



May 26, 2026

Honorable Mayor White and City Council Members

City of Escondido

Via Email

**RE: Sierra Club San Diego North County Group SUPPORTS APPEAL of
Planning Commission Decision PL24-0067, Hamilton Lane Residential
Subdivision Project**

Dear Mayor and Council:

Sierra Club San Diego North County Group (NCG) represents several hundred members who live in Escondido. We have a long-standing interest and engagement in remediation of the Chatham Barrel Yard hazardous waste site. We were concerned to learn that the Planning Commission recently took action to allow housing to be constructed on land known to be located over contaminated groundwater down gradient from the Chatham Yard.

The concerns about this project include the following:

- the environmental analysis is decades old and not reflective of current conditions
- the project lacks appropriate and current mitigation measures
- an analysis of soil vapor risks to new and existing residents has not been conducted
- the project includes a stormwater feature that has not been analyzed per current standards and practices

We urge you to return this project to the Planning Commission, require a full and current environmental review, and update the mitigations required.

Please add us to the interested parties list for this project if it continues to move forward.

Sincerely,

Joe Houde, Chair, NCG Executive Committee

Phil Lauder, Vice Chair, NCG Executive Committee

Walker Wilson, Chair, NCG Conservation Committee