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November 10, 2004

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MONTEREY COUNTY
PLANNING & BUILDING
INSPECTION DEPT.

Mr. Thom McCue, Senior Planner
Monterey Co. Planning Dept.
2620 First Av.
Marina CA 93933

Re: Pebble Beach Development Plan

Dear Mr. McCue,

P-33

Last weekend, we took a walk through the Del Monte Forest just south of the Spanish Bay Resort in the area planned for a new driving range. While there, we were again amazed at the wealth of plant and animal life. As we were appreciating the architecture of the trees, old coast live oak, towering Monterey pines, and all the additional plantlife in the forest; we were continually entertained by the songs of many different birds who inhabit the canopy that was above us. Some of these birds are year round residents and others are stopping by for rest and sustenance in their migratory travel. We were reminded that Monterey County was named the second "birdiest" county in the state by the Audubon Society this year. Occasionally, we came upon a deer browsing in the shrubs and we were even surprised by a fox dashing by our path. One of the few remaining larger sections of the Del Monte Forest which has been left undisturbed is an established habitat which supports so much valuable plant and animal life. We are convinced that the loss of this forest will far outweigh any monetary profits gained by another driving range.

The true value of Pebble Beach was here long before the Lodge, the numerous golf courses and Spanish Bay, etc.. People have been drawn to Pebble Beach for the extraordinary beauty of the forest including its many rare plants and wildflowers,

some of which are now endangered or threatened, juxtaposed against the rocky beach and spectacular surf. The biological abundance and richness with incomparable natural beauty have brought people to this area for ages. Every time the forest is removed, every time a project replaces a natural community, there is a irreversible deficit made in the treasure that is Pebble Beach.

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We strongly urge you to rethink the current plan for Pebble Beach. Our hope is that you will allow the forest community to remain by eliminating the driving range, by downsizing the 18-hole golf course, and by honoring the two existing conservation easements in Sawmill Gulch.

2

Sincerely,



Dr. and Mrs. John B. Avera

cc: California Coastal Commission