

**John Gioia (say “Joy-a”)**

District One

Board of Supervisors

**Contra  
Costa  
County**

11780 San Pablo Avenue, Suite D

El Cerrito, CA 94530

Phone: (510) 374-3231

Fax: (510) 374-3429

November 27, 2007

Mr. Dean O’Hair  
Chevron-Texaco  
P.O. Box 1272  
Richmond, CA 94802



Dear Mr. O’Hair:

I am greatly concerned about the financial impact that Chevron-Texaco’s (“Chevron”) property tax assessment appeal will have on the ability of local governments in Contra Costa to serve our residents. I appreciate that Chevron is the largest property taxpayer in Contra Costa County and accounts for approximately two percent of all property tax revenue.

The County Administrator’s Office has prepared a detailed chart itemizing the revenue impact upon local government if your property tax assessment appeal is successful. Based on the reduced values sought by Chevron in its filed Application for Changed Assessment, nearly all local governments throughout Contra Costa County would share the costs of a substantial property tax refund to Chevron.

Specifically, Richmond’s share of the refund back to Chevron would be \$1,472,147, the County general fund share (including library fund) would be \$8,813,327, Contra Costa Fire District’s share would be \$4,026,758, and the West Contra Costa Healthcare District (Doctor’s Hospital) share would be \$159,091. Even the San Ramon Valley Fire District would suffer a \$1,917,948 loss as its share of the refund.

Furthermore, the amount of property tax collected from Chevron in future years would be substantially reduced. Based on the County Administrator’s Office calculations, the following agencies would lose annual revenue in the following amounts:

Contra Costa County General Fund	\$2,015,347
Contra Costa Flood Control District	\$24,283
Contra Costa Water Agency	\$4,947
CCC Mosquito Abatement District	\$21,627
West CCC Healthcare District	\$212,006
EBMUD Special District 1	\$207,714
AC Transit Special District 1	\$767,199
BART	\$87,461
Bay Area Air Pollution Control District	\$25,483
East Bay Regional Park District	\$415,964
City of Richmond	\$4,726,289
Richmond Sewer District 1	\$45,397

The district that I represent, West County, would be hardest hit by the revenue reduction resulting from your successful property tax appeal.

The result of these property tax revenue reductions would be devastating on all of these agencies. All of us would have to cut services dramatically. At a time when we are trying to fight crime and violence through increased prevention and enforcement activities and trying to save the vital emergency room at Doctors' Hospital, these revenue cuts would seriously impact our collective ability to be successful at these efforts. I cannot think of a worse time for local government to reduce the number of firefighters, police officers, sheriff deputies, district attorneys, employment counselors, and probation officers. Also, these revenue cuts could cause reductions in park and recreation programs and library hours which are all important in fighting crime.

I urge Chevron to reconsider its property tax assessment appeal and withdraw its request for a substantially lower property tax assessment of its Richmond Refinery. There is precedent for such action. Just last year, Conoco-Phillips withdrew a similar appeal to reduce the value of its Rodeo Refinery, saving local government from having to make significant cuts in services.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter with you in more detail.

Very Truly Yours,



John Gioia  
Supervisor, District One