



COUNTY OF SONOMA

PERMIT AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403-2829
(707) 565-1900 FAX (707) 565-1103

March 24, 2011

Ms. Melissa Jones
Executive Director
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, mail stop 37
Sacramento, CA 95814-5514

Re: Sonoma County Green Building Ordinance

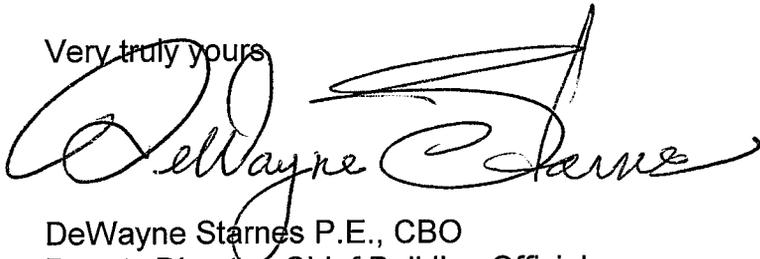
Dear Ms. Jones,

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

On **November 2, 2010**, I presented to the Board of Supervisors, the ordinance for the adoption of all model codes, including the new California Green Building Standards Code (CalGreen) with Tier 1 as a mandatory requirement. This requirement supercedes our previous green building ordinance, and mandates that new residential and non-residential construction meet more stringent energy requirements than the 2008 Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, exceeding those standards by 15%. This ordinance, along with the Energy Efficiency Ordinance and Cost Effective Study showing energy saving and cost effectiveness was previously recognized and approved by Board of Supervisors in a public hearing on **November 3, 2009**, and the California Energy Commission (CEC) on **December 16, 2009**. Amendments to the green building ordinance, along with adoption of, and amendments to, all other model codes, including CalGreen, were approved by the Board during the open public hearing at their **November 2, 2010** regularly calendared business meeting, and became effective on **January 1, 2011**.

The Green Building Regulation will ensure that residential and non-residential buildings in the County will consume no more energy than permitted by Title 24, Part 6.

Very truly yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DeWayne Starnes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

DeWayne Starnes P.E., CBO
Deputy Director, Chief Building Official
Sonoma County Permit & Resource Management Department