CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICE 725 FRONT STREET, SUITE 300 SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060 (831) 427-4863

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 8/10/2005

 Hearing item number:
 W6c

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

APPEAL STAFF REPORT

SUBSTANTIAL ISSUE DETERMINATION

Appeal numberA-3-MCO-05-052, Jana Weston, et al	
ApplicantsJana Weston; Kelly Short Lloyd, Agent	•
AppellantCommissioners Wan and Shallenberger	
Local governmentMonterey County	
Local decisionApproved with conditions on May 26, 2005	
Project locationAPNs 420-011-002, 420-171-032; located we Post Ranch Inn, Big Sur Coast Area, Monterey	- · · ·
Project description PLN040180 – Lot line adjustment to reconfigure approximately 0.15, 23, 34, and 75 acres each four lots of approximately 18, 27, 45 and 45 a resulting lots that do not meet the minimum lots.	in/ adjacent to Coastlands into cres each; variance to allow two
File documentsMonterey County Certified Local Coastal Pro Coast Land Use Plan (LUP) and Coasta Monterey County Coastal Development Permit	Implementation Plan (CIP);
Staff recommendationSubstantial Issue	

I. Recommended Findings and Declarations for Substantial Issue:

Monterey County's approval of a Coastal Development Permit for a lot line adjustment to reconfigure four existing lots of record of approximately 0.15, 23, 34, and 75 acres each in and adjacent to Coastlands into four lots of approximately 18, 27, 45 and 45 acres each, and a variance to allow two resulting lots that do not meet the minimum lot size of 40 acres has been appealed to the Coastal Commission on the basis that: (1) the lot line adjustment creates two parcels less than 40 acres in size, which raises a substantial issue of consistency with LCP policies that require 40-acre minimum parcel size; (2) the adjustment will increase the density of residential development beyond that which is allowed by the LCP; (3) the increase in development density resulting from the lot line adjustment will have cumulative adverse impacts on coastal access and recreation, water supplies, and the unique coastal resources of the Big Sur coast. Project location and plans are attached as Exhibit s A-C.



California Coastal Commission August 2005 Meeting in Costa Mesa Staff: K. Cuffe Approved by: //// 7/28/05 G:\Central Coast\STAFF REPORTS\2. CCC Meeting Packet\2005\08\A-3-MCO-05-052 (Weston et al) stfrpt SI 7.28.03.doc

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site are included in Exhibits D and E. The County's Final Local Action Notice (FLAN), approving the project (Minor Subdivision Committee Resolution Number 05014), is attached to the report as Exhibit H. The submitted reasons for appeal are attached to this report as Exhibit I.

These contentions are valid as discussed below, and, thus, the Commission finds that the appeal raises a substantial issue regarding the project's conformance to the Monterey County certified LCP.

The project area is governed by the Big Sur LUP and is within the LCP's Rural Density Residential (RDR) land use designation and Watershed and Scenic Conservation (WSC) zoning district. Sections 20.17.060.B and 20.145.140.A.8 of the LCP's Coastal Implementation Plan (CIP) establish a forty acre minimum parcel size for such areas. In this case, there is no way the density standard of 40-acre minimum parcel size could be met, since a minimum of 160 acres is necessary to have four buildable lots. With a combined total area for the four lots (which currently measure 0.15, 23, 34, and 75 acres each) of 132.15 acres, conformance with the 40-acre minimum can not be accomplished by this lot line adjustment. While the proposed lot line adjustment would reduce the number of undersized lots from three to two, it still results in establishing two lots that are non-conforming with regards to minimum lot size. However, conformance with the 40-acre density standard could be achieved by merging the four parcels into three legally conforming parcels, as provided for by the Big Sur LUP Policy 5.4.3.G¹, provided there is substantial evidence demonstrating that there are at least three currently buildable lots. The lot line adjustment approved by the County thus raises a substantial issue of consistency with the minimum lot size requirements, as well as with Big Sur LUP Policy 5.4.3.G and CIP Section 20.145.140.A.1², because the project creates two new parcels under 40 acres in size. That the project was granted a variance because it did not meet the minimum lot size is evidence that the project does not meet "all other LCP requirements," as required by CIP Section 20.145.140.A.1. In addition, the County's findings for approval of a variance to LCP minimum lot size requirements are not accompanied by substantial evidence to establish consistency with LCP standards for variances (CIP Section 20.78).

With regards to development potential of the existing parcels, CIP Section 20.145.140.A.5 states that development of a parcel shall be limited to density, land use, and site development standards specific to that parcel's land use designation. Furthermore, CIP Section 20.145.140.A.15 states that existing parcels of record are considered to be buildable provided that: a) all resource protection policies of the land use plan and standards of the ordinance can be met; b) there is adequate building area on less than 30% slopes; and, c) that all other provisions of the Coastal Implementation Plan can be fully met. (Ref. LUP

² Section 20.145.140.A.1 of the LCP's Implementation Plan (CIP) requires the development to conform and be consistent with policies of the Big Sur Land Use Plan (BSLUP)



¹ Big Sur LUP Policy 5.4.3.G – Specific Policies for Rural Residential land uses – Reconstitution of parcels or mergers may be required for any area of the coast where past land divisions have resulted in parcels being unusable under current standards or where cumulative impacts on coastal resources require limitations on further development. Parcel mergers shall be based on the following criteria: a) the minimum buildable parcel shall be one acre; b) each parcel must contain a suitable septic and drainfield location on slopes less than 30%, and must be able to meet regional Water Quality and County stream setback and septic system requirements; and c) each parcel must conform to all Plan policies for residential development on existing parcels.

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Policy 5.4.2.5). Pursuant to these standards, two of the four existing parcels (the 0.15-acre Lot 3 and 26-acre Lot 4) should not be considered buildable with residential uses for the following reasons:

- Wastewater Treatment. Lot 3 (0.15 acres) and Lot 4 (26 acres) do not meet the on-site wastewater treatment standards established by CIP Section 20.145.140.A.13. Specifically lot 3 does not conform to the 1-acre minimum, while Lot 4 does not have adequate area outside of 30% slopes to accommodate on-site treatment.
- Slopes. Lot 4 is too steep for residential and associated roadway development. With an average slope of approximately 60%, and very little, if any, portion of the property containing slopes less than 30%, it would be impossible to construct a residence and access road consistent with CIP Section 20.145.140.A.4, which limits development to slopes of under 30%.
- Hazards. Lots 3 and 4 are within High Hazard Areas due to their proximity to a fault scarp, and in the case of Lot 4, the presence of a large, active landslide (see Exhibits E through G). Big Sur LUP Policy 3.7.1 requires that land use and development be carefully regulated through the best available planning practices in order to minimize risk to life and property and damage to the natural environment. Policy 3.7.2.3 states that areas of a parcel which are subject to high hazards shall generally be considered unsuitable for development, and requires an environmental or geotechnical report prior to County review of development. The County's approval of the Lot Line Adjustment does not contain adequate information regarding hazards at the project site, and, as a result, does not conform to the requirements of Policies 3.7.1 and 3.7.2.3, nor establishes that Lots 3 and 4 are buildable under their current configuration.
- Water Supplies. The County's approval of the lot line adjustment does not contain evidence of an adequate water supply to support future residential development of Lots 3 and 4, and thereby does not address the requirements of Big Sur LUP Policy 3.4.2.3, which limits development to prevent overuse of limited water supplies, protect the public's health and safety, and preserve the natural value of streams and watersheds.

To summarize, the increase in residential development enabled by the adjustment conflicts with Big Sur LUP Policy 5.4.3.H.4, which states that "lot line adjustments are encouraged <u>when no new developable</u> <u>lots are created</u> and when plan policies are better met by this action" (emphasis added). In other words, Policy 5.4.3.H.4 encourages reconfiguration of <u>buildable</u> parcels so that coastal resources can be better protected, and discourages adjustments that convert unbuildable parcels into buildable parcels. The County approved lot line adjustment and variance raises a substantial issue of consistency with Policy 5.4.3.H.4 because it converts sub-standard parcels that cannot be developed with residential uses into buildable parcels, and sets a precedent that would have significant adverse cumulative impacts on coastal resources, as discussed further below, that do not advance LCP policies. Policy 5.4.3.G, in fact, acknowledges that past land use divisions may have resulted in parcels being unusable under current standards, and provides a remedy by stating that the reconstitution of parcels or mergers may be required in such cases.



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Finally, the reconfiguration of sub-standard parcels that cannot safely accommodate residential development into new buildable parcels would cumulatively increase the level of residential development in Big Sur well beyond that which is anticipated and allowed by the LCP. This will result in increased traffic on Highway One, which currently operates at the worst level of service (LOS F) at peak times, and would thereby interfere with the public's ability to access and recreate on the Big Sur Coast. Such an increase in residential development will also place greater demands on limited water supplies, which would, in turn, adversely impact riparian habitats. For example, the additional water use associated with the increase in residential development resulting from this lot line adjustment poses adverse impacts to the sensitive habitats of the Mule Creek watershed. Furthermore, increases in residential development potential (over and above that already contemplated in the LCP) throughout the planning area could alter the unique character of Big Sur that makes it such a popular destination for coastal access and recreation. Because of these cumulative impacts, the lot line adjustment raises a substantial issue of consistency with Big Sur LUP Policy 5.4.3.G.3, which provides for unbuildable lots to be merged where cumulative impacts on coastal resources require limitations on further development, as well as with Coastal Act Sections 30211 and 30213, which protect the public's right of access to the sea, and to lower cost visitor and recreational facilities, such as the many camping and hiking opportunities that make the Big Sur coast such a highly desirable destination for coastal recreation.

II. Recommended Motion and Resolution

MOTION:

I move that the Commission determine that Appeal No. A-3-MCO-05-052 raises NO substantial issue with respect to the grounds on which the appeal has been filed under § 30603 of the Coastal Act.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends a **NO** vote. Failure of this motion will result in a *de novo* hearing on the application, and adoption of the following resolution and findings. Passage of this motion will result in a finding of No Substantial Issue and the local action will become final and effective. The motion passes only by an affirmative vote of the majority of the appointed Commissioners present.

