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Mayor Bob Foster
Long Beach City Council

RE: Item 09-0784

Greetings:

This firm would like to submit the following comments on behalf of local residents concerned about the land swap. The proposed land swap could result in potentially significant indirect impacts on the environment. The proposed exchange would provide eminently developable land to a developer in exchange for lands that are contaminated.

The land to be provided to the developer would be developed and contribute to increased air quality problems. In exchange, the City would receive undevelopable land that is burdened with potentially significant cleanup costs and the beneficial uses could be severely restrained by the current owner's retention of mineral rights, potentially exacerbating existing contamination.

Prior to any exchange, the City needs to perform CEQA review of the proposed exchange to evaluate the potential environmental impacts directly and indirectly attributable to the exchange.

In addition, the proposed exchange seems to be an extremely un-wise exchange that could substantially burden the City and in fact the deal is so bad that it could constitute a gift of public resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Johnson & Sedlack



By: Raymond W. Johnson, Esq. AICP
Attorneys for Petitioner