estimated reasonable cost of providing the services; and

WHEREAS, a fee study to document the estimated costs to justify the proposed increases has been prepared and filed with the Clerk of the Board and all notices as required by state law have been given and a public hearing has been held;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved that the Board of Supervisors of Placer County adopts the Health and Human Services Department, Environmental Health Division Fee Schedule as set out in the attached Exhibit A. These fees shall be effective sixty days after adoption of this resolution.

EXHIBIT A

CONSUMER PROTECTION TEAM COST CALCULATIONS

Fee Title	Current EH Fee (07/08)	1/2 of Current Fee (Paid 1-1-08)	1/2 Full Cost (Potential Fee due 7-1-08)	Full Cost of Service Unit (Potential Fee due 1-1-09)
FOOD				
RESTAURANT-LESS THAN 50 SEATS	\$ 429	\$ 215	\$ 372	\$ 744
RESTAURANT-MORE THAN 50 LESS THAN 100 SEATS	\$ 557	\$ 279	\$ 451	\$ 902
RESTAURANT-EQUAL OR GREATER THAN 100 SEATS	\$ 593	\$ 290	\$ 556	\$ 1,071
MARKET-NO FOOD PREP LESS THAN 500 SQ FT	\$ 152	\$ 76	\$ 179	\$ 357
MARKET-NO FOOD PREP + 500 TO 500 SQ FT	\$ 152	\$ 76	\$ 206	\$ 412
MARKET-NO FOOD PREP + 500 TO 1,000 SQ FT	\$ 217	\$ 109	\$ 256	\$ 476
MARKET-NO FOOD PREP EQUAL TO OR + 1,000 SQ FT	\$ 274	\$ 137	\$ 372	\$ 744
MARKET-WITH FOOD PREP LESS THAN 5,000 SQ FT	\$ 416	\$ 208	\$ 451	\$ 902
MARKET-WITH FOOD PREP EQUAL TO OR + 5,000 SQ FT	\$ 548	\$ 274	\$ 556	\$ 1,071
OPEN AIR BARBECUE	\$ 500	\$ 250	\$ 501	\$ 1,002
PRODUCE STAND	\$ 178	\$ 89	\$ 104	\$ 208
CERTIFIED FARMER'S MARKET	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 149	\$ 298
LICENSED HEALTH CARE FACILITY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 298	\$ 596
CATERER	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 226	\$ 452
CATERER, SAME OWNER FROM PERMITTED FACILITY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 113	\$ 226
PRIVATE SCHOOL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 226	\$ 452
COMMISSARY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 149	\$ 298
MOBILE SUPPORT UNIT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 152	\$ 304
MOBILE FOOD FACILITY FULL PREP	\$ 222	\$ 111	\$ 206	\$ 412
MOBILE FOOD FACILITY LIMITED PREP	\$ 229	\$ 115	\$ 189	\$ 378
TEMPORARY FOOD FACILITY	\$ 120	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 120
TEMPORARY EVENT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 74	\$ 148
SATELLITE FOOD FACILITY	\$ 191	\$ 96	\$ 149	\$ 298
RESTRICTED FOOD SERVICE FACILITY (S&B)	\$ 555	\$ 278	\$ 260	\$ 501
FOOD VEHICLE	\$ 174	\$ 87	\$ 87	\$ 174
VENDING MACHINE	\$ 227	\$ 114	\$ 110	\$ 220
LOUNGE OR BAR	\$ 213	\$ 107	\$ 156	\$ 312
EQUIPMENT ONLY FOOD PLAN CHECK	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 149	\$ 298
NEW/MINOR PREP W/O FOOD-MINOR REMODEL	\$ 556	\$ 278	\$ 409	\$ 818
NEW PREPACKAGED ONLY	\$ 250	\$ 125	\$ 206	\$ 412
PLAN CHECK-NEW	\$ 1,350	\$ 675	\$ 916	\$ 1,832
PLAN CHECK-REMODEL	\$ 556	\$ 278	\$ 556	\$ 1,112
CALCODE SMALL WATER SYSTEM	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 110	\$ 220
RECREATIONAL HEALTH (Pools & Spas)				
POOL - YEAR ROUND	\$ 505	\$ 253	\$ 424	\$ 848
SPA - YEAR ROUND	\$ 506	\$ 253	\$ 424	\$ 848
POOL/SPA PLAN REVIEW	\$ 1,035	\$ 518	\$ 952	\$ 1,904
2ND POOL/SPA SUBMITTAL REVIEW	\$ 1,057	\$ 529	\$ 956	\$ 1,912
SMALL WATER SYSTEMS (SWS)				
WATER SYSTEM - STATE SMALL	\$ 425	\$ 213	\$ 260	\$ 520
REQUEST FOR WATER SAMPLE	\$ 35	\$ 18	\$ 50	\$ 100
WATER SYSTEM - COMMUNITY SURFACE	\$ 429	\$ 215	\$ 1,256	\$ 2,512
WATER SYSTEM - COMMUNITY GROUNDWATER	\$ 452	\$ 226	\$ 267	\$ 534
WATER SYSTEM - COMMUNITY WHOLESALE PURCHASED	\$ 459	\$ 230	\$ 312	\$ 624
WATER SYSTEM - NON-TRANSIENT/ NON-COMMUNITY SURFACE	\$ 425	\$ 213	\$ 557	\$ 1,114
WATER SYSTEM - NON-TRANSIENT/ NON-COMMUNITY GROUND	\$ 425	\$ 213	\$ 496	\$ 992
WATER SYSTEM - TRANSIENT NON-COMMUNITY SURFACE	\$ 351	\$ 176	\$ 316	\$ 632
WATER SYSTEM - TRANSIENT NON-COMMUNITY GROUND	\$ 351	\$ 176	\$ 294	\$ 588
WATER SYSTEM PLAN CHECK	\$ 1,140	\$ 570	\$ 1,116	\$ 2,232
SEPTAGE PUMPERS				
ANNUAL INSPECTION	\$ 157	\$ 79	\$ 112	\$ 224
STORM WATER				
STORM WATER-RESTAURANTS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55	\$ 110
OTHER				
HOURLY RATE	\$ 128	\$ 64	\$ 149	\$ 298
REINSPECTION		Hourly rate for a two hour minimum		
PENALTY-ANNUAL INVOICES		25% if not received before expiration		
PENALTY-HOURLY INVOICES		25% if not received within 20 days of invoice date		
CONSTRUCTION/OPERATION WITHOUT PERMIT		Double fees		
PLAN CHECKS		Additional hourly rate if actual time is over the hourly rate charged		
REFUNDS		Fee minus the actual cost of time spent plus a 1/4 of an hour administration fee		
PRO-RATE FEES:		New Permits and Ownership changes will be issued on a pro-rated quarterly basis		
SEASONAL FEES		Food and cool/spa facilities that operate for less than 6 consecutive months shall have their fees reduced by 50%		
TRAINED EVENT COORDINATORS		50% Discount for Division Trained Event Coordinators		
		Food facilities with no violations in their last 3 consecutive routine inspections as of April 1, 2008 shall have the rate remain at the 07-08 rate with only CPI increases as long as no violations occur on any future inspection.		
INCENTIVE PROGRAM				