RESOLUTION TO FIND SUBSTANTIAL ISSUE:

The Commission hereby finds that Appeal No. A-3-MCO-05-052 presents a substantial issue with respect to the grounds on which the appeal has been filed under § 30603 of the Coastal Act regarding consistency with the Certified Local Coastal Plan and/or the public access and recreation policies of the Coastal Act.

III. Appeal Procedures:

Coastal Act Section 30603 provides for the appeal of approved coastal development permits in jurisdictions with certified local coastal programs for development that is (1) between the sea and the



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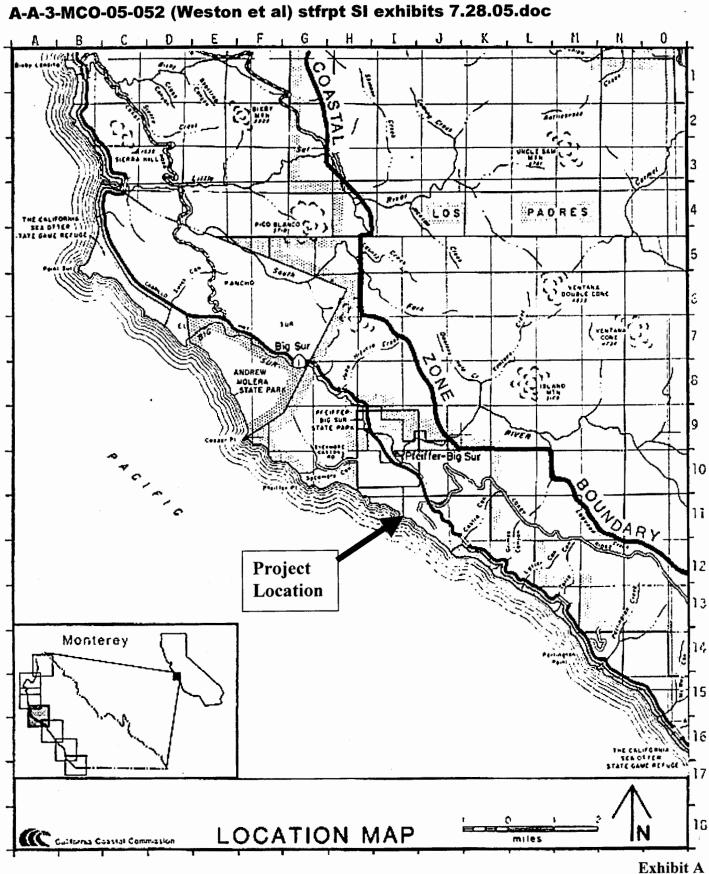
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first public road paralleling the sea or within 300 feet of the inland extent of any beach or of the mean high tideline of the sea where there is no beach, whichever is the greater distance; (2) on tidelands, submerged lands, public trust lands, within 100 feet of any wetland, estuary, or stream, or within 300 feet of the top of the seaward face of any coastal bluff; (3) in a sensitive coastal resource area; (4) for counties, not designated as the principal permitted use under the zoning ordinance or zoning district map; and (5) any action on a major public works project or energy facility. This project is appealable because it is between the first public road and the sea, and because a lot line adjustment is not designated as the principal permitted use.

The grounds for appeal under Section 30603 are limited to allegations that the development does not conform to the standards set forth in the certified LCP or the public access policies of the Coastal Act. Section 30625(b) of the Coastal Act requires the Commission to conduct a *de novo* coastal development permit hearing on an appealed project unless a majority of the Commission finds that "no substantial issue" is raised by such allegations. Under Section 30604(b), if the Commission conducts a *de novo* hearing, the Commission must find that the proposed development is in conformity with the certified local coastal program. Section 30604(c) also requires an additional specific finding that the development is in conformity with the public access and recreation policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act, if the project is located between the nearest public road and the sea or the shoreline of any body of water located within the coastal zone. This project is located between the first public road and the sea and thus, this additional finding would need to be made in a *de novo* review in this case.

The only persons qualified to testify before the Commission on the substantial issue question are the Applicant, persons who made their views known before the local government (or their representatives), and the local government. Testimony from other persons regarding substantial issue must be submitted in writing. Any person may testify during the *de novo* stage of an appeal.





Regional Location Map: Big Sur Coast in Project Area



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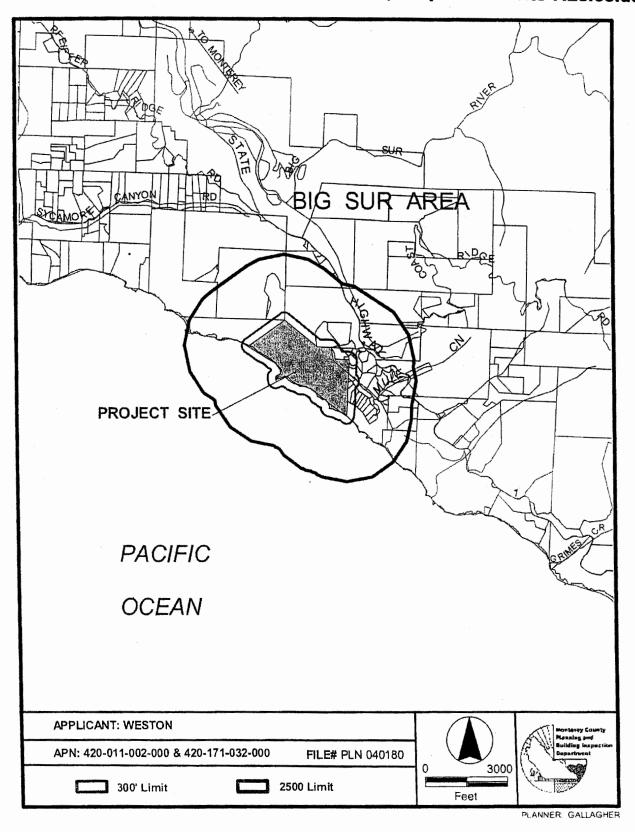
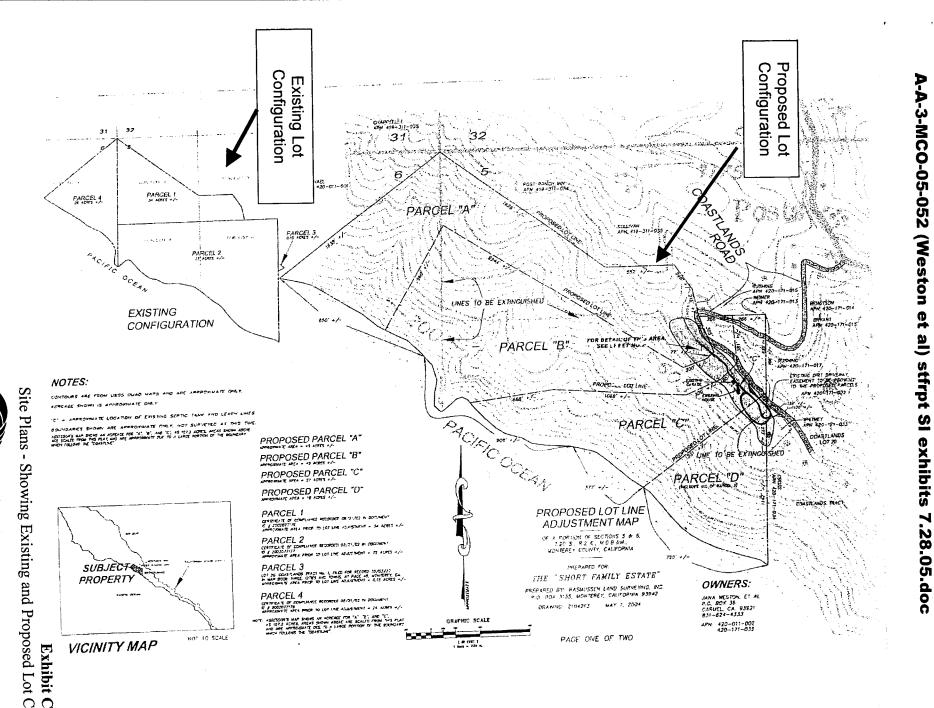


Exhibit B Parcel Map Showing Project and Vicinity





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> Weston et al Lot Line Adjustment A-3-MCO-05-052

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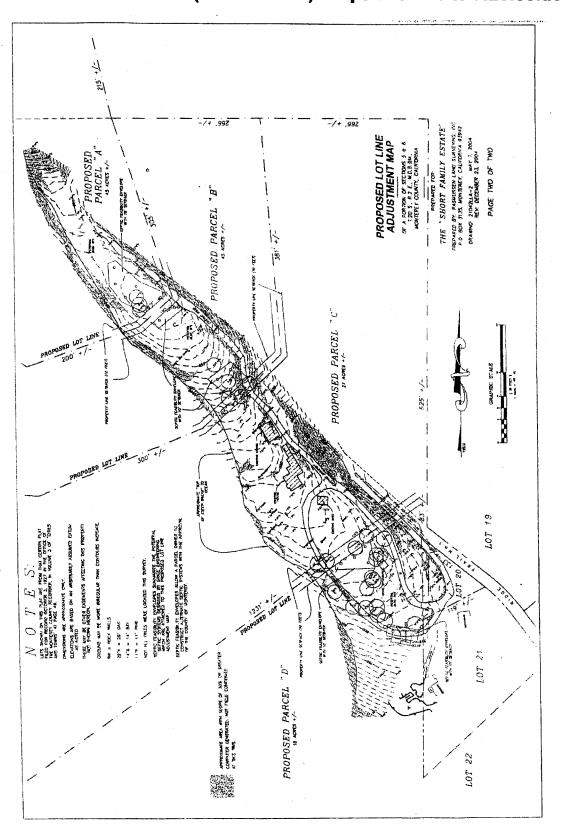


