April 7, 2010

Commissioner Anthony Eggert
Commissioner Jeffrey Byron
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, Ca 95814-5514

Re: Green Building Ordinance and the Building Energy Efficiency Standards

Dear Commissioners Eggert and Byron,

Per the request of Commission Staff, we would like to express to you our firm commitment to have the City of Los Altos enforce the current Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards as part of the implementation of our local energy ordinance. As the Building Official, I will work with my staff involved in energy plan review and field inspection to improve their working knowledge of the energy standards. This includes special training as needed which focuses on enforcement of the energy standards and the special requirements of the City of Los Altos energy ordinance.

On August 13, 2008, the California Energy Commission approved the City of Los Altos Energy Efficiency Ordinance, Green Building Regulations under the 2005 California Building Energy Efficiency Standards and the City Council ratified it for the City Municipal Building Code (Chapter 12.66). The Board recognized the study analysis showing energy saving, and cost effectiveness under the 2008 California Building Energy Efficiency Standards at an open public hearing at their February 2, 2010 meeting with no modifications to the original ordinance. The Study was approved by the Board on that date.

The Green Building Regulation, Chapter 12.66 of the City Municipal code, will ensure that residential and non-residential buildings in the City will consume no more energy than permitted by Title 24, Part 6.

As the Building Official, I have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the implementation of the provisions of this chapter. Pursuant to that authority, I hereby promulgate the following regulation:

No provision of either Chapter 12.66.040 Private building compliance or Chapter 12.66.050 Public building compliance of the Los Altos Municipal Code shall alleviate any requirement to meet the State of California's Title 24 Energy Code requirements. Specifically, no building permit shall be issued to any project subject to the Green Building Regulations unless the application can demonstrate continued compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Standards of the California Building Code (Title 24, Part 6) of the California Building Code.

Sincerely,

Kirk B. Ballard
Building Official
650-947-2634