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Statement in support of CUP-A2500-0002

My name is Michael Kuhl. I am the current owner of the property for which this Conditional Use Permit application has been filed.

My project concerns property that has been occupied and used by my mother's family for generations. The parcel includes a structure that predates the original 1875 Government Land Office survey, and my connection to the property dates to early childhood, when my family spent summers there managing cattle. This history is relevant because it reflects the longstanding, continuous use of the land and its suitability for residential occupancy.

The governing standards for this application are straightforward. Which I will summarize. But I can provide written extracts.

- State law (contained in the California Code governing Timberlands and their administration) recognizes Timber Production Zone property as land devoted to timber production and compatible uses, including a residence.
- At the county level, the applicable General Plan and Zoning Ordinance regulations require findings that proposed residential use will not materially interfere with long-term timber production, public safety, access, or natural resources.

Those standards were applied during the Certificate of Compliance process back in 2005 and 2006, when my parcel and the proposed use were reviewed through each level of county land use governance, including the Technical Advisory Committee, Agricultural Commission, Planning Commission, and Board of Supervisors. At every level, the finding in favor was unanimous. The matter was also taken to the Board of Forestry for confirmation that the applicable policies and procedures had been followed.

My position is straightforward: this decision should be based on the relevant facts and findings, not on generalized concerns or changing interpretations. Recent objections appear to rely on opinion rather than evidence that the project would materially reduce timber production or conflict with the purpose of the TPZ designation. There has been no specific finding that the proposed residence would materially impair the property's long-term capacity for timber production.

The principal concerns identified during this project evaluation—fire protection, public access, emergency ingress and egress, and water supply—have already been examined in prior proceedings and, in my view, resolved.

- Fire protection is supported more than adequately by nearby federal, state, and local resources.
- Access to the parcel is longstanding and the road in question is actively used and maintained by the relevant agencies and landowners.
- Emergency access was previously reviewed and established as part of the Certificate of Compliance process.
- Water availability has likewise been evaluated and confirmed by the agencies responsible for making that determination.

For these reasons, I respectfully submit that the record supports approval of this project. The property has a long history of family use, the governing standards expressly contemplate residential use that is

compatible with the TPZ zoning, and the relevant findings in support of my applications have been favorably addressed through repeated review and analysis.

I therefore ask that the application be evaluated on the established facts and the applicable legal standards.

My attorney, Nataniel Willson, or I would be pleased to answer any questions.