Exhibit C – pg. 2 of 2 Site Plans – Showing Potential Building Sites



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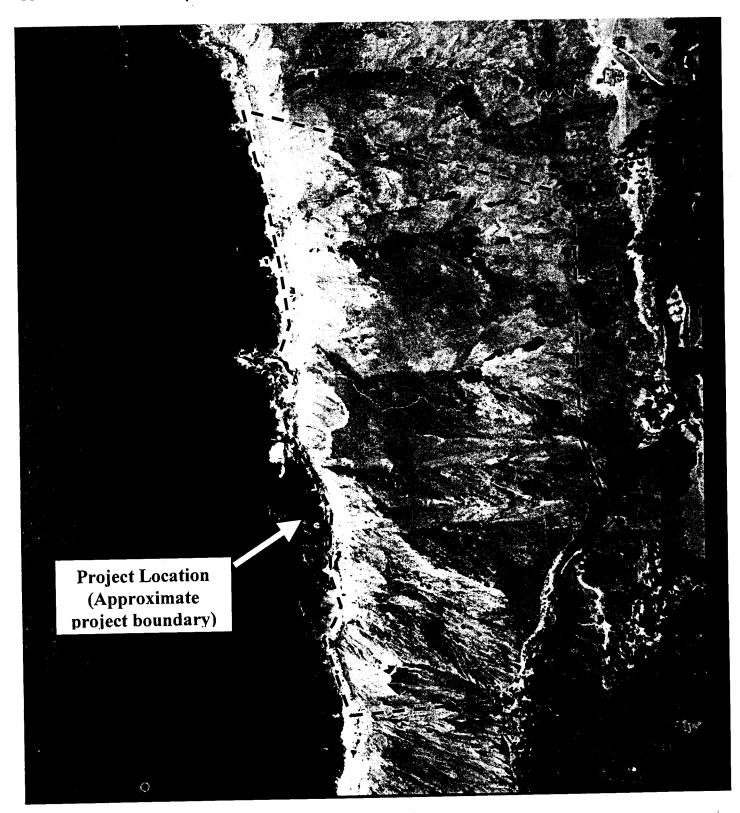


Exhibit D 2001 Vertical Aerial Photo of Project Area



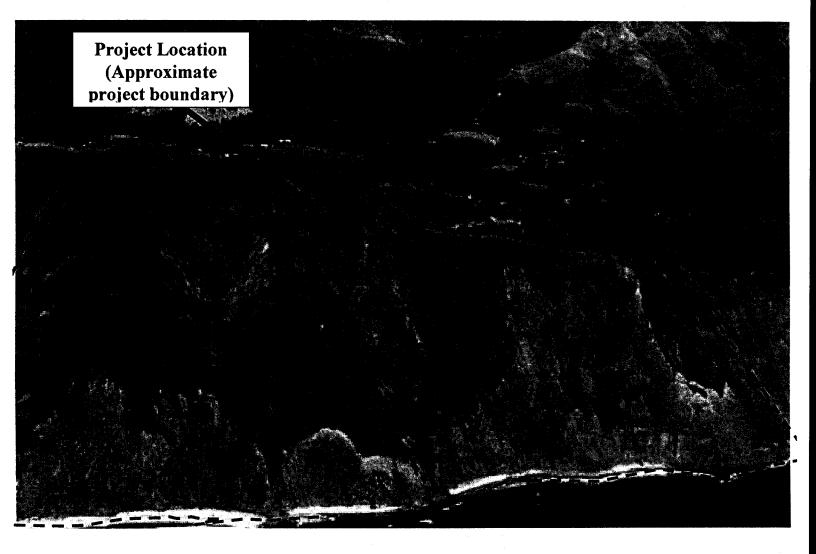


Photo 1. Oblique aerial photo of Project Area northwest of Coastlands subdivision and Coastlands Road. (Photo ©California Coastal Records Project, Image #2560, dated 9/2/02)

Exhibit E Oblique Aerial Photo of Project Area and Vicinity



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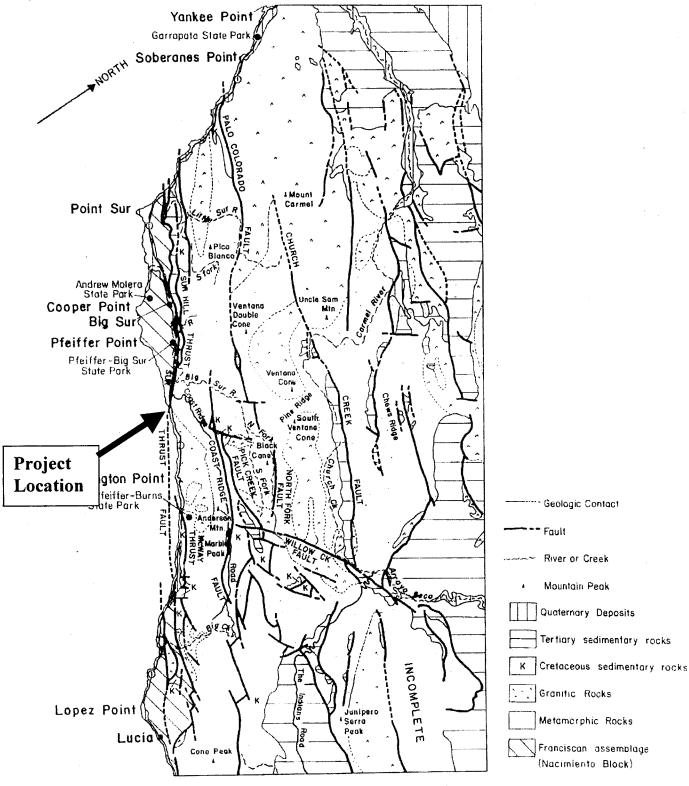
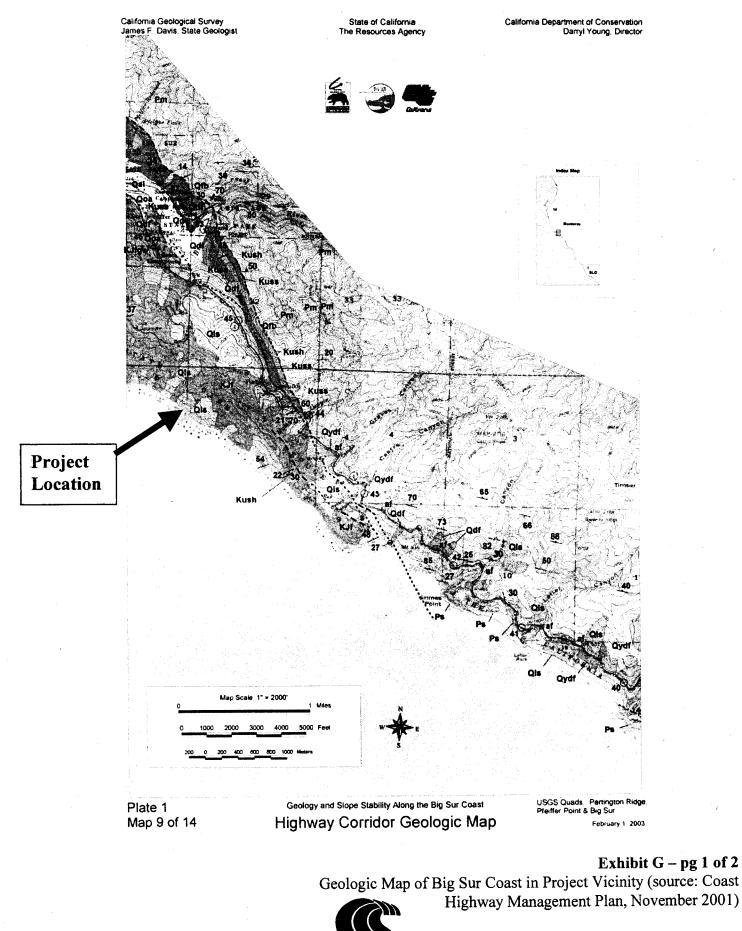


Figure 7A. Geological map (northern portion) of the Big Sur region.

Exhibit F Fault Map of northern half of Big Sur Region



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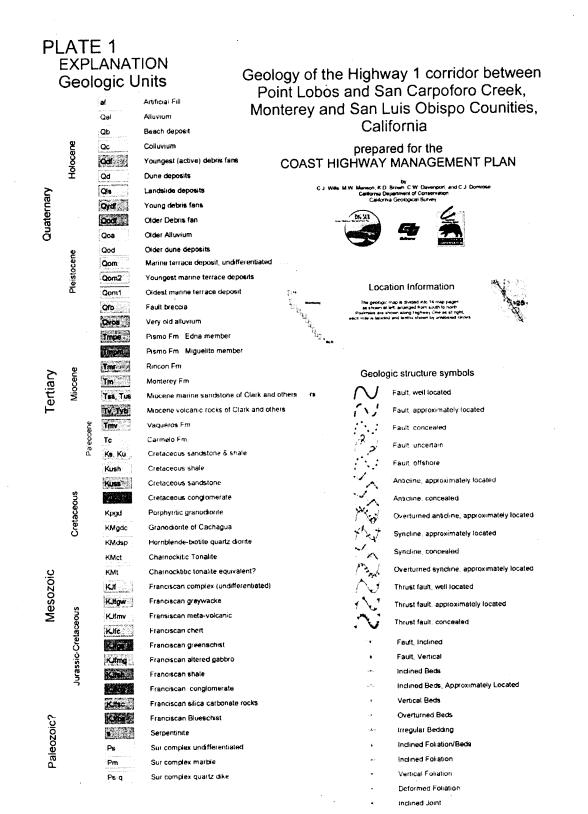


Exhibit G – pg 2 of 2

Geologic Map of Big Sur Coast in Project Vicinity - Legend (source: Coast Highway Management Plan, November 2001)



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FINAL LOCAL ACTION NOTICE REFERENCE # 3-MCO-05-265 APPEAL PERIOD 7/6

CALIFORNIA MINOR SUBDIVISION COMMITTEE APPEAL COASTAL COMMISSION COUNTY OF MONTEREY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA CENTRAL COAST AREA

RESOLUTION NO. 05014

APN# 420-011-002-000 AND 420-171-032-000 FINDINGS & DECISION

Exhibit

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In the matter of the application of WESTON JANE ET AL (PLN040180)

Combined Development Permit consisting of: Coastal Development Permit for a Lot Line Adjustment to reconfigure four existing lots of record of approximately 0.15, 23, 34, and 75 acres each in the coastlands subdivision into four lots of approximately 18, 27, 45, and 45 acres each; and a Variance to allow two resulting lots that do not meet the minimum lot size of 40 acres. The lots are located west of Highway One, southerly of Post Ranch Inn, Big Sur Area, Coastal Zone. This project came on regularly for hearing before the Minor Subdivision Committee on May 26, 2005.

