

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

GOVERNMENTAL CENTER

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THIRD DISTRICTRAY BELGARD
FOURTH DISTRICTJEFF ALMQUIST
FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 6/2/98

May 20, 1998

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: BACK RANCH ROAD BIOMEDICAL LIVESTOCK OPERATION

Dear Members of the Board:

On May 19, 1998, the Board gave final approval to the amendments to the General Plan/Local Coastal Program Land Use Policies and implementing ordinances regarding biomedical livestock operations in the County. Under these changes, biomedical livestock operations on agriculturally zoned lands are required to obtain a Level V permit pursuant to a Master Plan.

Board members are well aware of the existing biomedical livestock operation on the North Coast of the County which, in fact, caused the recently adopted policy changes to occur. That operation, which has grown significantly since the Board first decided that such uses should be permitted, has generated a good deal of concern about its scale and environmental impacts. However, until the policy changes were approved it was not possible to consider the specific concerns about this operation. Now that these changes have been finally adopted, I think it is important for the operation to obtain its County permit as expeditiously as possible.

Therefore, I recommend that the Board of Supervisors take the following actions:

1. Establish a timeline of 60 days from the effective date of the Biomedical Livestock Operation ordinance for the application from the Santa Cruz Biotechnology operation to be submitted to the County.

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2. Direct staff to expedite the processing of this application in order for it to come to public hearing as soon as possible.
3. Direct staff to report back at the first meeting in September, 1998 on the status of this application.

Sincerely,



'MARDI WORMHOUDT, Supervisor
Third District

MW:lg

cc: Planning Director
Santa Cruz Biotechnology
Save Our Agricultural Land

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