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS & SOLID WASTE TEAM COST CALCULATIONS
FULL UNIT COST CALCULATION

Fee Title	Current HM & SW Fee (07:08)	1/2 Current Fee (Paid 1-1-08)	1/2 Full Cost Fee (Potentially Due 7-1-08)	Full Cost of Service Fee (Potential Annual Fee)
HMBP with & without Waste				
HAZMAT - AGRICULTURAL PRODUCER	\$ 226	\$ 113	\$ 167	\$ 335
CALARP, ACUTE HAZMAT <=20,000 GALLONS	\$ 1,054	\$ 527	\$ 2,975	\$ 5,951
CALARP, ACUTE HAZMAT >=20,000 GALLONS	\$ 1,717	\$ 859	\$ 4,463	\$ 8,926
HAZMAT - ABOVE GROUND NO WASTE	\$ 499	\$ 250	\$ 391	\$ 781
HAZMAT - ABOVE GROUND WITH WASTE	\$ 585	\$ 293	\$ 426	\$ 855
US HAZMAT ONLY-NO WASTE <=20,000/month	\$ 357	\$ 179	\$ 298	\$ 595
US HAZMAT ONLY-NO WASTE =>20,000/month	\$ 453	\$ 227	\$ 335	\$ 669
US HAZMAT ONLY-WITH WASTE <=20,000/month	\$ 439	\$ 220	\$ 325	\$ 669
US HAZMAT ONLY-WITH WASTE => 20,000 MO	\$ 585	\$ 293	\$ 372	\$ 744
AS/US HAZMAT-NO WASTE <=20,000/MONTH	\$ 538	\$ 269	\$ 353	\$ 707
AS/US HAZMAT-NO WASTE, =>20,000/MONTH	\$ 632	\$ 316	\$ 409	\$ 819
AS/US HAZMAT- WITH WASTE <=20,000/MONTH	\$ 676	\$ 339	\$ 426	\$ 855
AS/US HAZMAT - WITH WASTE =>20,000/MONTH	\$ 766	\$ 383	\$ 502	\$ 1,004
CONDITIONALLY EXEMPT SMALL QUANTITY GENERATOR	\$ 33	\$ 42	\$ 56	\$ 112
SMALL QUANTITY GENERATOR	\$ 33	\$ 42	\$ 74	\$ 149
LARGE QUANTITY GENERATOR	\$ 154	\$ 62	\$ 316	\$ 632
PERMIT BY RULE-HHWCF	\$ 1,180	\$ 560	\$ 668	\$ 1,376
PERMIT BY RULE	\$ 1,180	\$ 560	\$ 668	\$ 1,376
CONDITIONALLY AUTHORIZED	\$ 349	\$ 175	\$ 279	\$ 559
CONDITIONALLY EXEMPT	\$ 93	\$ 42	\$ 60	\$ 119
Underground Storage Tanks				
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK - 1 TANK	\$ 490	\$ 245	\$ 493	\$ 987
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS - 2 TANKS	\$ 555	\$ 276	\$ 521	\$ 1,041
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS - 3 TANKS	\$ 622	\$ 311	\$ 556	\$ 1,116
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS - 4 TANKS	\$ 696	\$ 344	\$ 614	\$ 1,227
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS - 5 TANKS	\$ 754	\$ 377	\$ 669	\$ 1,339
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS - 6 TANKS	\$ 820	\$ 410	\$ 774	\$ 1,547
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS - 7 TANKS	\$ 886	\$ 443	\$ 855	\$ 1,711
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS - 8 TANKS	\$ 952	\$ 476	\$ 930	\$ 1,860
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS - 9 TANKS	\$ 1,017	\$ 509	\$ 985	\$ 1,971
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS - 10 TANKS	\$ 1,085	\$ 543	\$ 1,038	\$ 2,075
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS - 11 TANKS	\$ 1,154	\$ 577	\$ 1,093	\$ 2,187
UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS - 12 TANKS	\$ 1,210	\$ 605	\$ 1,146	\$ 2,291
EACH ADDL TANK	\$ 66	\$ 33	\$ 149	\$ 299
UST CONSTRUCTION, FIRST TANK	\$ 1,894	\$ 942	\$ 1,004	\$ 2,003
UST CONSTRUCTION, ADDL TANKS	\$ 118	\$ 59	\$ 231	\$ 461
HAZMAT - MONITORING WELL INSTALLATION (EACH)	\$ 253	\$ 127	\$ 166	\$ 372
