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Chief John Tennant
Office of the State Fire Marshal
1131 "S" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

September 10, 2003

RE: Hal Reiland (Applicant) and Hal Reiland & Round Hill Enterprises (Owners), Contra Costa County File#VR031032: A request for approval of the following entitlements on the two adjacent parcels has been requested:

- **#76 St. Andrews Lane**

1. Approval of VARIANCE to allow the establishment of an access road requiring the construction of a retaining wall ranging from 3- FEET in height to 15-FEET in height with 0-FOOT SECONDARY FRONT SETBACK (minimum 20-feet-required) and a 4-FOOT SIDEYARD (minimum 10-feet-required).

2. Approval of a TREE PERMIT to allow the REMOVAL of 6 OAK TREES, ranging in diameter from 10 to 24-inches and to allow WORK within the DRIPLINE of 7 OAK TREES ranging in diameter from 8 to 50-inches for the construction of an access road and new single family residence.

- **7th Fairway, Round Hill Golf Course**

1. Approval of a VARIANCE to allow the construction of an access road requiring the placement of a retaining wall up to 4-FEET IN HEIGHT with a 0-foot sideyard (where 10-feet is required).

Dear Sir:

The above referenced applicant has applied to the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District (SRVFPD) for approval of construction of a driveway to a single family home, which in this area would create a severe fire danger to hundreds of existing homes. These homes, as shown in the Round Hill Estates North Property Owners Association map, are only accessed by a non-conforming ingress and egress road and private lanes, which also enter and exit on these non-conforming roads. The SRVFPD has apparently approved portions of the applicant's request for a 700' by 16' extension to the non-conforming private St. Andrews Lane, which is not under the jurisdiction of the Round Hill Estates North Property Owners Association (RHENPOA). In addition, the 7th Fairway is owned by the shareholders of Round Hill Country Club, and also is not under the jurisdiction of the RHENPOA.

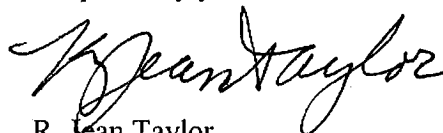
The applicant has applied for approval to build on this highly incendiary piece of property through the RHENPOA, but the only access to this property is over the non-conforming private St. Andrews Lane. In addition there is no apparatus turnaround before this extension to St. Andrews Lane to protect the residents now living along this private lane.

Within the last year or two, firefighters from the SRVFPD fought a fire on Inverrary Lane started by a homeowner who had built a pizza oven too close to his home. The flames from this fire ignited roofs of other homes, and firefighters were fighting embers carried by the winds up to Oakshire Place. In addition, in the Minutes of the RHENPOA dated August 5, 2003, the owner of 405 Oakshire Place (Lot 103) reported she had a fire emergency at her home, and the fire truck was delayed for 10 minutes while blocked behind a delivery truck at 2517 Biltmore Drive. Luckily this fire was controlled and a potential disaster avoided.

The area known as Round Hill Estates North was built at a time when developers were not required to abide by ordinances presently in place by the California Fire Code. Therefore, this is an opportunity for the SRVFPD to protect our homes, and disallow any variances to access this property.

Please review the applicant's request for a variance with the SRVFPD to determine whether or not any of the applicant's variances fall within the ordinances of their District and conform to the standards established by the California Fire Code governing conditions hazardous to life and property from fire.

Respectfully yours,



R. Jean Taylor
Round Hill Area Property Owner
Shareholder & Member of Round Hill Country Club

Enclosures

- Round Hill Estates North Property Owners Association Map
- Round Hill Area Map

Copies to: Community Development Department
San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District
Alamo Improvement Association Board of Directors
Round Hill Estates North Property Owners Association Board of Directors
Residents along St. Andrews Lane
Other Concerned Property Owners