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To: [NorthCoast](#)
Subject: 10-6-2015 2035447 KAREN GALLINGER, MONTE RIO
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2015 5:49:12 PM

Oct 6, 2015

Dear North Coast Water Board,

I went to the Public Workshop meeting in Monte Rio on September 22, 2015. I would like to say the following:

1.) While the workshop presenters had the appearance of presenting a good case, they were unable to answer many of the questions raised by the audience. Including who would do the septic inspections, what the requirements to pass said inspection were, and what the results of not passing the inspection would be.

2.) Also, the Funding Opportunities portion is unacceptable. While there are some people living in the west county river area that are on solid financial ground, MANY of us are living at, or below the poverty line. This will make it all but impossible for some of us to bring our systems up to code. The idea of no interest loans would be fine for those not already struggling to survive financially, but for the rest of us the burden of an additional several thousand dollars added to our debt burden would be intolerable. I am absolutely in favor of cleaning up our watershed, but there needs to be some kind of a grant program for low income people to help with the needed repairs. Considering the amount of money the government spends bailing out banks and large corporations, as well as financing boondoggle pet projects, I believe it is incumbent upon YOU to provide funding for those living in poverty to be able to bring their septic systems up to your new code.

3.) As to the homeless people using the area as a toilet, perhaps you would provide some kind of amenities for them. Leaving the public toilets open after hours or having porta-potties available for them to use would be helpful. This is, of course, is by no means a long term solution, as housing is needed for these folks, but in the short term may help ameliorate the issue, which is reaching critical mass. . The upkeep would be a minimal expense compared to cleaning up the mess they make as it is.

There are many other issues to consider, but this merits a serious, long term discussion with those involved. Not this short term, panic at the last minute and forcing of unrealistic actions upon the citizens who cannot afford them.

Again, let me repeat: We ALL want to do our part in helping clean the watershed. Let us find a reasonable solution for everyone.

Thank you,

Karen Gallinger

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