BOLINAS COMMUNITY PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

BCPUD

BOX 390

270 ELM ROAD BOLINAS CALIFORNIA 94924

415 868 1224



VIA EMAIL

Lisa Santora, Public Health Officer 3240 Kerner Blvd. San Rafael, California 94901

May 5, 2025

RE: Request for Clarification Regarding Contaminated Waters Warning Signage

Dear Ms. Santora:

On behalf of the Bolinas Community Public Utility District (BCPUD), we are writing to request clarification regarding the recent installation of public warning signs related to water contamination in the Bolinas area.

While we fully support proactive public health measures and timely communication regarding environmental safety, we would appreciate more information about the decision-making process that led to the posting of the current signage. Specifically, we would like to understand:

- 1. **Rationale Behind Signage Installation** What were the determining factors behind the decision to post "Contaminated Waters" warning signs, considering that the water was tested and ultimately deemed safe following the initial beach closure?
- 2. **Reference to Ocean Water Contamination** The signs state that the ocean water is potentially contaminated. Is there any data or findings supporting this statement? Was there ever confirmed contamination in the ocean, or was it only ever identified on the bluff above the beach?
- 3. **County-Wide Signage Protocol** If ocean water is presumed to be unsafe in the absence of confirmed contamination, are similar warning signs being installed at other beaches throughout the county, including Stinson Beach and other coastal areas?

As community leaders and public stewards, we are eager to ensure that the messaging shared with residents and visitors is both accurate and appropriately scaled to actual public health risk. We look forward to your responses to these questions and appreciate any data or policy documentation you can share. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jack Siedman

President, BCPUD Board of Directors

On behalf of Directors Grace Godino, Andrew Alexander Green, Kevin McElroy & Kirsten Walker

cc: (via email) Sarah Jones, Director of Marin County CDA, sarah.jones@marincounty.gov