

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY GROUP**

Of The Ventana Chapter

P.O. Box 604, Santa Cruz, CA 95061

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April 8th, 2014

County of Santa Cruz
Planning Commission
701 Ocean St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Subject: Moratorium on all hydraulic fracturing and well stimulation

To the Planning Commission of Santa Cruz County:

The Santa Cruz Group of the Sierra Club supports a complete moratorium on all hydraulic fracturing and well stimulation activities in Santa Cruz County. Oil and gas exploration and development has raised public health, safety and welfare concerns caused by pollution of air, soil, surface water, and groundwater; depletion of water supplies; noise pollution and seismic hazards. As we are currently in a drought emergency as declared by Governor Jerry Brown, our groundwater is more precious. Clean water is a resource that is essential to the health of both our ecosystems and our communities. Thus a moratorium is essential while the question of impacts remains.

Thank you for leading the way in this effort.

Sincerely,

Greg McPheeters
Chair, Executive Committee