

**R. Jean Taylor**  
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**Craig A. Bowen, Fire Chief**  
San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District  
1500 Bollinger Canyon Road  
San Ramon, CA 94583

May 5, 2004

**SUBJECT: Hal Reiland Project**  
**County File #VR031032**

Dear Chief Bowen,

Thank you for your letter of March 8, 2004, and the courtesy of the conference call we had with Deputy Fire Marshal Michael Mentink prior to the Zoning Administrator's decision which also, coincidentally, was on March 8<sup>th</sup>!

In addition to the CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL FOR COUNTY FILE #VR031032 a transcript of her decision reveals the Zoning Administrator also added the following paragraph:

In addition, to clarify the issue regarding necessary rights of way on the property, I'd like to add another condition that says the applicant shall furnish to the Public Works Department and the Zoning Administrator for review and approval, evidence of necessary rights of way, rights of entry, permits and/or easements for the construction of onsite, temporary or permanent, public and private, road and drainage improvements. And that should clarify the issue of access to and from the site, and construction on the site.

As you will recall from our phone conversation, I was extremely concerned over easement rights and access to this property over St. Andrews Lane, a private road. Apparently the Zoning Administrator shares these concerns as well.

This letter is a request that in view of concerns raised by this Public Hearing and the Zoning Administrator's decision, you, the SRVFPD Board, and the Corporate Counsel for this jurisdiction, review the Reiland Project and verify that it is in compliance with the California Fire Code enforced by the Fire Prevention Division in the SRVFPD.

In addition to the numerous newspapers articles being written by the Contra Costa Times, the latest on the front page of today's issue, to the New York Times extensive reporting on severe drought conditions multiplying in the Western states, May 2, 2004, the existence of a '700x'16 swath of asphalt driveway across a 2.7 acre virgin hillside defies a "reasonable person's doctrine" by any standard.

Your message in Fire Line was also a chilling revelation that the State budget crisis may compromise your ability to adequately protect existing properties against a major wildfire. Surely the hundreds of homes already in existence take precedence over a new single-family construction on a hillside of highly flammable chaparral and dry grasses.

All public documents, along with my numerous letters written to Community Development Department, as well as other involved associations, since July 1, 2003, are available for your review on my website [www.alamospotlight.org](http://www.alamospotlight.org). If you click on Public Records, you will find other possessory interests on this property which the Fire District should be aware of for contact on weed abatement liability.

One document that has not been scanned into my website is an Easement & Road Maintenance Agreement recorded on July 17, 1986 between the owners of the private St. Andrews Lane. This document divides St. Andrews Lane into two parts – Lower St. Andrews Lane and Upper St. Andrews Lane. At the end of Lower St. Andrews Lane there is a dead-end with no fire apparatus turnaround. Does this conform to Fire Code Standards?

In closing, I want you to know that all of my objections to this Reiland Project are motivated by fear of a horrendous wildfire beginning above the 7<sup>th</sup> Fairway of Round Hill Country Club, and continuing throughout the hundreds of acres of dry hillside open-space consuming the existing homes in the Round Hill Estates North area. This area and property is governed by CC&R's of the RHEN Property Owner's Association and under the jurisdiction of your Fire District. It is a wonderful opportunity for SRVFPD to exercise its authority to PREVENT a wildfire and PROTECT our homes.

Respectfully,

R. Jean Taylor

Copies to: Board of Directors SRVFPD  
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Gordon D. Dakin  
Roxanne W. Lindsay  
Jennifer G. Price  
Kenneth W. Sandy  
Office of the State Fire Marshal  
Chief John Tennant  
Board of Directors RHEN Property Owners Association