

**From:** Tom Brundage [mailto:tbrundage@humboldt1.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2009 5:36 PM  
**To:** Spencer, Martha  
**Subject:** Fw: Public Comment on the GPU

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Mr. Jeff Smith, Chairman Planning Commission  
c/o Martha Spencer, Community Development Department  
County of Humboldt  
3014 H Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

Re: Land Use Element of Proposed General Plan

Dear Chairman Smith and Planning Commissioners,

Our awareness of impending energy shortages, water shortages, climate changes, resource depletion (fisheries, etc...), coupled with the current economic crisis require us to think carefully how best to proceed as a community. Community development needs to step through a paradigm shift. It's a new game now, we live in a world of limited resources, such as water, and in a world without cheap oil. Business-as-usual depends on available fossil fuels. Working together as an undivided community is the best way to sanely meet these issues. Self interests need to take a back seat to the general welfare of the community and its needs (food, water, energy, healthy resources).

During the past 28 years I have conducted many (hundreds) building site evaluations on rural properties in Humboldt County. It is common to see removal of water from creeks and springs as a result of rural residential development causing reduction of stream flows that affect downstream uses, fisheries and biological habitat. Soil erosion and stream sedimentation from poorly maintained and poorly constructed roads are also common.

Without infringing on the rights of existing property owners, it would be wise to limit future subdivisions of rural properties where water draws reduce stream flows and where new roads are required for access across unstable and erodable ground. We should also be considering the energy use for infrastructure (county roads, power, etc) as well as energy for transportaion.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,

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