HAZMAT - MONITORING WELL DESTRUCTION (EACH)	\$ 253	\$ 127	\$ 166	\$ 372
SOIL BORING (ONE)	\$ 253	\$ 127	\$ 166	\$ 372
2 OR MORE SOIL BORING (MINIMUM)	\$ 507	\$ 254	\$ 372	\$ 744
RESIDENTIAL UST - CLOSURE	\$ 345	\$ 173	\$ 198	\$ 372
SITE CLEANUP - MITIGATION-HOURLY	\$ 126	\$ 63	\$ 74	\$ 149
UST- PERMANENT CLOSURE, COMMERCIAL	\$ 1,136	\$ 569	\$ 693	\$ 1,785
UST- PERMANENT CLOSURE, NON-COMMERCIAL	\$ 345	\$ 173	\$ 372	\$ 744
Solid Waste				
SOLID WASTE HOURLY RATE	\$ 126			\$ 149
Other				
HOURLY RATE	\$ 126			\$ 149
REINSPECTION		Hourly rate for a two hour minimum		
PENALTY-ANNUAL INVOICES		25% if not received before expiration		
PENALTY-HOURLY INVOICES		25% if not received within 30 days of invoice date		
CONSTRUCTION/OPERATION WITHOUT PERMIT		Double fees		
PLAN CHECKS		Additional hourly rate if actual time is over the hourly rate charged		
REFUNDS		Fee minus the actual cost of time spent and a 1/4 of an hour administration fee		
PRO-RATE FEES		New Permits and Ownership changes will be issued on a pro-rated quarterly basis		

**Before the Board of Supervisors
County of Placer, State of California**

In the matter of:

**An Ordinance deleting and replacing
Article 2.116.100, of Chapter 2 of the
Placer County Code Regarding Fees
for Environmental Health**

Ord. No.: _____

First Reading: _____

The following Ordinance was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held _____ by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Attest: _____
Clerk of said Board

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF PLACER, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN as follows:

Section 1: That Article 2.116.100 of Chapter 2 of the Placer County Code, Fees for Environmental Health, is hereby deleted in its entirety as shown on Exhibit 1 (Exhibit 1 is not a part of this ordinance and not to be published), and replaced with the following:

ARTICLE 2.116.100 Fees for Environmental Health.

The Placer County Department of Health and Human Services, Environmental Health division, shall charge and collect fees for annual health permits and services performed. Beginning February 26, 2008, these fees shall be reflected in a resolution of the Board of Supervisors and shall be subject to annual adjustment each July 1, commencing July 1, 2009 at the same rate as the State of California, Department of Industrial Relations, Consumer Price Index (CPI) – California for All Urban Consumers, Annual Average, Not Seasonally Adjusted, where the Standard Reference Base Period is 1982-1984 = 100. Changes in each fee will be measured based on the difference between the 2007 Annual Average and the Annual Average for the most recent calendar year. The percentage change in each fee shall be the same as the percentage change in the CPI. Fees shall be rounded to the nearest dollar. The Resolution reflecting the current fee schedule and definitions of categories shall be on file with the Environmental Health Division.

