

# Opinion

## Sustainability is not anti-American

CalaverasEnterprise.com

Posted: Friday, April 8, 2011 5:04 PM CDT

---

During a recent Calaveras County Board of Supervisors meeting a discussion about a potential contractor for bridge repairs in the county featured a comment from a Burson resident concerning sustainability.

The commenter said she was concerned because the company, Stantec Consulting Services declared on its website that it is a leader in delivering sustainable solutions and she believes sustainable development is anti-American.

This belief has been around since the early 1990s when the United Nations drafted Article 21 promoting sustainable development. Some people believe Article 21 is a subversive plot to take over the world through environmental and social engineering. I've read Article 21 and I didn't find the blueprint for world domination in the text. And in the 20 years since Article 21 was drafted I haven't noticed private property disappearing or any great socialist takeover of public land.

Sustainable development is not a plan for global domination by a secret shadow socialist government. It is the practice of using resources to meet current needs while preserving enough of them so future generations can also meet their needs.

Future focus and sustainability are one of the 10 Key Values of the Green Party:

“Our actions and policies should be motivated by long-term goals. We seek to protect valuable natural resources, safely disposing of or 'unmaking' all waste we create, while developing a sustainable economics that does not depend on continual expansion for survival. We must counterbalance the drive for short-term profits by assuring that economic development, new technologies, and fiscal policies are responsible to future generations who will inherit the results of our actions.”

To learn more about true sustainability come to the 15th Annual Calaveras Earth Day Celebration on April 17 in Utica Park. We'll be celebrating sustainability and other old-fashioned ways of living that make sense in the modern world.

**Mark Dyken**

*Angels Camp*

**Read Comments at:**

[http://calaverasenterprise.com/articles/2011/04/11/opinion/letters/let02\\_dyken.txt](http://calaverasenterprise.com/articles/2011/04/11/opinion/letters/let02_dyken.txt)