

Attachment F

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Martin Ranch-Silliman et al: FSZ Application No. 2022-05

Excerpt of Applicant's explanation for an FSZ Application of less than 100 acres:

At just under 60 acres, our ranch is more than 40 acres but smaller than the 100-acre requirement. Other farms owned by our family since the 1880s on Hunter Lane were of equal size which would suggest that parcels in this area have historically tended to be small. This is likely because the soil is so fundamentally rich and exceptionally productive. Looking at the parcel maps surrounding us today, we find similarly small sized parcels. In fact, our lessee, the Luis A. Scattini Family, entered into FSZ Contract 99-009 in 1999 for only 45.8 acres.

It is critically important that ranches like ours, small as they may be, be preserved for agricultural purposes because of their high agricultural productivity and potential threat of urban expansion from Salinas and Spreckles. As we know, the housing needs and demands throughout California are creating pressure for greater development, yet we must preserve farmland to feed a growing world.

Should this application fail to meet the standards necessary for a FSZ Contract because we fall under the 100-acre requirement, we ask that we be allowed to revise and resubmit our application without repaying the application fee.

Should this application not be approved, we would reach out to adjacent property owners and determine if they are willing to submit a joint application which meets or surpasses the 100-acre requirement. We might also seek to amend FSZ Contract No. 08-007 or 99-009 and add our Ranch parcels (see Attached parcel maps). However, aligning ourselves with owners who may desire to either purchase or lease our land could create an awkward alliance which might erode our independent family unit or push us towards sale.

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