Section 2: This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect sixty (60) days after its passage. The Clerk is directed to publish this ordinance, or a summary thereof, within fifteen (15) days in accordance with Government Code Section 25124.

Exhibit 1

2-116.100 Fees for environmental health.

The Placer County department of health and medical services, environmental health division, shall charge and collect the following fees for annual health permits and services performed. Beginning on July 1, 1990, these fees shall be automatically adjusted annually on the first day of July at the same rate as the state of California Department of Industrial Relations Consumer Price Index—California, for All Urban Consumers. The adjustment shall be calculated on the twelve (12) month period from April 1st through March 31st of each year. Adjusted fees shall be rounded to the nearest dollar. Definitions of the following categories shall be on file with the Placer County Division of Environmental Health.

A: Public Health Fees:

1.	Food Facilities (banquet seating shall be exempt from seating capacity count). Also refer to subsections (A)(9) through (13) of this section.	
a.	Restaurants by Seating Capacity:	
i.	Less than 50	\$ 217.00
ii.	More than 50, less than 100	412.00
iii.	More than 100	428.00
b.	Food facility reinspection fee (penalty to be paid prior to next year health permit)	159.00
c.	Markets, No Food Preparation:	
i.	Incidental < 500 sq. ft.	112.00
ii.	Less than 2,000 sq. ft.	159.00
iii.	Less than 5,000 sq. ft.	216.00
iv.	Equal to or greater than 5,000 sq. ft.	275.00
d.	Markets, Food Preparation:	
i.	Less than 5,000 sq. ft.	306.00
ii.	Equal to or greater than 5,000 sq. ft.	479.00
e.	Open air barbecue	441.00
f.	Produce stand	130.00
g.	Mobile food preparation unit	169.00
h.	Mobile food preparation, stationary	169.00
i.	Temporary food facility	88.00
j.	Limited temporary	40.00
k.	Satellite food facility	\$ 134.00
l.	Bed and breakfast facility	413.00
m.	Food vehicle	128.00
n.	Vending machine	168.00
o.	Lounge and bar	230.00
p.	Plan Check:	

Ordinance No. _____

Date Adopted: _____

-	-	-	Category 1 (11 hours)	1030.00
-	-	-	Category 2 (4.1 hours)	412.00
-	-	-	Additional hours at hourly rate, see subsection (A)(8) of this section	
-	-	q.	Incidental market	96.00
-	2.		Septage Hauler—Annual Permit:	
-	-		Each vehicle	116.00
-	3.		Pool and Spa:	
-	-		Also refer to subsections (A)(9) through (13) of this section:	
-	-	a.	Seasonal	268.00
-	-	b.	Full year	375.00
-	-	e.	Plan Check:	
-	-	-	Category 1 first pool (9.78 hours)	910.00
-	-	-	Category 2 second pool combined at same time and site as first (8.58 hours)	798.00
-	-	-	Additional hours at hourly rate, see subsection (A)(8) of this section	
-	-	d.	Reinspection penalty fee	159.00
-	4.		Water Systems:	
-	-		Also refer to subsections (A)(11) and (13) of this section:	
-	-	a.	Water system, community	338.00
-	-	b.	Water system, noncommunity	259.00
-	-	c.	Water system, state defined	300.00
-	-	d.	Water system, nontransient, noncommunity	300.00
-	-	e.	Water system, plan check (9 hrs.)	837.00
-	-	-	Additional hours at hourly rate, see subsection (A)(8) of this section	
-	-	f.	Request for water sample	50.00
-	-	g.	Request for water resample	30.00
-	5.		Underground Tanks:	
-	-		Also refer to subsections (A)(11) and (13) of this section:	
-	-	a.	Well Monitoring:	
-	-	-	i. First tank	526.00
-	-	-	ii. Each additional tank	345.00
-	-	b.	New Permit—Construction:	
-	-	-	i. First tank	51244.00

Ordinance No. _____

Date Adopted: _____

ii. Each additional tank	86.00
c. Annual Fee:	
i. First tank	361.00
ii. Each additional tank	48.00
d. Removals/Abandonment:	
i. First tank	881.00
ii. Each additional tank	86.00
Residential	254.00
e. Clean up (25 hours)	2341.00
Additional hours at hourly rate - see subsection (A)(8) of this section	

6. Hazardous Materials Registration:

Also refer to subsections (A)(10) and (13) of this section.

