

Asphalt plant will harm home values

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Editor:

I am writing concerning the toxic asphalt plant. I don't know how much of an effect this plant will have on the environment, the water, the air and the traffic. If it does or doesn't, it will still have an impact on the value of the homes in this area because of the disclosure that will have to be made when buying or selling homes to the buyers that there is a toxic plant within a close proximity of all the homes.

People from the Bay Area or valley purchase most of the homes here. They will not buy here if the property they are planning on purchasing is close to the plant. Prices will fall like they did a few years ago during the housing crisis.

I know values of homes that went down in this area more than \$100,000. The taxes also decreased and that was a big loss to the tax revenue of Calaveras County.

I suggest researching what percentage of decrease in value occurred at the time of the housing crisis a few years ago and to compare it to the amount of money that will be generated by this plant. Most of the operating expenses for this plant will be coming out of the valley or other areas not just Calaveras County, such as truck drivers, fuel and materials. The trucking firms will also be located in the valley. Most of the money will go back to the valley and other areas and will not benefit this county.

I see no advantage to this plant. The revenue to the county will be decreased because of property values going down.

If you were from the Bay Area or the valley would you invest in property next to this plant? You most definitely would go somewhere else.

The Rancho Calaveras, La Contenta and Valley Springs area combined could amount to over one-third or more of the total population in Calaveras County. This would be a great loss in revenue to the county over the years to come.

Jerry and Margaret Mariani

La Contenta