February 10, 2010

California Energy Commission Staff
1516 Ninth Street, MS37
Sacramento, Ca 95814-5514

Attention: Joseph Loyer

Re: Green Building Ordinance and the Building Energy Efficiency Standards

Per the request of Commission Staff, we would like to express to you our firm commitment to have the City of San Mateo enforce the current Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards as part of the implementation of our local green building code. This code will require buildings to be designed to consume no more energy than permitted by California Title 24 part 6. As the Building Official, I will continue to 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 Ordinance.

The City of San Mateo Green Building Code Ordinance has been introduced and discussed on November 1st and approved by the City Council at public hearings held on November 15th. Subsequently, a third public hearing was held and a resolution was introduced to revise the Compliance Matrix based on discussions with Commission staff. The City Council approved the adoption of the resolution at the December 6, 2010 meeting. During these public hearing meetings, the benefits of increase in energy efficiency and lower energy usage were reviewed. These factors are contained in the Green Building Code Sections 4.201.1, A4.203.1, 5.201.1 and A5.203.1.1 as a part of ordinance goals. The City Council and the public hearing participants recognized the energy saving and cost effectiveness of the ordinance.

An energy cost effectiveness study prepared for San Mateo County by Gabel Associates, LLC dated December 31, 2009 is submitted with this letter to the Energy Commission. The cost effectiveness in relation to the 2008 Building Energy Efficiency Standards was approved during the review of the City of San Mateo Green Building Code.

No provision of Sections 4.201.1, A4.203.1, 5.201.1 and A5.203.1.1 of the City of San Mateo Ordinance 2010-16 and Resolution 2010-155 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 Ordinance 2010-16 and Resolution 2010-155 unless the application can demonstrate continued compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24, Part 6) of the California Building Code.
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I trust that this letter satisfies any concerns and approval of the City of San Mateo Green Building Code. Thank you for your valuable input and considering San Mateo’s Green Building Ordinance.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Stephen Lau, PE, CBO
Building Official

Attachments:
City Green Building Ordinance (Ord. no. 2010-16)
City Resolution (Reso. no. 2010-155)
Energy Savings and Cost Effectiveness Studies by Gabel Associates