a. Agricultural producers	167.00
b. Exclusive pesticide sale or application	419.00
c. Underground Tank Storage and/or handling of Hazardous Materials:	
Category A (No Hazardous Waste):	
i. Thru put less than 20,000 gal/mo.	265.00
ii. Thru put equal to or greater than 20,000 gal/mo.	333.00
Category B (Some Hazardous Waste):	
i. Thru put less than 20,000 gal/mo.	368.00
ii. Thru put equal to or greater than 20,000 gal/mo.	432.00
d. Above Ground Storage and/or handling of Hazardous Materials:	
i. No hazardous waste	368.00
ii. Some hazardous waste	32.00
e. Combined Above Ground and Underground Storage and/or handling of Hazardous Materials:	
Category A (No Hazardous Waste):	
i. Thru put less than 20,000 gal/mo.	397.00
ii. Thru put equal to or greater than 20,000 gal/mo.	465.00
Category B (Some Hazardous Waste):	
i. Thru put less than 20,000 gal/mo.	550.00
ii. Thru put equal to or greater than 20,000 gal/mo.	566.00
f. Facilities Handling Acutely Hazardous Materials:	

Ordinance No. _____

Date Adopted: _____

i. No hazardous waste	777.00
ii. Some hazardous waste	1269.00
g. New Commercial Construction Hazardous Materials Determination:	
i. Full review	67.00
ii. Limited review	49.00
h. File Research and Report on Conditions	130.00
7. Hazardous Waste Handler or Generator	
a. Small quantity generator and conditionally exempt small quantity generator not regulated under community right to know (RTK) program	40.00
b. Conditionally exempt small quantity generator regulated under RTK program	70.00
c. Small quantity generator regulated under RTK program	70.00
d. Large quantity generator	140.00
e. Permit by rule	330.00
f. Permit by rule, household hazardous waste collection facility	995.00
g. Conditionally authorized	300.00
h. Conditionally exempt. Also refer to subsection (A)(13) of this section.	70.00
8. Hourly rate charge	93.00
9. Change in name—No field visit	42.00
Retype license only	
10. Pro-rate Fees	
New permits and ownership changes will be issued on a prorated quarterly basis.	12.00
11. Combined Facilities	
Additional facilities at the same site and under the same ownership shall receive a ten (10) percent reduction of the fee. The primary facility is the one with the greater fee.	
12. Operation without Permit	
There shall be a penalty of an additional twenty-five (25) percent for operation of a facility prior to obtaining required permit.	
13. Late Payment Penalty	
There shall be a penalty of an additional ten (10) percent per month or part thereof on the original amount for failure to pay fees within thirty (30) days of due date.	
B. Land Development Fees:	
1. Site Evaluation ⁺	\$ 279.00
Three hour minimum, time in excess is at hourly rate.	
2. Site Evaluation > 40 lots	2,490.00 plus 25%

Ordinance No. _____

Date Adopted: _____

To obtain base maximum hours divide total calculated fee by the hourly rate. Any hours in excess of this base is charged at the hourly rate.

3. Recertification of Site Evaluation with no Soils Testing	93.00
4. New Construction Permits: Two hour minimum, time in excess is at hourly rate.	
a. Standard system ²	186.00
b. Deep trench ²	186.00
c. Steep slope ²	186.00
d. Capping fill ¹	279.00
e. Intermittent sand filter ³	837.00
f. Mound ³	837.00
g. Pressure dose plus permit fee	93.00
h. Large system ⁵	930.00
i. Other, at hourly rate	
5. Construction Reinspection Fee	186.00
6. Variance:	
no hearing	152.00
hearing	383.00
7. Appeal to Health Officer	93.00
8. Authorization Notice ⁴	140.00
9. Repair Permits	
Requiring soils evaluation	307.00
10. Septic Expansion	287.00
11. Outbuildings and Pools:	
a. Field visit	134.00
b. Office review	14.00
12. Renewal Permit	28.00
13. Experimental System Preliminary Review ²	186.00
14. Hourly rate per environmental health specialist may be used in lieu of fee at the discretion of the administration of health and medical services.	
15. In addition to the foregoing fees, there shall be a one hundred (100) percent penalty of the fee amount for failure to apply for any required permit within two county business days after the time such permit was required.	
16. Loan Certification:	
a. Well only	\$157.00

Ordinance No. _____

Date Adopted: _____

b. Septic only	146.00
c. Well and septic at same time	281.00
17. Sewer Will-Serve Letter:	
a. Subdivision	30.00
b. Individual lot	5.00
18. Water Will-Serve Letter:	
a. Subdivision	30.00
b. Individual lot	5.00
19. Well Permit Fees:	
a. Domestic/public well	304.00
b. Well destruction	138.00
c. Well modification	138.00
d. Well revisit inspection	121.00
e. Well permit renewal	28.00
f. Monitoring well, see subsection (A)(5)(a) of this section	
g. Second or subsequent wells on the same property where an additional inspection for permit issuance is not required shall be charged fifty (50) percent of the standard well permit fee.	

