Testimony of Thomas P. Infusino to Calaveras County BOS on 2/9/16 RE: Asphalt Plant Appeal

Tom Infusino. Calaveras Planning Coalition.

Being a Supervisor is not always easy. There are a lot of bad days. There are days when county staff lets you down. There are days when your constituents let you down. There are even days when you have to survey the damage of a devastating wildfire. Those are bad days.

But today, today does not have to be one of those bad days.

Today, you Supervisors can tell your County Health Officer, Dr. Dean Kelaita: Yes, we acknowledge your medical training. Yes, we respect your medical advice.

Yes, we are going to complete an environmental review of the proposed plant, and determine if there are conditions we can put in place to protect the health, safety, and wellbeing of the good people of Calaveras County.

Today, you Supervisors can tell your Environmental Health Director, Jason Boetzer: Yes, we acknowledge your expertise. Yes, we value your technical knowledge.

Yes, we appreciate your frank analysis. Yes, we understand your recommendation. Yes, we trust you to help oversee a full environmental review of the proposed plant.

Yes, we want you to identify the conditions needed to protect the health, safety, and wellbeing of the good people of Calaveras County.

Today, you Supervisors can tell the people of Valley Springs that:

Yes, we care about your health. Yes, we care about your safety. Yes, we care about your wellbeing. Yes, we care enough about you to complete a broad, thorough, and independent environmental review.

Yes, we will try to find conditions we can place on the plant to protect your health, your safety, and your wellbeing.

Yes, if we cannot protect your health, safety, and wellbeing, then we will not approve this plant.

If that is what you Supervisors decide today, then this will not be a bad day.

In fact, if that is what you decide today, then this will be a good day to be a Supervisor. And this will be a very good day to be among the very good people of Calaveras County.

Thank you. And may God bless.