WHEREAS: Said Minor Subdivision Committee, having considered the application and the evidence presented relating thereto;

FINDINGS OF FACT

- <u>FINDING CONSISTENT WITH PLAN/POLICIES</u>: The project proposed in this application consists of a Coastal Development Permit for a Lot Line Adjustment (PLN040368/Weston). The proposed project conforms to the plans, policies, requirements and standards of the Big Sur Coastal Area Plan. EVIDENCE:
 - (a) The property has approximately 2,855 lineal feet of frontage along the Pacific Ocean located approximately two miles west of Highway 1 along the Lower Coastlands Road, southerly of the Post Ranch Inn. This area is the Big Sur Coastal area of the Coastal Zone.
 - (b) The Planning and Building Inspection staff reviewed the project, as contained in the application and accompanying materials, for conformity with:
 - 1. Big Sur Coastal Land Use Area Plan.
 - 2. Coastal Implementation Plan, Part 3 (Chapter 20.145 MCC).
 - (c) The project area is designated for Watershed and Scenic Conservation (40 acres/unit) under the Big Sur, Local Coastal Program, Land Use Plan. Proposed parcels consist of 45 acres (Parcel A), 45 acres (Parcel B), 27 acres (Parcel C) and 18 acres (Parcel D).
 - (d) Detailed plans including soils and other types of reports will be required with any proposed future development of these sites. Big Sur Land Use Plan regulations require the properties to identify and establish scenic and conservation easements over areas that include critical viewshed, slopes greater then 30% and environmentally sensitive habitat. A Condition has been included that requires the applicable owner to address this prior to development of their lot.
 - (e) Necessary public facilities are available to the project site.
 - (f) On May 25, 2004, the Big Sur Land Use Advisory Committee voted 4-0 to recommend approval of the project as proposed. The following concerns have been addressed:
 - 1. <u>Water</u>. A concern that the applicant only has rights to one water meter hookup and need to find water for the other three lots prior to reconfiguring the lots. No new lots would be created under this application and the owners will need to provide prove water before they would be issued any

entitlement to develop the properties. The Minor Subdivision Committee finds that with the same number of lots there is no intensification from the current development potential as it relates to water use.

- 2. <u>Vehicle Access</u>. Concerns were expressed regarding the increased road use by creating three more home sites. Access to the subject property is through use of a private road. There would be no new lots created under this application, so there is no increase from current development potential. Since this application is not intensifying potential development, the Committee finds that access using a private road is a civil issue between the interested parties.
- 3. <u>Beach Access</u>. The Coastlands expressed concern of configuring the lots in a manner that the existing beach trail becomes a liability. Table 1 of the Big Sur Land Use Plan identifies the Coastlands as a destination with a provision to retain existing access through Coastlands and Nepenthe or allow by permission of residents. The Committee finds that the revised lot configuration would have no affect on public access or trails.
- 4. <u>Ridgeline</u>. A concern that new development and tree removal would expose potential building sites to upslope neighbors. Proposed building sites have been located within a generally flat area of the resulting parcels on the ocean side of a ridgeline. Based on existing topography and landscape, development on the proposed lots would not be located where it would obstruct any existing private or public views. An existing access road off the Lower Coastlands Road would serve these parcels. The proposed sites would allow development oriented toward the ocean with dense tree over creating a buffer between the building sites and existing development in the Coastlands. As designed, reasonable development could occur without impact to any existing trees. As such, the Committee finds that there would be no impact to ridgeline views.
- (g) As conditioned, the subject property is in compliance with all rules and regulations pertaining to the use of the property and no violations exist on the property.
- (h) No testimony, either written or oral, was received during the course of the public hearing process to indicate that there is any inconsistency with these plans or policies.
- (i) Materials in project file PLN040180/Weston-Short.

 FINDING- CONFORMS TO REGULATIONS: The parcels resulting from the lot line adjustment conform to County's zoning and building ordinances. The proposed lot line adjustment is consistent with the Monterey County Subdivision Ordinance (Title 19) and the Monterey County Zoning Ordinance (Title 21).
 EVIDENCE:

(a)

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Exhibit H Ba 20f 10

Planning and Building Inspection staff reviewed the project, as contained in the application and accompanying materials, for conformity with:

- 1. Monterey County Coastal Subdivision Ordinance (Title 19).
- 2. Chapter 20.16 of the Monterey County Zoning Ordinance regulations for development in the Rural Density Residential zone.
- 3. Chapter 20.17 of the Monterey County Zoning Ordinance regulations for development in the Watershed and Scenic Conservation zone.
- 4. Chapter 20.70 of the Monterey County Zoning Ordinance regulations for Coastal Development Permits.
- 5. Chapter 20.78 of the Monterey County Zoning Ordinance regulations for Variances.
- (b) Parcels A, B and C are zoned "WSC/40(CZ)" Watershed and Scenic Conservation (minimum 40 acres), Coastal Zone. Parcel D is zoned "RDR/40(CZ)" Rural Density Residential (minimum 40 acres), Coastal Zone. All development in this area is subject to design approval. No development is proposed at this time.

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- (c) The project is in conformance with the public access and public recreation policies of the Coastal Act and Local Coastal Program, and does not interfere with any form of historic public use or trust rights (Section 20.70.050.B.4 CIP). No access is required as part of the project as no substantial adverse impact on access, either individually or cumulatively, as described in Section 20.70.050.B.4.c of the Monterey County Coastal Implementation Plan, can be demonstrated.
- (d) There is no actual change in the use or proposed development at this time. Future developers will be required to process plans prior to development of these sites.
- (e) That the lot line adjustment is between four existing adjacent legal lots of record. Certificates of Compliance were recorded for Lots A, B and C in August 2002 and Lot D was part of the Coastlands subdivision (Coast Lands Tract No. 1) that was recorded in 1927. Copies of said documents are located in the project file.
- (f) The proposed project has been reviewed by the Monterey County Planning and Building Inspection Department, Water Resources Agency, Public Works Department, Environmental Health Division, and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention. There has been no indication from these agencies that the site is not suitable for the proposed development.
- (g) Staff verified that the subject property is in compliance with all rules and regulations pertaining to the use of the property that no violations exist on the property. A condition is included to assure that all zoning abatement costs, if any, have been paid.
- (h) Application materials contained in File PLN040180/Weston-Short.
- FINDING NO NEW PARCELS: The proposed lot line adjustment will not create a greater number of parcels than originally existed.

EVIDENCE:

- (a) Two contiguous separate legal parcels of record will be adjusted and four contiguous separate legal parcels of record will result from the adjustment. No new parcels will be created.
- (b) The project area has a total of approximately 135.15 acres. Proposed amendments include: increasing Parcel 1 (portion of assessor's parcel number 420-011-002-000) from 34.00 acres to 45 acres (Parcel B), reducing Parcel 2 (portion of assessor's parcel number 420-011-002-000) from 75.00 acres to 27 acres (Parcel C), increasing Parcel 3 from 0.15 acres to 18 acres (Parcel D), and increasing Parcel 4 (portion of assessor's parcel number 420-011-002-000) from 26.00 acres to 45 acres (Parcel A).
- (c) Application materials contained in File PLN040368/Weston.
- 4. <u>FINDING VARIANCE (Special Circumstances)</u>: Because of special circumstances applicable to the subject property, including the size, shape, topography, location of the lot, or the surrounding area, the strict application of the Monterey County Coastal Implementation Plan (Parts 1 and 3) is found to deprive the subject property of privileges enjoyed by other property owners in the vicinity under an identical zoning classification. EVIDENCE:
 - (a) The Land Use and Zoning designations require a minimum of 40 acres for each lot in the Watershed and Scenic Conservation zone. The intent of this density is to preserve natural views along the Big Sur Coast.
 - (b) The project area consists of steep slopes ranging in elevation from the Pacific Ocean to about 900 feet that are covered with a mix of chaparral and coast sage scrub.
 - (c) There are currently four lots and the current lot configuration would encourage development (grading, roads, structures) to occur on slopes and through habitat. Reconfiguring the lots provides adequate building sites on a relatively flat portion of the property using an existing access road. This

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allows the remaining portion of the lots to be placed into an open space and conservation easement to prevent disruption of the scenic quality of these hillsides.

- (d) There are special circumstances on the site that warrant a variance to reduce the front set back requirement provided there is no special privilege (Finding 5) and it is an authorized use (Finding 6).
- (e) Materials and documents in Project File No. PLN040180/Weston-Short.
- 5. <u>FINDING VARIANCE (Special Privileges)</u>: The variance shall not constitute a grant of privileges inconsistent with the limitations upon other property owners in the vicinity and zone in which such property is situated.

