

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

William J. Stephans
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights and Measures

311 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-5520
(530) 626-4756 FAX
eldcag@co.el-dorado.ca.us

September 23, 2008

Keith Pettus and Celia Domingue-Pettus 3678 Fairland Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90043

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

RE: AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR NON-RENEWAL OF WILLIAMSON ACT CONTRACT #259 (APN 078-280-15)

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pettus:

During a recent review of El Dorado County's Williamson Act Contracts (WAC), El Dorado County Department of Agriculture staff noted that WAC #259 appears to not meet the minimum criteria for an Agricultural Preserve as adopted by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors. Pursuant to the adopted criteria, a low intensive farming operation (i.e. grazing) must meet a minimum acreage of 50 acres that is adequately fenced to contain livestock; a minimum capital outlay of \$10,000 excluding the applicant's residence and original cost of the land; and, an annual gross agricultural income of \$2000.00 per year. A high intensive agricultural operation (i.e. a vineyard) must meet a minimum acreage of 20 acres; a minimum capital outlay of \$45,000 excluding the applicant's residence and original cost of the land; and a gross annual agricultural income of \$13,500.00 per year.

THIS ITEM HAS BEEN SCHEDULED TO BE HEARD BY THE EL DORADO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION ON THE OCTOBER 8, 2008 MEETING.

The meeting begins at **6:30 p.m.** and will be held in the **Board of Supervisors Meeting Room** at 330 Fair Lane – Building A, Placerville. Once your item has been announced and staff has made a presentation to the Commission, you or your designee will be allocated 10 minutes to address the Commission regarding this item. The finalized agenda will be placed on the El Dorado County website at: www.co.el-dorado.ca.us where you will be able to see the placement of your item.

If you or you designee cannot attend, we <u>strongly recommend</u> that you submit any information that may address the Board's adopted criteria listed above to this office prior to the date of the hearing.

Please note that it is customary for this department to notify all parcels located within 500 feet of a subject parcel's boundary lines.

Please call me or Chris Flores, Agricultural Biologist/Standards Inspector II at (530) 621-5520 if you have any questions.

Sincerely.

WILLIAM J. STEPHANS

Agricultural Commissioner Sealer of Weights of Measures

9/22/09

- Protecting Agriculture, People and the Environment -

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Att: Bill Stephans