

# SAVE STRAWBERRY CANYON

P.O. BOX 1234

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*Save Strawberry Canyon is a citizens' group that seeks to preserve and protect the watershed lands and cultural landscape of Strawberry Canyon. Save Strawberry Canyon was formed out of the urgent need to take action in response to the threat of intrusive, inappropriate development on the Canyon lands.*

*Strawberry Canyon, opposite the Golden Gate, is a unique link to the East Bay Regional Park district lands and, by its streams and views, to the San Francisco Bay. The Canyon itself with its streamside vegetation, oak-bay woodlands, grasslands, and surrounding slopes, is a rich repository of wildlife directly adjacent to the dense urban populations of the UC Berkeley Campus and the cities of Berkeley and Oakland.*

*Save Strawberry Canyon seeks to inform the public about the impacts of proposed developments, to encourage location of such developments to more suitable sites, and to promote better public access to the beautiful Canyon with its wildlife and scenic resources.*

July 24, 2009

*Via electronic mail: [jwmiller@lbl.gov](mailto:jwmiller@lbl.gov), [kim.abbott@bso.science.doe.gov](mailto:kim.abbott@bso.science.doe.gov)*

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Re: Comment on the BELLA draft EA

Dear Jeff Miller and Kim Abbott,

Thank you for your e-mail acknowledgement (July 22, 2009) of our comments submitted in response to the draft EA regarding the proposed BELLA project.

Save Strawberry Canyon has several outstanding questions that do need clarification during this period of project review. We appreciate your invitation to ask further questions, as we believe the following concerns are apropos re: adequate environmental review and public disclosure regarding the proposed BELLA project:

- Is the BELLA project within the scope of the LBNL Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) EIR? How does the LRDP EIR adequately anticipate impacts from this experimental facility? We note that there is no mention of the Lasers Optical Accelerator Systems Integrated Studies (LOASIS) Program laser research facilities in the LBNL LRDP EIR.
- Given that BELLA is subject to environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), would not the LBNL LRDP also be subject to NEPA? It would appear that there is no federal review of anticipated cumulative impacts from this growth –inducing research project, e.g. additional plasma laser accelerators.

Thank you for your attention given to these basic questions. Your timely reply would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Janice Thomas  
Secretary,  
Save Strawberry Canyon