EVIDENCE:

- (a) Each legal lot of record has a right to develop one single family home. The reconfiguration does not increase the allowed density. Therefore, granting this variance would not constitute any special privilege.
- (b) Future development would be required to meet all development standards for the WSC/40 (CZ) zoning designation. Building sites and septic envelopes have been identified as part of the lot line adjustment process to illustrate the ability to meet these standards. The proposed building sites better meet the objectives of the Big Sur Land Use Plan by avoiding development on steep slopes that are part of the viewshed.
- (c) Materials and documents in Project File No. PLN040180/Weston-Short.
- FINDING VARIANCE (Authorized Use): The Variance shall not be granted for a use or activity which is not otherwise expressly authorized by the zone regulation governing the parcel of property. EVIDENCE:
 - (a) The first single family dwelling on a legal lot of record is an allowed use subject to a Coastal Administrative Permit (Section 20.17.040.A CIP). No new development is proposed at this time.
 - (b) Materials and documents in Project File No. PLN040180/Weston-Short.
- 7. <u>FINDING -- HEALTH AND SAFETY</u>: The establishment, maintenance, or operation of the subdivision and building applied for will not, under the circumstances of the particular case, be detrimental to the health, safety, peace, morals, comfort, and general welfare of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of such proposed use, or be detrimental or injurious to property and improvement in the neighborhood, or to the general welfare of the County.

EVIDENCE:

- (a) The project as described in the application and accompanying materials was reviewed by the Department of Planning and Building Inspection, Environmental Health Division, Public Works Department, California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention, and Water Resources Agency. The respective departments have recommended conditions, where appropriate, to ensure that the project will not have an adverse effect on the health, safety, and welfare of persons either residing or working in the neighborhood; or the County in general.
- FINDING- CEQA/EXEMPTION: Lot Line Adjustment (PLN040180/Weston-Short) is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
 EVIDENCE:
 - (a) Section 153005(a) is a Categorical Exemption (Class 5) for minor lot line adjustments, side yard, and set back variances not resulting in the creation of any new parcel.

Exhibit H Pg

<u>AE3</u>_{πM}GO045-052 (Weston et al Lot Line Adjustment)

- (b) The project consists of adjusting the lot lines for four legal lots of record and resulting in four lots that better meet the minimum lot size. There is no increase in the number of lots, density, or potential development. No development is proposed at this time.
- (c) The average slope of proposed building sites are less than 20%. This adjustment would avoid development on steep slopes and allow preservation of those areas in conservation easements thereby better meeting the objectives of the Big Sur Land Use Plan (LUP). Trees along the east portion of the property provide screening so no ridgeline development would occur. An existing house with some historical significance would remain and meets the minimum set back requirements based on the new lot line configuration.
- (d) Based on available information, there is no reasonable possibility that the proposed activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances. The proposed Lot Line Adjustment would not require a change in building or access locations that could cause environmental impacts over the existing conditions.
- (e) File No. PLN040180/Weston-Short; administrative record.
- 9. <u>FINDING APPEAL</u>: The project is appealable to the Board of Supervisors and California Coastal Commission.

EVIDENCE:

- (a) Section 19.01.040 of the Monterey County Coastal Zone Subdivision Ordinance (Title 19).
- (b) Section 20.86.080.A.3 of the Monterey County Coastal Implementation Plan (Part 1).

DECISION

THEREFORE, it is the decision of said Minor Subdivision Committee that said application be granted as shown on the attached sketch, subject to the attached conditions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 26th day of May, 2005 by the following vote:

AYES:McPharlin, Mulholland, Hori, Hodges, MoundayNOES:NoneABSENT:HawkinsABSTAIN:None

YNNE MOUNDAY, SECRET

Copy of this decision mailed to the applicant on

IF ANYONE WISHES TO APPEAL THIS DECISION, AN APPEAL FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ALONG WITH THE APPROPRIATE FILING FEE ON OR BEFORE

JUN 1 0 2005

Exhibit H

JUN 2 0 2005

THIS APPLICATION IS ALSO APPEALABLE TO THE COASTAL COMMISSION. UPON RECEIPT OF NOTIFICATION OF THE DECISION BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, THE COMMISSION ESTABLISHES A 10 WORKING DAY APPEAL PERIOD. AN APPEAL FORM MUST BE FILED WITH

RASINGO 105-052 (Weston et al Lot Line Adjustment)

THE COASTAL COMMISSION. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT THE COASTAL COMMISSION AT (831) 427-4863 OR AT 725 FRONT STREET, SUITE 300, SANTA CRUZ, CA

This decision, <u>if this is the final administrative decision</u>, is subject to judicial review pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Sections 1094.5 and 1094.6. Any Petition for Writ of Mandate must be filed with the Court no later than the 90th day following the date on which this decision becomes final.

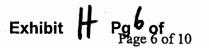
NOTES

1. You will need a building permit and must comply with the Monterey County Building Ordinance in every respect.

Additionally, the Zoning Ordinance provides that no building permit shall be issued, nor any use conducted, otherwise than in accordance with the conditions and terms of the permit granted or until ten days after the mailing of notice of the granting of the permit by the appropriate authority, or after granting of the permit by the Board of Supervisors in the event of appeal.

Do not start any construction or occupy any building until you have obtained the necessary permits and use clearances from the Monterey County Planning and Building Inspection Department office in Marina.

2. The construction or use authorized by this permit must start within two years of the date of approval of this permit unless extended by the Director of Planning and Building Inspection pursuant to Section 20.140.100 of the Coastal Implementation Plan.



RESOLUTION <u>05014</u>, TABLE 1 Monterey County Planning and Building Inspection Condition Compliance and/or Mitigation Monitoring		Project Name: WESTON-SHORT File No: PLN040180 APNs: 420-0 032-000 032-000		20 <i>-011-002-00</i>	011-002-000, 420-171-	
	Reporting Plan	Approval by: <u>Minor Subdivision</u>	Date: <u>May 26, 2005</u>			
nitoring	or Reporting refers to projects with an EIR or adopted Mitigated Neg	gative Declaration per Section 21081.6 oj	f the Public Resou	rces Code.		
đ	up. Conditions of Approval and a Mileadian Measures and	Constlations at Montoring Sections and market mean Witche applicable.	The spiniks of		Etarffico	
	ndar Reisponschitz in die Uste Dapitranicht	(a) มีที่ไข้ไปที่การสมบังกันไประกัญการสีปรีการ		Tinning	i sutantia	
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	PLANNING AND BUILD	ING INSPECTION (883-7500)				
	PBD029 - SPECIFIC USES ONLY	Adhere to conditions and uses	Owner/	Ongoing		
	This Combined Development Permit (PLN040180) consisting of: Coastal Development Permit for a Lot Line Adjustment to	specified in the permit.	Applicant	unless		
	reconfigure four existing lots of record (assessor's parcel	· · ·	DDI	other- wise		
	numbers 420-011-002-000 and 420-171-032-000) of		PBI	stated		
	approximately 0.15, 23, 34, and 75 acres each in the					
	coastlands subdivision into four lots of approximately 18, 27, 45, and 45 acres each; and a Variance to allow two resulting					
	lots that do not meet the minimum lot size of 40 acres. This					
	permit was approved in accordance with County ordinances and					
	land use regulations subject to the following terms and			· · ·		
	conditions. Neither the uses nor the construction allowed by this permit shall commence unless and until all of the conditions			ŀ		
	of this permit are met to the satisfaction of the Director of					
-	Planning and Building Inspection. Any use or construction not					
	in substantial conformance with the terms and conditions of this					
	permit is a violation of County regulations and may result in modification or revocation of this permit and subsequent legal					
	action. No use or construction other than that specified by this					
	permit is allowed unless additional permits are approved by the					
	appropriate authorities.					

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Permit Cond. Number	Mitig. Number	Conditions of Approval and/or Mitigation Measures and Responsible Land Use Department	Compliance or Monitoring Actions to be performed. Where applicable, a certified professional is required for action to be accepted.	Responsible Party for Compliance	Timing	Verification of Compliance (name/date)
2		PBD025 - NOTICE-PERMIT APPROVAL The applicant shall record a notice which states: "A permit (Resolution 05014) was approved by the Minor Subdivision Committee for Assessor's Parcel Numbers 420-011-002-000 and 420-171-032-000 on May 26 2005. The permit was granted subject to <u>8</u> conditions of approval which run with the land. A copy of the permit is on file with the Montercy County Planning and Building Inspection Department." Proof of recordation of this notice shall be furnished to the Director of Planning and Building Inspection prior to issuance of building permits or commencement of the use.	Proof of recordation of this notice shall be furnished to PBI.	Owner/ Applicant PBI	Prior to Issuanc e of grading and building permits or start of use.	•
3		PBD – SURVEY OF RESOURCES (NON- STANDARD) The owner of the lot being developed shall contract with a qualified biologist and licensed surveyor to accurately map the lot being developed in order to cartographically depict all areas: within the critical viewshed (as defined by Section 20.146.020.V of the <i>Big Sur Land Use Plan</i>); with environmentally sensitive habitat (as defined by Section 20.145.020.EE of the <i>Big Sur Land Use Plan</i> , as well as all other applicable State, federal, and local criteria); and/or with slopes of 30% or greater. (Planning and Building Inspection)	Submit copies of the reports and maps to the County for approval by the Director of Planning & Building Inspection prior to conveyance of the easements to the County.	Owner/ Applicant PBI	Prior to the future residential developme nt of any of the four subject lots of record	