Notes:

- 1. ~~Three hour minimum, additional hours at hourly rate.~~
- 2. ~~Two hour minimum, additional hours at hourly rate.~~
- 3. ~~Nine hours minimum, additional hours at hourly rate.~~
- 4. ~~One and one-half hours minimum, additional hours at hourly rate.~~
- 5. ~~Ten hours minimum, additional hours at hourly rate.~~

(Ord. 5219-B, 2003; Prior code § 2.1200)

John A. Panelli
450 Gladys Rd. #42
Colfax, CA 95713

RECEIVED

FEB 14 2008

PLACER COUNTY
COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

February 7, 2008

DATE 2/14/08
 Board of Supervisors - 5
 County Executive Office
 County Counsel
 Mike Boyle
 Planning

Rocky Rockholm
Placer County Board of Supervisors, District 1
175 Fulweiler Ave.
Auburn, CA 95603

Re: Environment Health Division
Fee Structure Revision

AGENDA ITEM
DATE: <u>2/14/08</u>
Env. Health Fees
TIME: <u>9:40am</u>

Dear Sir,

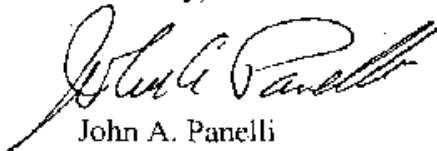
I strongly recommend no increase this year in light of the economic conditions, especially bad on small business sole proprietors.

That being said; let us continue to study the fee structure proposal for the balance of this year, and if economics change, consider implementation of a new proposal next year.

If it is necessary to implement a fee now, consider the fee to be divided and adjusted over the next four or five years with the CPI factored in.

On behalf of all small business, this is not the time to raise fees, but it is the time to reduce government and hold the line. Small Business is having to reduce staff and tighten its belt.

Sincerely,



John A. Panelli
Giovanni's/Shady Glen Inn

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FEB 14 2008

CLERK OF SUPERVISORS

Diane Howe
Coffee and Collectibles
2641 Central Avenue
Roseville, Ca. 95747

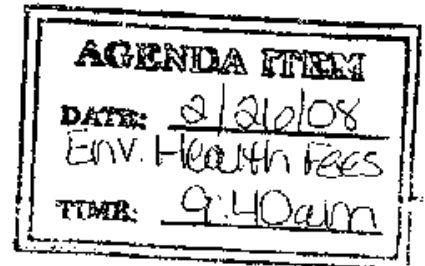
DATE 2/14/08

February 7, 2008

- Board of Supervisors - 5
- County Executive Office
- County Counsel
- Mike Boyle
- Planning

Supervisor Rocky Rockholm
District #
175 Fulweiler Avenue
Auburn, Ca. 95603

Ref: Proposed Environmental Health Fee Increase



Dear Supervisor Rockholm:

I am writing to express my concern related to the proposed increase of Health Permit fees by the Environmental Health Department to be presented to the Board of Supervisors on Feb. 26, 2008 for approval.

As a small business owner I find the currently proposed increase of over 100% to be detrimental to business and unaffordable; therefore I am opposed to the suggested increases. The justification for such an increase (which would need to pass on to customers) would be hard to explain in the current economical environment.

If a fee increase of this large magnitude is to happen, I would respectfully request considering a phasing approach over a four to five year period of time. At a four year phasing I would be paying the County 25% more per year which still is a rate that can not be asked of customers.

It is my understanding that the Environmental Health Department is working with a group of business owners towards developing a sound financial incentive plan that would reward businesses for good inspections over time. Being a good operator and requiring little of County inspection time I am in favor of this direction in working together.

Thank you for your thorough consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Diane Howe

Diane Howe-Coffee and Collectibles
2641 Central Avenue
Roseville, Ca. 95747

January 7, 2008

County of Placer
Department of Health and Human Services
Environmental Health Division
3091 County Center Dr., Suite 180
Auburn, Ca. 95603

Ref: revision to the Permit Terms and Pending Fee Revisions

Dear Dr. Burton/ Jill Pahl, R.E.H.S.

I am writing concerning the proposed fee revisions of various environmental health facilities. I operate a booth at Denio's Auction with approximately 400 sq. ft. with no food prep—just distribution of coffee, tea, spices and herbs. At this facility I have paid health permit fees over the past 15 years which increased yearly (by COLA) to the current \$210.00 which I paid for 2007. I realize that increases are necessary but based on the amount of time spent yearly to do inspections at my individual location I am paying over \$800.00 an hour.

It is my understanding that the proposed fee increases would be 126% for my particular business. I feel that this is excessive at minimum. This amount of increase will be detrimental to businesses in Placer County overall—either driving businesses elsewhere, putting them out of business completely or certainly not encouraging them to begin business in our County.

I would suggest that the County needs to look at efficiency methods of balancing Department budgets as well as creating more equitable categories in this fee area. Recently the Transportation Commission made the decision not to place a sales tax increase on the ballot for our County because they recognized the negative impact that ¼% would have in this downward spiraling economy. I believe that increases the magnitude suggested would definitely present a negative impact. As a citizen in this County, paying taxes, I was under the assumption that the General Fund was to be used to "protect and provide for" me as a citizen. The increases suggested could, in fact, reduce General Fund revenues if businesses depart from Placer County.

