

*Center for Integrative Medicine*

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August 10, 2015

Calaveras County Board of Supervisors  
891 Mountain Ranch Road  
San Andreas, CA 95249-9709

Re: Asphalt Plant

Dear Board of Supervisors,

This letter is in reference to the proposed Asphalt Plant by the Calaveras River. My name is Dr. Benedicto M. Estoesta, Fellow Academy of Family Practice, Diplomate of Holistic and Integrative Medicine, I was a previous medical director of Mark Twain St. Joseph Hospital and Clinics from 1999-2003 and now a full time primary care physician serving Valley Springs and neighboring sites for the past 15 years. I am writing to you about the medical concerns of having an Asphalt Plant by our community.

Asphalt Plant's release millions of chemicals into the air during their yearly production, many of which can cause Chronic Illness and Cancers. In particular ARSENIC and CADMIUM are known respiratory carcinogens causing lung cancer, mesothelioma, cancers of the Bronchial Tree, mouth, esophagus and pharynx. These toxic chemicals when inhaled together with nicotine from cigarette smokers double the chance of early production of cancer to the above symptoms mentioned.

BENZENE is another toxic byproduct that can cause cancer of the urinary bladder, prostate, uterus and kidney and has been shown in numerous medical journals of cumulative effects in the genital urinary system to cause cancer, and in reproductive organs, this toxic agent can cause birth defects in babies and children.

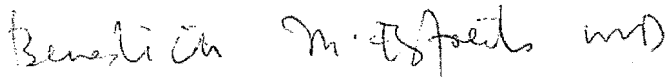
FORMALDEHYDE and POLYCYCLIC AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS are fine particulate toxic substances emitted into the air as Asphalt is loaded into trucks and hauled from the plant site. Together with fine condensed particulate matter and fine organic compounds, these air toxins could cause shortness of breath, difficulty of breathing, wheezing, coughing to all age groups but in particular could damage the lungs of our young children doing their outdoor sporting events and physical education classes outside their classroom. For our known patients with Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease, Bronchial Asthma, Congestive Heart Failure and Primary Lung Diseases, these toxic

pollutants will quadruple their frequency of wheezing, shortness of breath and their emergent need to use their hand held nebulizing therapies frequently. This will aggravate established lung and heart patients for more frequent intensive hospitalization and will double the rate of intubation and premature deaths.

Common to these air toxins include varying degree of nausea, vomiting, dizziness, and loss of cognitive function as we inhale these matters in and out of our lungs. Since they are not as easily excreted by the urine they tend to accumulate toxic residues in the liver, kidney and the skin. Skin irritations are common in the form of redness, swelling, excoriations and eczema like reactions that are hard to treat with a standard steroid treatment.

All these known medical diseases, aggravated by toxic pollutants have been substantiated in various medical and occupational textbooks and journals. The US Department of Human Services has a full display of medical literature concerning Asphalt Plant Pollution.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benedicto M. Estoesta M.D.".

Benedicto M. Estoesta, M.D., F.A.A.F.P., D.A.B.H.I.M.