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Thibit H Pg Sof RESms_05014

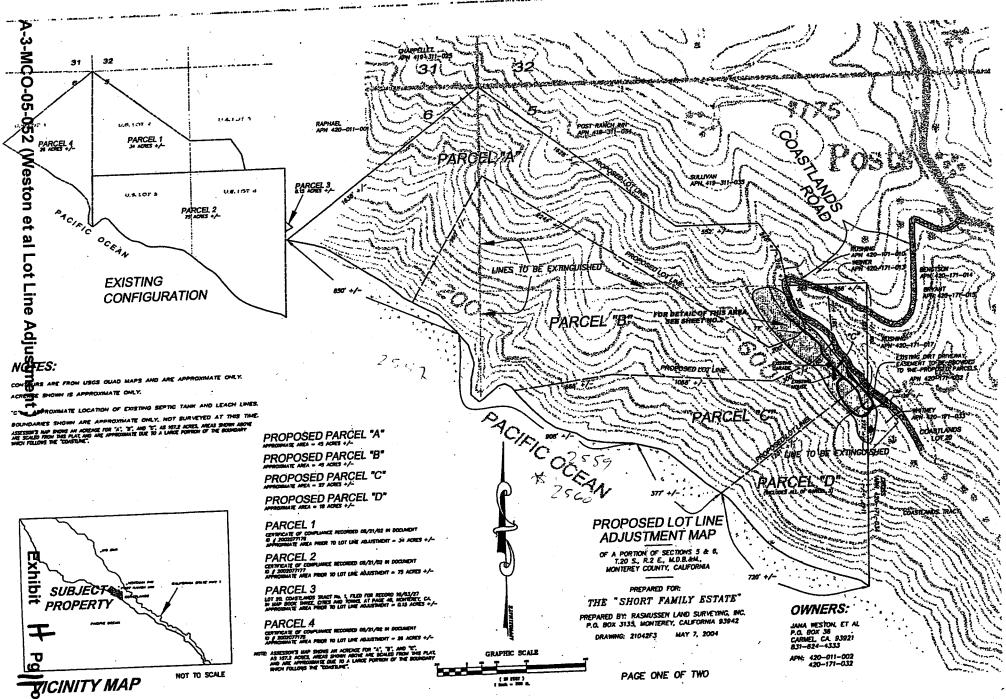
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4 2 (Weston et al Lot Line	PBD - SCENIC & CONSERVATION EASEMENT (NON-STANDARD) The owner of the lot being developed shall convey a Scenic & Conservation Easement to the County over all areas within the lot being developed identified under Condition 3 that: are located within the critical viewshed; contain environmentally sensitive habitat; and/or that have slopes of 30% or greater. (Planning and Building Inspection)	Submit approved and recorded easement to PBI.	Owner/ Applicant PBI	Prior to the future residential developme nt of any of the four subject lots of record	
		L HEALTH (755-4505)	*		
Adjustment	EH (NON-STANDARD) For Parcels A, B, and D: Submit an updated map indicating proposed septic envelopes for the parcels to the Division of Environmental Health for review and approval. Once approved the septic envelopes shall appear as part of the adjustment map. (Environmental Health)	Once approved the septic envelopes shall appear as part of the adjustment map	CA Licensed Engineer /Owner/ Applicant	Prior to filing a final map.	
6	EH (NON-STANDARD) For Parcels A, B, and D: A deed notification shall be recorded concurrently with the lot line adjustment map with the Monterey County Recorder which states: "A soils and percolation report has been prepared for this parcel by Grice Engineering, Inc., dated September 7, 2004 and is on record at the Division of Environmental Health, Monterey County, File Number PLN040180. (Environmental Health)	Submit proposed wording and forms to be recorded to EH and P&BI for review and approval. Record deed notification.	CA Licensed Engineer /Owner/ Applicant	Concurr ently with filing the lot line adjustm ent map.	
	PUBLIC WO	RKS (755-4800)			
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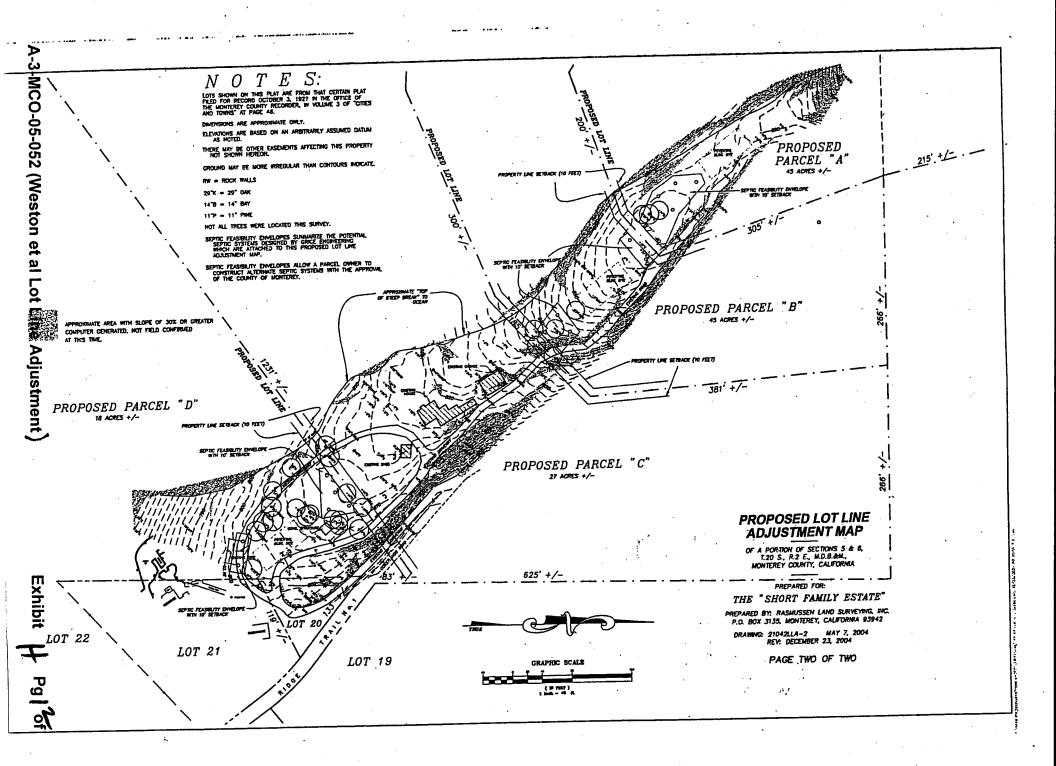
A-3-M Gonde Ma Conde National	Fa Comunions of «pprovalianteror Vitaganon Measures and Responsible Data User Departmente		Responsibile Phiny for Complitutes		Vəlificatloji Əf Comfiltatice (radinə/dhte)
7 7 2 (Westo	PW0034 – LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT Obtain a survey of the new line and have the line monumented. (Public Works)	Owner shall have a surveyor monument the new lines. Evidence of completion of monumentation shall be submitted to DPW for review and approval.	Owner/ Applicant/ Surveyor	Prior to Recordati on of Survey	
n et al Lot Li	PW0035 – RECORD OF SURVEY File a Record of Survey showing the new line and it's monumentation. (Public Works)	Owner's Surveyor to prepare record of survey and submit to DPW for review and approval.	Owner/ Surveyor	Prior to Recordati on of Record of Survey	

