



Town of Portola Valley

765 Portola Road
Portola Valley, CA 94028
(650) 851-1700

September 30, 2010

Commission Chair Karen Douglas
And Members of the Commission
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, Ca 95814-5514

**Re: Town of Portola Valley Green Building Ordinance No. 2010-386 and
the Building Energy Efficiency Standards**

Dear Chair Douglas and Members of the Commission,

Pursuant to the request of Commission Staff, we would like to express to you our firm commitment that the Town of Portola Valley will enforce the current Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards as part of the implementation of our local green building energy ordinance. As the town's designated building official and building inspector, I commit that I and any other town staff involved in energy plan review and field inspection, will, as necessary, improve our working knowledge of the energy standards. This includes special training, where needed, which focuses on enforcement of the energy standards and the special requirements of the ordinance.

Ours is a small town with a relatively small staff, and I oversee and inspect all building projects to ensure compliance with Title 24 standards. We have a relatively small number of building projects, mostly single-family homes and additions, but each is processed to ensure Title 24 compliance. This includes building permit plan check review prior to issuance, construction inspections, and final technical checks and certifications prior to "sign-offs" of permits for occupancy. We have always enforced Title 24 standards and have, with development and adoption of our Green Building Ordinance process, reaffirmed our commitment to this enforcement.

On **May 12, 2010**, we presented to the Portola Valley Town Council, the Green Building Ordinance and the Energy Cost Effective Study as explained in our June 15, 2010 letter to the commission. The Council recognized the study analysis showing energy saving, and cost effectiveness, and opened the public hearing. The Ordinance and Study were approved by the Council on May 12, 2010 and were formally adopted on May 26, 2010. During the course of the

council hearings it was made clear that the town would continue to ensure that at a minimum, the current Title 24 standards would be achieved with completion of all new building projects.

Additionally, pursuant to the request of Commission staff member Joe Loyer, our town planner has provided the enclosed letter clarifying the specific provisions of the Portola Valley Green Building Ordinance that will be applied to require demonstration of compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24, part 6) of the California Building Code. This letter further reflects the City's commitment to enforce these standards as the minimum required by code.

Sincerely,



Gary Fitzer,
Deputy Building Official/Building Inspector
Town of Portola Valley
(650) 851-1700, Ext. 213

Encl.

cc. Tom Vlasic, Town Planner
Angela Howard, Town Manager
Leslie Lambert, Planning Manger
Town Council