

APPENDIX L

Falconry Activities Letter

Airstrike Inc.

Airstrike Bird Control, Inc.

falconry-based bird control solutions

1209 Park Street, Suite 301C
Paso Robles, CA 93446
airstrikebirdcontrol.com
p : 8 8 8 . 2 0 7 . 2 7 1 8
f : 8 0 5 . 2 2 1 . 5 1 6 2



December 21, 2014

Mr. Jay Harland
CSA Planning, Ltd
4497 Brownridge, Suite 101
Medford, Oregon 97504-9173

Dear Mr. Harland,

In November 2012, Riverbend Landfill Company (RLC) contracted with Airstrike Bird Control, Inc. to initiate a natural and sustainable bird control program at the Riverbend Landfill. That program involves the use of falcons and hawks to deter unwanted birds from loitering at the facility. Specifically, live raptors are released and carefully managed using falconry techniques to optimize their hazing value. Those tactics include lure stooping, a process where a falcon makes repeated passes and fast aggressive dives at a leather lure that is swung from a cord by the falconer. Raptors are also encouraged to fly and soar over and around the facility to evict gulls, ravens, starlings, and pigeons. In all cases, the falconer continually monitors the raptor and offers rewards to keep it focused and active in the airspace over the facility.

The Riverbend Landfill falconry program has successfully reduced the population of unwanted birds during every season of the year. Specifically, daily peak gull counts during winter have been reduced from 1,000 in 2012, to 300 in 2014, and summer raven counts have declined from 300 in 2013, to 80 in 2014.

During the public hearing on 4 December 2014, Ramsay McPhillips stated that “every once in a while the falconer comes over” looking for his falcon which is “attacking my chickens” and “going for the pheasants”. Since the falconry program was initiated in November 2012, our records indicate that we ventured onto Mr. McPhillips’ property on three occasions to search for or retrieve a lost falcon, and on three more occasions to chase gulls from his fields. All six visits occurred during the winter of 2013-14. We have never seen or heard reports by Mr. McPhillips or other individuals of our falcons harassing domestic fowl at his farm or anywhere else in the vicinity of the landfill.

Airstrike Bird Control has partnered with RLC to deliver a natural and highly effective bird abatement program that has reduced the population of unwanted birds at both the landfill and on surrounding properties, thus providing an overall benefit to the local farming community. We manage our raptors very closely and do not accept or appreciate Mr. McPhillips allegation that our falcons were attacking his chickens and pheasants.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kort Clayton'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kort Clayton
Northwest Operations Manager