Please consider reviewing other methods of budget balancing as well as more equitable categories and phasing of increases over workable periods of time (3-5 years minimum). Our current economy has many businesses as well as governmental agencies struggling. I am very aware of this as I sit on a local school board and regardless of our needs as we would see them, our increases in revenues are based on COLA (cost of living adjustment) each year and we have no ability to "collect" fees from our students. We continually

analyze and evaluate effective methods of providing our staff and students with the best use of funding. I would ask that be done for the businesses helping to keep Placer County the thriving County it has become.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Diane Howe

CC: Supervisor Rocky Rockholm (District 1)
Management, Denio's Auction
Roseville Chamber of Commerce



RECEIVED

FEB 19 2008

CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WELL DRILLING COMPANY

February 14, 2008

Jim Holmes, District 3 Supervisor
Placer County Board of Supervisors
175 Fulweiler Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

AGENDA ITEM
DATE: 2-26-08
TIME: 9:40 am.

Re: Proposed fee increases by Placer County Environmental Health

Dear Jim,

Unfortunately I am going to be out of the country when Placer County Environment Health presents its fee increase proposal before the Placer County Board of Supervisors on February 26, 2008. You have probably seen a copy of this. It is stated that the standard domestic well permit will go from \$413 to \$669. The permit for deepening a well will go from \$185 to \$372 and the permit for doing any sort of repair on a well will go from \$185 to \$298.

Actually the well drillers are getting off easier than other groups like the grocers and restaurateurs who are experiencing over 100 percent increases. Placer County Environmental Health has told us that the reason for this is that the Board of Supervisors has ordered the Department to replace with fees \$2.3 million that it gets each year from the General Fund.

There are a couple of points that need to be made here. First, we are in an economic crisis both nationally and locally. Placer County depends heavily on the real estate and construction industries for both jobs and tax base. To further suppress these industries is to hurt the people that are hurting most, and the people most likely to get us out of economic stagnation.

It has been stated that the businesses slapped with these increased fees will just pass the costs onto their customers. If this were true the increased fees would constitute a tax which should receive the same sort of legislative due process that other tax increases receive. However, I'm not sure that that is going to be what happens. A restaurateur whose inspection fees and license fees from the County double can't just increase his/her

1660 OLD AIRPORT ROAD • AUBURN, CA 95602

FAX (530) 823-2377

AUBURN (530) 823-0354

PLACERVILLE (530) 622-2320

1-800-995-WELL

GRASS VALLEY (530) 268-2117

DATE 2-26-08

Board of Supervisors - 5

County Executive Office

County Counsel

Mike Boyle

Planning

49

Environmental Health

food prices accordingly. If he or she does that, potential customers would just decide to eat at home. Similarly for well drillers, people would decide not to drill and hook up to public water instead, or not to build at all. (The cost of entitlements is rapidly outpacing people's ability to pay for new homes.) So, there are powerful substitution possibilities which prevent the passing along of these increased fees.

Second, and probably most important is the absence of any real analysis or prioritization on the part of Placer County Environmental Health as to what programs really need to be maintained and staffed to the extent they are now. All Placer County Environmental Health has done in this fee increase proposal is draw a line under what is necessary to maintain their current budget, plus inflation and various other goodies. For people like you and me, who have been in business and who have seen hard times, we don't get the luxury of just raising our prices when the economy goes down and revenues fall. We have to cut our costs. It is not at all clear to me that this is what has happened at Environmental Health.

What needs to happen is a serious look at the programs that Environmental Health staffs, how efficiently they staff them and whether we really need all of these people and/or equipment. I've been working with Placer County Environmental Health for twenty-eight years. I've seen it grow from a handful of inspectors to a bloated and commensurately arrogant bureaucracy. The excuse always is that "the State has mandated programs which the County must staff and fund."

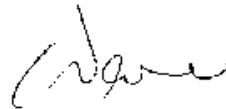
Well maybe and maybe not. Let me give an example. In 1990 the State passed legislation that among other things required every county in the State to inspect the installation of the annular seal on every new well. In 1990 our permit fees more than doubled to accommodate the staff required to do this. (In 1990 well permit fees jumped to \$341 from \$152 in 1989.) Every year thereafter there have been substantial fee increases well in excess of inflation until we got to the point where we are today. However, one thing has changed and that is Environmental Health hardly ever inspects an annular seal. That's right, in spite of "the State mandate" that seals be inspected for which substantial fees are collected, the annular seals are almost never witnessed. In light of this I haven't seen any Environmental Health officials being censured, demoted or in any other way disciplined by the State or any other entity for not fulfilling this "State mandate." Placer County Environmental Health has tacitly recognized that the

County's current well drillers do a pretty good job and have applied their staff other places.

