



Mesa County, Colorado  
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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March 15, 1994

Peggy Galligan  
Project Administrator  
Financial Assistance Programs  
Water Quality Control Division  
Colorado Department of Health  
222 S. 6th Street, Room 232  
Grand Junction, CO 81501-2768

Re: Response to February 16, 1994 letter.

Dear Ms. Galligan:

This is in response to your February 16, 1994 letter. A copy is attached for reference.

Specifically regarding the "East Valley Citizens Association", one of our difficulties has been identifying the membership of the Association and determining who speaks for the Association. As you may recall, by letter dated July 30, 1993, we forwarded to you our Resolution MCM 93-106 Recommending Expansion of the 201 Planning Area And Service Area For The Persigo Waste Water Treatment Facility Located In Mesa County Colorado. Among the documents enclosed with the letter was the Public Hearing Record of the June 16, 1993 public hearing regarding Amendment to the Grand Junction Area 201 Plan. The transcript reveals that several residents of Orchard Mesa spoke at the hearing. In addition, the Chairman and certain members of the Citizens Review Committee which was and is preparing a land use master plan for the Orchard Mesa area spoke at the hearing. The Record reveals that Gary Crist spoke at the hearing. Mr. Crist is a member of the Citizens Review Committee and we believe that he is also a member of the East Valley Citizens Association. Mr. Crist's testimony is contained at page 28 of the Public Hearing Record.

Subsequent to our submission to you of the Resolution and Record, by a letter dated September 10, 1993, at your request, we clarified our intent in adopting the Resolution. Specifically, we adopted the contents of an August 13, 1993 letter to you from Larry Beckner, Attorney for the Orchard Mesa Sanitation District. The expanded 201 Study Area was and is for the purposes of planning and until a master plan is completed and in place, no use of the sewer line other than for Valle Vista will be made.

We are aware in a general manner of the concerns of the East Valley Citizens Association. These concerns have been mostly communicated "second hand" through documents filed by the Association with the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The Association failed to appear at the June 16, 1993 public hearing and Mr. Crist's statements at the hearing do not contain any statement on behalf of the Association.

The County is responding to the concerns of its citizens through the use of a well defined master planning process which is authorized and mandated by state statute. We will continue to respond to the concerns of our citizens through our well established Land Use Code and our planning process.

Many concerns are being voiced by a wide variety of individuals participating in the master planning process for Orchard Mesa. The names of Gary Crist, Doris Butler, and Kathleen Elmlad appear, among others, on documents attributed to the East Valley Citizens Association. We are advised that Mr. Crist is participating in the master planning process and that Ms. Butler regularly attends the meetings. We are additionally advised that Bill Elmlad, Ms. Elmlad's spouse, is also participating in the master planning process. Participation in the master planning process by any interested citizen is encouraged.

In your letter you have inquired about the position of the Mesa County Commissioners in regard to financial participation if the Valle Vista project is delayed or stopped due to litigation. Please be advised that, except to the extent we have agreed by existing contract to provide some limited funding, the Board is not able to financially participate in the project.

If you need additional information or if we may answer any other questions, please so advise.

Sincerely:

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John R. Crouch, Chairman  
Mesa County Board of County Commissioners

enc.  
cc: O.M. Sanitation District