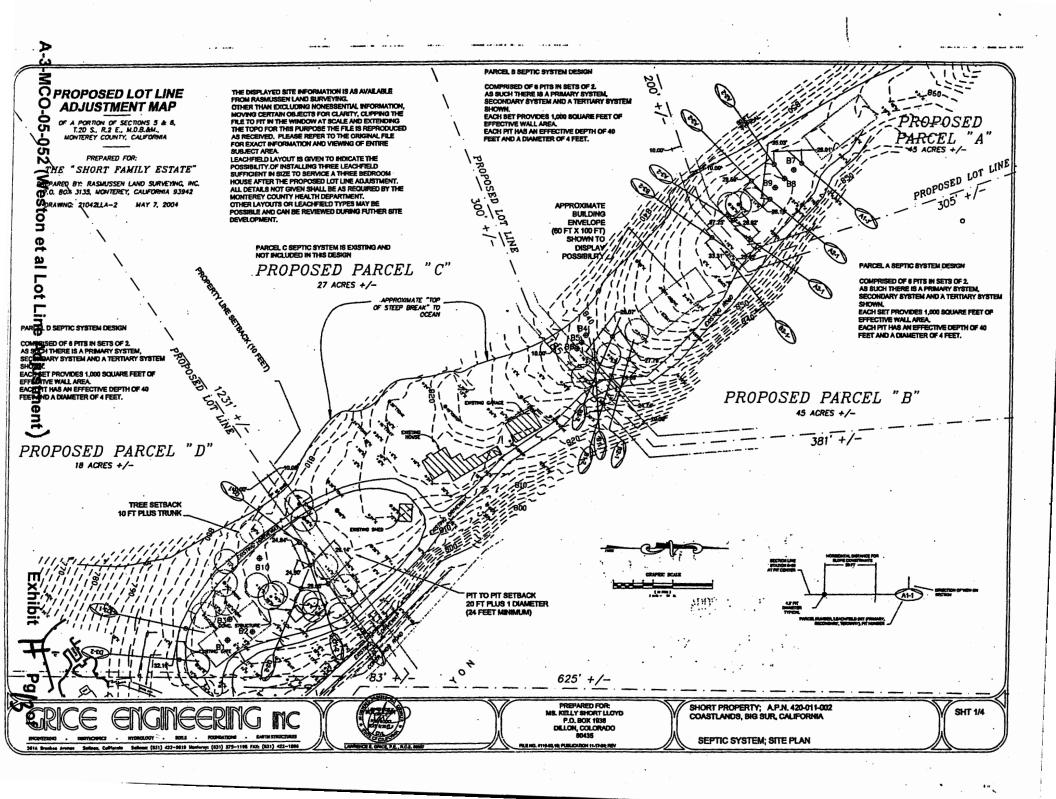
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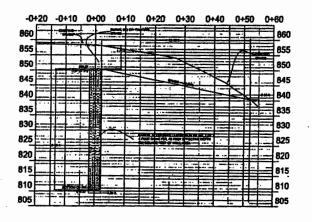
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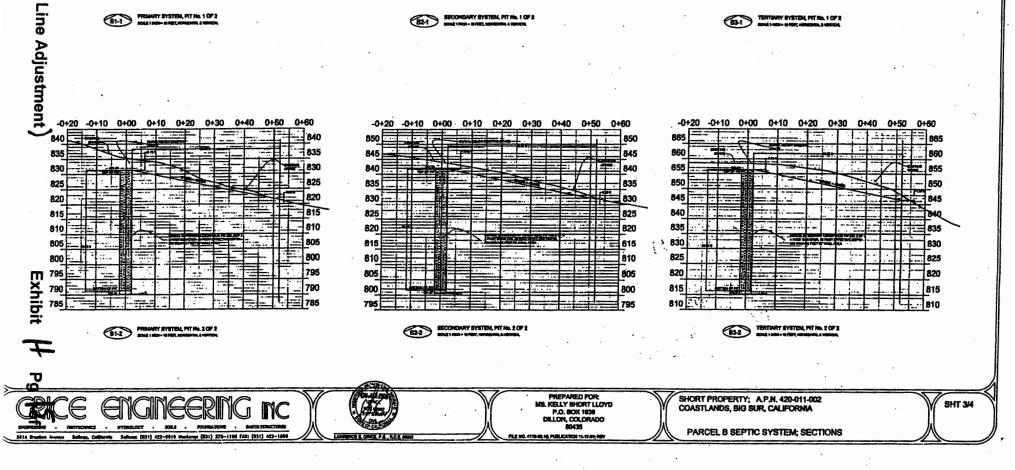
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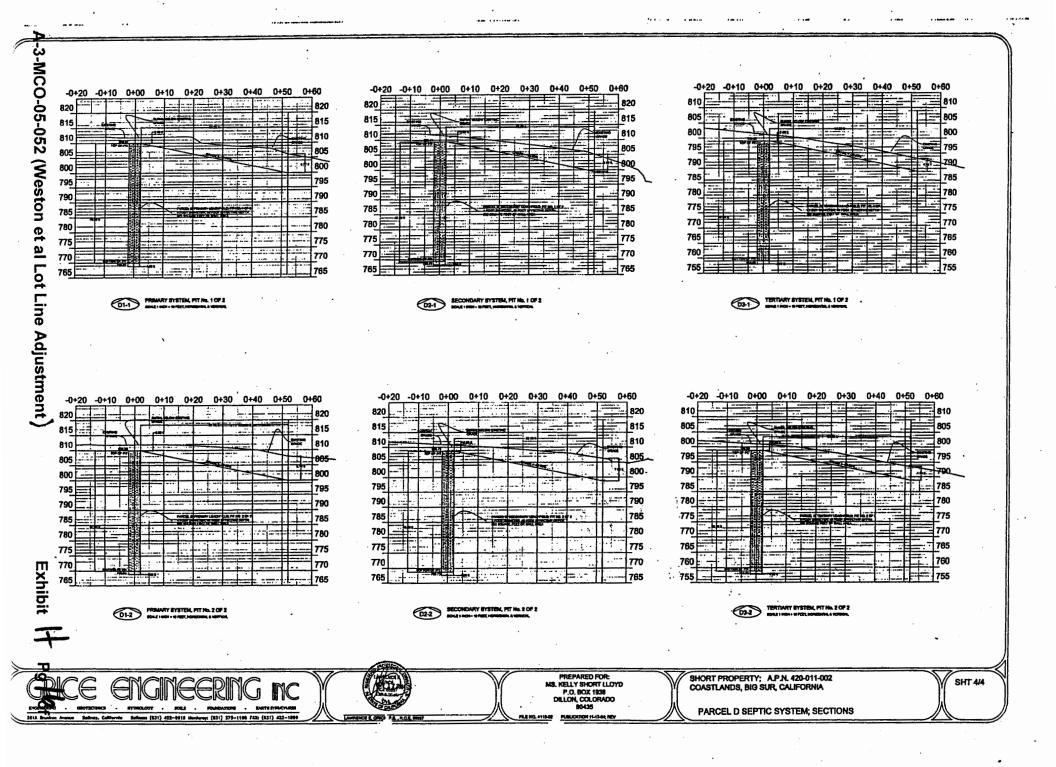
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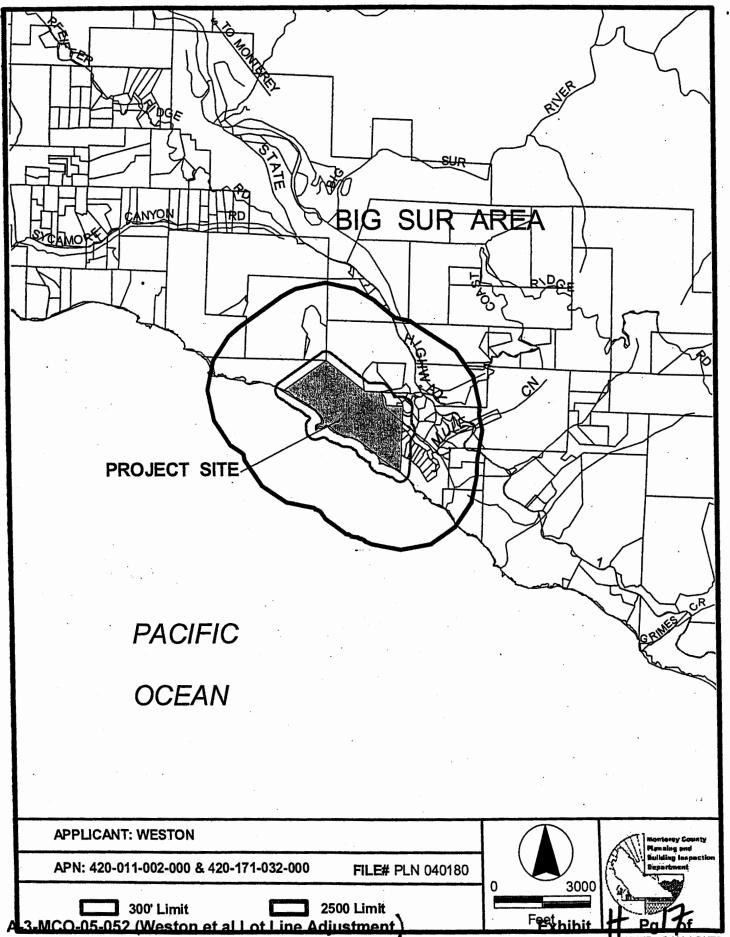
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PLANNER: GALLAGHER

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICE 725 FRONT STREET, SUITE 300 SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060 (831) 427-4863 www.coastal.ca.gov



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Exhibit

COMMISSION NOTIFICATION OF APPEAL

DATE: July 20, 2005

TO: Jeff Main & Carl Holm County of Monterey, Planning Department 168 W. Alisal St., 2nd Flr. Salinas, CA 93901

FROM: Steve Monowitz, Permit Supervisor

RE: Commission Appeal No. A-3-MCO-05-052

Please be advised that the coastal development permit decision described below has been appealed to the California Coastal Commission pursuant to Public Resources Code Sections 30603 and 30625. Therefore, the decision has been stayed pending Commission action on the appeal pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 30623.

Local Permit #:	PLN040180
Applicant(s):	Jana Weston, Attn: Kelly Short Lloyd
Description:	Lot line adjustment to reconfigure four existing lots of record of approximately 0.15, 23, 34, and 75 acres each in the Coastlands subdivision into four lots of approximately 18, 27, 45, and 45 acres each; variance to allow two resulting lots that do not meet the minimum lot size of 40 acres.
Location:	Highway 1 (west of Highway 1, southerly of Post Ranch Inn), Big Sur (Monterey County) (APN(s) 420-011-002, 420-171-032)
Local Decision:	Approved w/ Conditions
Appellant(s):	California Coastal Commission, Attn: Commissioner Sara Wan; Commissioner Mary Shallenberger

Date Appeal Filed: 7/19/2005

The Commission appeal number assigned to this appeal is A-3-MCO-05-052. The Commission hearing date has not yet been established for this appeal. Within 5 working days of receipt of this Commission Notification of Appeal, copies of all relevant documents and materials used in the County of Monterey's consideration of this coastal development permit must be delivered to the Central Coast District office of the Coastal Commission (California Administrative Code Section 13112). Please include copies of plans, relevant photographs, staff reports and related documents, findings (if not already forwarded), all correspondence, and a list, with addresses, of all who provided verbal testimony.

A Commission staff report and notice of the hearing will be forwarded to you prior to the hearing. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Cuffe at the Central Coast District office.

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICE 725 FRONT STREET, SUITE 300 SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060 (831) 427-4863



APPEAL FROM COASTAL PERMIT DECISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Please review attached appeal information sheet prior to completing this form.

SECTION I. Appellant(s):

Name, mailing address and telephone number of appellant(s):

Commissioner Shallenberger
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
(415) 904-5200

SECTION II. Decision Being Appealed

- 1. Name of local/port government: Monterey County
- 2. Brief description of development being appealed:

PLN040180 – Lot line adjustment to reconfigure four existing lots of record of approximately 0.15, 23, 34, and 75 acres each in the Coastlands subdivision into four lots of approximately

18, 27, 45 and 45 acres each; variance to allow two resulting lots that do not meet the

minimum lot size of 40 acres.

3. Development's location (street address, assessor's parcel number, cross street, etc.:

APNs 420-011-002, 420-171-032, located west of highway One, southerly of Post Ranch Inn, Big Sur Area, Monterey County.

4. Description of decision being appealed:

- a. Approval; no special conditions:
- b. Approval with special conditions: <u>xx</u>
- c. Denial: ___

Note: For jurisdictions with a total LCP, denial decisions by a local government cannot be appealed unless the development is a major energy or public works project. Denial decisions by port governments are not appealable.

TO BE COMPLETED BY COMMISSION:

APPEAL NO: <u>A-3-MCO-05-052</u> DATE FILED: <u>7/19/05</u> DISTRICT: <u>Central Coast District</u> JUL 1 9 2005

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION CENTRAL COAST AREA

APPEAL FROM COASTAL PERMIT DECISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PAGE 2)

5. Decision being appealed was made by (check one):

- a. ___ Planning Director/Zoning c. ___ Planning Commission Administrator
- b. ___ City Council/Board of d. <u>Xx</u> Other: <u>Minor Subdivision Com.</u> Supervisors
- 6. Date of local government's decision: May 26, 2005
- 7. Local government's file number: PLN040180 (Resolution No. 05-014)

SECTION III Identification of Other Interested Persons

Give the names and addresses of the following parties: (Use additional paper as necessary.)