The point here is that there are thousands of State mandates out there and not enough people to watch that they get fulfilled. Many of these "mandates" are just plain stupid. The practical reality is that the County in this situation can and does exercise the ability to pick and choose what mandates are the most important and how it will staff them. In this light The Board needs to order an independent management review of the Environmental Health Department to figure out what parts of its mission are most important, and how it can limit resources to addressing these. To saddle businesses with increased costs, and the people of Placer County, with a crypto-tax increase, which these fee increases represent, is to fail our management responsibilities and to allow this bureaucratic tumor to grow.

I hope you will take a serious look at these proposed increases and hopefully suggest such a study. Thank you.

Very truly yours,



Dave Fulton

P.S. Placer County Environmental Health has proposed staggering the fee increases so that half goes into effect July 1 and half Jan 1, 2009. This hardly helps.



February 20, 2008

Robert M. Weygandt
Placer County Supervisor, District 2
175 Fulweiler Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

RECEIVED

FEB 20 2008

CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RE: PLACER COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
PROPOSED FEE INCREASE

Dear Supervisor Weygandt and Members of the Placer County Board of Supervisors:

At our most recent Government Affairs Committee meeting for Lincoln Area Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Burton of the Placer County Health and Human Services Department, as well as Tim James, Manager, Local Government Relations and California Grocers Association discussed the Proposed Food Facilities Fee Increase scheduled to be heard by the Board of Supervisors on February 26, 2008 at 9:40 a.m.

In both, reading their January 15, 2008 Memo addressed to Jim Gandley the HHS Assistant Director, and listening to their comments we would like to give our recommendations:

- ◆ Due to the fact that fees had not been reviewed for over 15 years, and from Dr. Burton's comments, that they have been analyzed and calculated the actual cost to get a certain job completed (down to the hours worked on each project to completion), it sounds like the review of the Environmental Health Department services was thorough.
- ◆ Since there have been no increases, with the exception of CPI, we obviously understand that there is a need to make some changes, but would encourage that the fee increases be tiered over a period of time, and not all at once.
- ◆ We also support the idea of incentives to food facilities that have no violations and agree that a perfect record of compliance should be rewarded. Their proposal for these facilities to maintain the current fees for one year is a positive step towards retaining and supporting businesses in Lincoln.
- ◆ We also like that the Environmental Health Department will continue to work with the newly formed food advisory groups to develop other program improvements, and to market safe food handling practices and the facilities that use them.

Best regards,

Cindy Murphy, Executive Manager for TRI Commercial
Chair, Lincoln Area Chamber of Commerce
Government Affairs Committee

FEB 20 2008

CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

February 20, 2008

Hon. Jim Holmes, Chair
Placer County Board of Supervisors
175 Fulweiler
Auburn, CA 95603

Re: Proposed Environmental Health Fee Increase

Dear Supervisor Holmes:

I am writing on behalf of the board of directors of the Rocklin Area Chamber of Commerce and the members of the chamber's Government Affairs Committee to provide members' input concerning the proposed increase to the county's environmental health fees.

First of all, we would like to express our collective appreciation to county staff, including Jill Pahl, Environmental Health Director, for the proactive and forthright manner she has represented the county in these discussions. This is just the kind of partnership the community should expect and receive from its public servants.

Secondly, we wish to recognize that protecting the public health is one of the county's most important functions. Inspecting food safety and food facilities is an essential role of the county and key to its public health mission.

That being said, we wish to express some concern regarding the proposal before you:

While we understand the county's intention to capture revenue to cover the cost of services, we urge the county to exercise restraint and prudence when pursuing this "strategy of cost recovery." Such aggressive pursuit of revenue from the public or from businesses may benefit the county's general fund in the short term but may harm the taxpayers and the local economy in the long run.

We recognize the fact that the fee in question has not been raised for 15 years and that the proposed fee will be comparable to neighboring counties. However, we urge the county and the board to consider both sides of the ledger - costs as well as revenue - when determining fees, including labor rules and hiring practices that may limit the county's flexibility as an employer.

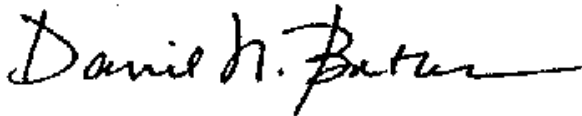
We also encourage the board to consider the amendments proposed by the California Grocers' Association and others to ease the burden of compliance and provide flexibility to both the regulator and the regulated business:

- Phase in the cost increase over two years to allow businesses time to absorb costs into already impacted budgets.
- Allow an annual inspection once a business has received two positive inspections
- Offer high end service to new businesses
- Offer web posting of results
- Encourage standardization among inspectors

These amendments, when taken as a whole, will position Placer County as a responsible regulator, protecting the public health while providing flexibility, consistency and accountability to business owners that subscribe to good business practices.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of our views.

Sincerely,



David N. Butler
Chair, Rocklin Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee

Members, Placer County Board of Supervisors
Jill Pahl, Director, Environmental Health Division
Tim James, California Grocers' Assn.
Wendy Gerig, Roseville Chamber of Commerce
Bobbi Park, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce