



Ventura County Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business

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Alicia Kaiser
Designated Federal Officer, Office of the Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (MC 1101A)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

RE: Nomination for the Farm, Ranch and Rural Communities Federal Advisory Committee (FRRCC)

Dear Alicia,

The following is a submission for your consideration of my appointment to the FRRCC. I believe that my background and experience uniquely qualifies me for a position on this committee. My resume is attached detailing my education and work as a scientist, with the last 20 years working in the Environmental Planning and Land Use Permit Processing field, primarily representing clients of rural and farm based businesses in Ventura County.

I am the founding Executive Director of the Ventura County Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business (VC COLAB), a group formed in July of 2010 in response to an increasingly complex regulatory environment. Our County has a lot at stake with \$1.9 billion in gross value of crops, ranked 10th of all counties in the United States. Our Coalition has grown to 300 members in 18 months and has a core of 95% farmers and ranchers. Our members live in the rural communities, are generally well educated and believe in the conservation of their land. We cooperate with the Ventura County Farm Bureau, Ventura County Agricultural Association, California Women for Agriculture and other farm-based organizations utilizing many perspectives for developing our positions on farming, ranching and rural community issues. Our county is somewhat unique in that we have preserved smaller farms; the average farm size is 106 acres and the median is only 14 acres. In Ventura County, we value our farms and seek to preserve our rural lifestyle. Preservation of the business and lifestyle of farmers and ranchers will greatly depend on responsible, scientific-based environmental policies.

Please visit our website at colabvc.org and view the newsletters and other correspondence as documentation of my written communication skills and my ability to analyze complicated issues and process complex and technical information. In addition, our group has been successful in pulling together parties with differing viewpoints in a collaborative process working with agencies on biology and engineering regulatory issues that relate to farming and rural practices.

Thank you for your consideration of my nomination for the FRRCC.

Sincerely,

Lynn Gray Jensen
Executive Director