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# Boundary Bend's Opposition to Groundwater Well Permit Appeal

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# Overview

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- **Background on Boundary Bend**
  - Sustainable Farming Practices
  - Significant Economic Benefits
- **Response to Legal Issues Identified in Appeal**
  - Misrepresents applicable legal framework
  - Unsubstantiated claims about well interference

# Background on Boundary Bend

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- Vertically integrated olive oil producer
- Operations in Australia and California
- Australia has a strict regulatory framework for water resources that holistically accounts for both surface water and groundwater when issuing entitlements
- CA has a system that regulates each separately

# Sustainable Farming Practices

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- Water conservation practices informed by Australian roots
  - Uses 37% less water per ton than industry best practice
  - Purchases land with both surface and groundwater sources (including the property at issue)
- Commitments to biodiversity and CO2 reductions
- Less than 0.5% of operational outputs into landfill

# Economic Benefits to Yolo County

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- Employment Benefits to Yolo County
  - 53 full time staff
  - 100 seasonal staff
- Nearly half a billion dollars in regional investment
  - \$200+ million production facility
  - Land acquisitions and improvements
  - Investments in surface water delivery infrastructure

# Appeal Lacks Legal Merit

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- Appellant was informed by County staff that the appeal was based on the incorrect legal standard
- Appellant received clear documentation from County staff demonstrating all criteria were met
- The appeal was filed without any acknowledgement of County staff's transparency and its engagement regarding the correct legal standard

# Unsubstantiated Claims on Interference

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- Ordinance 1569 contains well separation distances based on scientific study by Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers
- The challenged well permit complies with applicable separation distances
- Appellant's allegations regarding potential well interference are not based on scientific facts

# The Appeal was Untimely

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- Appeal was filed on day 31, Yolo County Code sec. 6-8.807 requires appeals within 30 days
- Plain language of County Code should be applied
- No provision in the County Code exempts weekends or holidays from calculation of deadlines