- a. Name and mailing address of permit applicant:
 - Jana Weston

C/o Kelly Short Lloyd

PO Box 1938

Dillon, CO 90435

b. Names and mailing addresses as available of those who testified (either verbally or in writing) at the city/county/port hearings (s). Include other parties which you know to be interested and should receive notice of this appeal.

- (1) Jeff Main / Carl Holm Monterey County Planning & Building Inspection 2620 First Avenue, Marina, CA 93933
- (2) <u>Maureen Wruck, Planning Consultants, LLC (Representative)</u> <u>2 Rancho San Carlos Road</u> Carmel, CA 93923
- (3) <u>Aengus Jeffers</u> <u>Horan, Lloyd, Karachale, Dyer, Schwartz, Law & Cook</u> <u>P.O. Box 3350</u> Monterey, CA 93942-3350

SECTION IV. Reasons Supporting This Appeal

See attached "Reasons for Appeal"

Note: Appeals of local government coastal permit decisions are limited by a variety of factors and requirements of the Coastal Act. Please review the appeal information sheet for assistance in completing this section, which continues on the next page.

Exhibit T Pg 3 of 8

APPEAL FROM COASTAL PERMIT DECISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT Page 3

State briefly your reasons for this appeal. Include a summary description of Local Coastal Program, Land Use Plan, or Port Master Plan policies and requirements in which you believe the project is inconsistent and the reasons the decision warrants a new hearing. (Use additional paper as necessary.)

See Attached.

Note: The above description need not be a complete or exhaustive statement of your reasons of appeal; however, there must be sufficient discussion for staff to determine that the appeal is allowed by law. The appellant, subsequent to filing the appeal, may submit additional information to the staff and/or Commission to support the appeal request.

SECTION V. Certification

The information and facts stated above are correct to the best of my/our knowledge.

K Thallenbuger Signed: Man Appellant or Ager

Date: July 19, 2005

Agent Authorization: I designate the above identified person(s) to act as my agent in all matters pertaining to this appeal.

Exhibit T Pg 4 of 8

Signed:

Date:

(Document2)

APPEAL FROM COASTAL PERMIT DECISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT Page 3

State briefly your reasons for this appeal. Include a summary description of Local Coastal Program, Land Use Plan, or Port Master Plan policies and requirements in which you believe the project is inconsistent and the reasons the decision warrants a new hearing. (Use additional paper as necessary.)

See Attached.

Note: The above description need not be a complete or exhaustive statement of your reasons of appeal; however, there must be sufficient discussion for staff to determine that the appeal is allowed by law. The appellant, subsequent to filing the appeal, may submit additional information to the staff and/or Commission to support the appeal request.

SECTION V. Certification

The information and facts stated above are correct to the best of my/our knowledge.

lan Signed: Appellant

Date: July 19, 2005

Agent Authorization: I designate the above identified person(s) to act as my agent in all matters pertaining to this appeal.

Exhibit J Pg 5 of 8

Signed:

Date:

(Document2)

A-3-MCO-05-052 – Weston-Short Lot Line Adjustment

Exhibit **T** Pg 6 of 8

Reasons for Appeal of Monterey County Coastal Development Permit PLN040180 (Weston-Short Lot Line Adjustments)

Monterey County Coastal Development Permit PLN040180 authorizes a lot line adjustment among four parcels in the "Coastlands" subdivision west of Highway One, in the Big Sur Area of Monterey County. The approved adjustment allows the reconfiguration of 0.15, 23, 34, and 75 acre lots into 18, 27, 45 and 45 acre lots, and includes a variance to the 40-acre minimum parcel size established by the LCP. The County's approval of the project is inconsistent with the Monterey County certified Local Coastal Program, as well as with the access and recreation policies of the Coastal Act, for the following reasons:

1. Two of the new lots created by the lot line adjustment do not conform to LCP minimum parcel size requirements.

The project area is within the LCP's Rural Density Residential (RDR) land use designation and Watershed and Scenic Conservation (WSC) zoning district. Sections 20.17.060.B and 20.145.140.A.8 of the LCP's Coastal Implementation Plan (CIP) establish a forty acre minimum parcel size for such areas. The lot line adjustment approved by the County is inconsistent with the minimum lot size requirements, as well as with Big Sur LUP Policy $5.4.3.G^1$ and CIP Section 20.145.140.A.1², because the project creates two new parcels under 40 acres in size. In addition, the County's findings for approval of a variance to LCP minimum lot size requirements are not accompanied by substantial evidence to establish consistency with LCP standards for variances (Section 20.78).

2. The adjustment will increase the density of residential development beyond that which is allowed by the LCP.

CIP Section 20.145.140.A.5 states that development of a parcel shall be limited to density, land use, and site development standards specific to that parcel's land use designation. Furthermore, CIP Section 20.145.140.A.15 states that existing parcels of record are considered to be buildable provided that: a) all resource protection policies of the land use plan and standards of the ordinance can be met; b) there is adequate building area on less than 30% slopes; and, c) that all other provisions of the Coastal Implementation Plan can be fully met. (Ref. LUP Policy 5.4.2.5). Pursuant to these standards, two of the four existing parcels cannot be developed with residential uses for the following reasons:

• Wastewater Treatment. Lot 3 (0.15 acres) and Lot 4 (26 acres) do not meet the onsite wastewater treatment standards established by CIP Section 20.143.140.A.13.

¹ Big Sur LUP Policy 5.4.3.G – Specific Policies for Rural Residential land uses – Reconstitution of parcels or mergers may be required for any area of the coast where past land divisions have resulted in parcels being unusable under current standards or where cumulative impacts on coastal resources require limitations on further development. Parcel mergers shall be based on the following criteria: a) the minimum buildable parcel shall be one acre; b) each parcel must contain a suitable septic and drainfield location on slopes less than 30%, and must be able to meet regional Water Quality and County stream setback and septic system requirements; and c) each parcel must conform to all Plan policies for residential development on existing parcels.

² Section 20.145.140.A.1 of the LCP's Implementation Plan (CIP) requires the development to conform and be consistent with policies of the Big Sur Land Use Plan (BSLUP)

A-3-MCO-05-052 – Weston-Short Lot Line Adjustment

Exhibit T Pg 7 of 8

Specifically lot 3 does not conform to the 1-acre minimum, while Lot 4 does not have adequate area outside of 30% slopes to accommodate on-site treatment.

- Slopes. Lot 4 is too steep for residential and associated roadway development. With an average slope of approximately 60%, and very little, if any, portion of the property containing slopes less than 30%, it would be impossible to construct a residence and access road consistent with CIP Section 20.145.140.A.4, which limits development to slopes of under 30%.
- Hazards. Lots 3 and 4 are within High Hazard Areas due to their proximity to a fault scarp, and in the case of Lot 4, the presence of a large, active landslide. Big Sur LUP Policy 3.7.1 requires that land use and development be carefully regulated through the best available planning practices in order to minimize risk to life and property and damage to the natural environment. Policy 3.7.2.3 states that areas of a parcel which are subject to high hazards shall generally be considered unsuitable for development, and requires an environmental or geotechnical report prior to County review of development. The County's approval of the Lot Line Adjustment does not contain adequate information regarding hazards at the project site, and, as a result, does not conform to the requirements of Policies 3.7.1 and 3.7.2.3, nor establish that Lots 3 and 4 are buildable under their current configuration.
- Water Supplies. The County's approval of the lot line adjustment does not contain evidence of an adequate water supply to support future residential development of Lots 3 and 4, and thereby does not address the requirements of Big Sur LUP Policy 3.4.2.3, which limits development to prevent overuse of limited water supplies, protect the public's health and safety, and preserve the natural value of streams and watersheds.

To summarize, the increase in residential development enabled by the adjustment conflicts with Big Sur LUP Policy 5.4.3.H.4, which states that "lot line adjustments are encouraged when no new developable lots are created and when plan policies are better met by this action" (emphasis added). In other words, Policy 5.4.3.H.4 encourages reconfiguration of <u>buildable</u> parcels so that coastal resources can be better protected, and discourages adjustments that convert unbuildable parcels into buildable parcels. The County approved lot line adjustment and variance is inconsistent with Policy 5.4.3.H.4 because it converts sub-standard parcels that cannot be developed with residential uses into buildable parcels, and sets a precedent that would have significant adverse cumulative impacts on coastal resources, as discussed further below, that do not advance LCP policies.

3. The increase in development density resulting from the lot line adjustment will have cumulative adverse impacts on coastal access and recreation, water supplies, and the unique coastal resources of the Big Sur coast.

The reconfiguration of sub-standard parcels that cannot safely accommodate residential development into new buildable parcels would cumulatively increase the level of residential development in Big Sur well beyond that which is anticipated and allowed by the LCP. This will result in increased traffic on Highway One, which currently operates at the worst level of service (LOS F) at peak times, and would thereby interfere with the public's ability to access and recreate on the Big Sur Coast. Such an increase in residential development will also place greater demands on limited water supplies, which

would, in turn, adversely impact riparian habitats. For example, the additional water use associated with the increase in residential development resulting from this lot line adjustment poses adverse impacts to the sensitive habitats of the Mule Creek watershed. Furthermore, increases in residential development potential (over and above that already contemplated in the LCP) throughout the planning area could alter the unique character of Big Sur that makes it such a popular destination for coastal access and recreation. Because of these cumulative impacts, the lot line adjustment is inconsistent with Big Sur LUP Policy 5.4.3.G.3, as well as with Coastal Act Sections 30211 and 30213.

Exhibit J Pg 8 of 8