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D3 Dispatch

Volume 4 No. 1

Welcome, District 3 residents, to our re-designed newsletter, *D3 Dispatch*. Replacing my longer “novels” from past years, I hope this new format will serve as a periodic update on key policy issues. I’ll still use the Subscription Alerts for more urgent announcements and calls to action.

My goal is to provide you with regular status reports regarding current issues, on-going projects and activities in the district and throughout the county that affect our lives. Each *D3 Dispatch* will include **two or three important issues** facing our district.

Please give us your [feedback](#) on our efforts to continue providing you with effective representation and good service. Let your neighbors know about the *D3 Dispatch*. Sign up [here](#) and click on “Subscribe to this page.”

Marin Helps Halt Aerial Spraying of the Light Brown Apple Moth

On Thursday, June 19, 2008, California Secretary of Agriculture A.G. Kawamura announced a halt to plans for aerial spraying to control the Light Brown Apple Moth in urban areas, including Southern Marin and much of the Bay Area. This significant change in strategy was arrived at by state and federal officials, after extraordinary pressure from citizens and legislators at the federal, state and local levels. Instead of aerial spraying, sterile moths will be released, and other ground-based methods will be used. District 3 residents have been steadfast in their desire for a pesticide-free future and, through many citizen groups, have demanded broader studies of the potential LBAM threat and proposed containment strategies. We also emphatically voiced concerns about the plastic micro-capsules used to deploy the pheromone spray. We are very grateful for the efforts of residents and groups for their work towards the safe and thorough management of the LBAM. Continued vigilance is necessary. We need to monitor the potential impacts from ground based efforts, and the need for, and effectiveness of, quarantines. We will keep you informed. For more information on the LBAM, please go to www.cdffa.ca.gov/; www.stopthespray.org and www.pesticidewatch.org.

Marin Clean Energy (MCE): Marin Explores Green Power

Marin Clean Energy (MCE) is the result of five years of study and analysis that indicates that Marin County, and our cities and towns, could successfully manage the sourcing and production of renewable energy at costs that match PG&E’s rates...and significantly increase the percentage of our electricity that comes from renewable sources.

What are the benefits? MCE will:

- reduce Marin's greenhouse gas emissions by an estimated 15-20% in the first year
- increase price stability over the long term, without exceeding PG&E’s rates
- fuel small, locally based green businesses
- enable local decision-making over the mix of Marin’s power

Under MCE ([info](#)), Marin County, cities and towns will form a Joint Power Authority (JPA) to manage the sourcing and production of renewable electricity. One available tariff would give businesses and residents the option of buying 100% renewable power at a modest monthly premium – about the cost of a latte for the average homeowner. MCE is currently being considered by each city and town in public study sessions. Following this public education period, each city and town council will vote (November 2008) on whether to participate. Any

resident whose city or town joins the MCE JPA may still choose to opt out of 'green power' and stay with PG&E. However, if a city or town does not vote to join, businesses and residents will not have the choice to join Marin Clean Energy.

An informative workshop on Marin Clean Energy will be held at the Marin County Fair on Sunday, July 6, 3pm. ([info](#)) Also, check out the MCE website www.marincleanenergy.info to get copies of the Business Plan, numerous reports and analyses, as well as information on upcoming community workshops near you.

This is our first D3 Dispatch. Let us know what you think. We will continue to update you on the issues in this dispatch as well as future topics. What do you want to hear about? Let us know at <http://www.co.marin.ca.us/sysApps/Feedback/feedback.asp>