

O'Donnell, Mary Beth



01620278

From: Orjiako, Oliver
Sent: Tuesday, September 09, 2014 4:05 PM
To: Euler, Gordon; Alvarez, Jose; O'Donnell, Mary Beth
Cc: Cook, Christine
Subject: FW: BERK - for the record

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

FYI

From: Madore, David
Sent: Tuesday, August 19, 2014 2:15 PM
To: Orjiako, Oliver
Subject: FW: BERK - for the record

fyi

From: Carol Levanen [<mailto:cnldental@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2014 8:14 PM
To: Madore, David; Mielke, Tom; Barnes, Ed; Carol Levanen; Susan Rasmussen; Leah Higgins; Rick Dunning; Rita Dietrich; Jerry Olson; Fred Pickering; Jim Malinowski; Frank White; Benjamin Moss; Lonnie Moss; Melinda Zamora; Nick Redinger; Curt Massie; Marcus Becker; Clark County Citizens United Inc.
Subject: BERK - for the record

Dear Commissioners,

Today, August 12, 2014 CCCU gave testimony regarding the hiring of the BERK consulting firm and voiced CCCU's disapproval. Our research of this group gave us very good reason for doing so. One of the many reasons was submitted into the record to the hearing clerk. It consisted of two additional maps from the BERK rural lands study. One map depicted supposed agriculture land and supposed crops growing on those lands. These illustrations were not correct. In addition, they did not take into account prime ag soil in their review. The other map depicted forest resource in an area that has no forest soils. Reports were given over this resource in these areas that were also incorrect. Their "scientific" source was the Washington State Agricultural Department, which is only a marketing organization in the state, and the other "source" was BERK 2011, the very consulting firm who publishes the report. In fact most of the "source" for the BERK studies came from BERK itself. Where they got the information is anyone's guess and not mentioned, nor is credit given to the authors.

A consulting firm is to collect credible and scientific data and put in into some type of usable form to determine actions and outcomes. Bias subjectivity has no place in these types of paid studies. CCCU believes the county would have been much better served, if it had hired a different firm, that came to conclusions and recommendations via credible reports and scientific data.

Sincerely, Carol Levanen, Ex Secretary
Clark County Citizens United, Inc.