



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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August 4, 2009

Honorable Norman D. Dicks, Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies
Room B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Dicks;

The Ventura County Board of Supervisors supports the recommendations outlined in the Senate Appropriations Committee report on H.R. 2996, the FY 2010 Department of the Interior, Environment, and related agencies Appropriations bill, concerning the Halaco Superfund Site of the Hazardous Substance Superfund Program.

The Halaco facility lies alongside the Ormond Beach wetlands and is neighbor to the Ormond Beach Lagoon, Ormond Beach, Nature Conservancy Lands, and Pacific Ocean. The wetlands are home to several endangered and threatened species such as the Western Snowy Plover, Tidewater Goby, and California Least Tern. For more than a decade the presence of the Halaco site has posed risks to both human health and the environment.

Our Board supports the complete removal of all hazardous material on the site. Cleanup of the site must take precedence given its delicate location, history of pollution violations and noncompliance, leakage of contaminated substances into surrounding areas, and the impact on local residential populations due to trespassing and vandalism.

We agree with the Senate Appropriations Committee that the two dilapidated structures on the Halaco Superfund site pose a significant and immediate risk to public health and safety. We respectfully request your support for the Committee's recommendation that the Environmental Protection Agency remove the structures through an interim removal action while they complete the required environmental analyses on the site.

Sincerely,

Chair of the Board of Supervisors
Steve Bennett, Supervisor 1st District

Linda Parks
Supervisor 2nd District

Peter C. Foy
Supervisor 4th District

Kathy Long
Supervisor 3rd District

John C. Zaragoza
Supervisor 5th District

