From: <u>Dave Michaels</u>

To: Steve Monowitz; Camille Leung; Amy Ow; Dave Pine; David Canepa; Liesje Nicolas

Subject: Comment: Highland Estates: request for EIR Comments to be submitted to Clearinghouse

**Date:** Friday, July 2, 2021 3:29:27 PM

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Dear San Mateo County Staff and Honorable Supervisors:

I respectfully request that comments submitted to / received by San Mateo County during the comment period following release of the EIR Addendum ("CEQA Document") on 5/3/21 be submitted to the State Clearinghouse, as it looks like this is required under PRC 21061 and CEQA 15044.

Staff has, in its communications emailed to the public, characterized both the comment period as an optional courtesy extended to the public, and the CEQA Document as an Addendum (vs a Supplement). I believe these assertions may be flawed and that they have disadvantaged the public. Regardless of these assertions, in looking at the CEQA law it's clear that the comments were obtained under PRC 21104 or 21153 and therefore should be considered a part of the Environmental Impact Report and treated accordingly in the comment-response and Clearinghouse-submission process. The response to comments, and inclusion and publishing of the comments and responses in the Clearinghouse record, will at least afford the public some transparency in a process which we believe could be carried out improperly.

## 21061.

"Environmental impact report" means a detailed statement setting forth the matters specified in Sections 21100 and 21100.1; provided that information or data which is relevant to such a statement and is a matter of public record or is generally available to the public need not be repeated in its entirety in such statement, but may be specifically cited as the source for conclusions stated therein; and provided further that such information or data shall be briefly described, that its relationship to the environmental impact report shall be indicated, and that the source thereof shall be reasonably available for inspection at a public place or public building. An environmental impact report also includes any comments which are obtained pursuant to Section 21104 or 21153, or which are required to be obtained pursuant to this division.

## 15044. AUTHORITY TO COMMENT

Any person or entity other than a Responsible Agency may submit comments to a Lead Agency concerning any environmental effects of a project being considered by the Lead Agency.

Sincerely, Dave Michaels