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June 8, 2012

Honorable Shirlee Zane, Chair Sonoma County Board of Supervisors 575 Administration Drive Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Reference: Leland Fly Fishing (Fly Fishing Outfitters, LLC) Application PLP09-0098

Dear Supervisor Zane:

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) represents the general aviation interests of over 400,000 members, including nearly 50,000 in the State of California. AOPA is committed to ensuring the safety, viability and development of general aviation airports and their facilities as part of a local, state and national transportation system.

We are writing to express our strong opposition to approval of the above referenced project which is immediately adjacent to the Sonoma Valley Airport (OQ3) near Schellville. In reviewing the long and extensive record for this project, which dates back to 2006, it is abundantly clear to us that the proponent of this project has gone to great extremes to circumvent the legally required planning process in order to construct and operate the Fly Fishing facility without appropriate permits. The Airport Land Use Commission Staff Report of September 19, 2011 contains a detailed chronology of misleading statements and actions of the project proponents.

Additionally, it appears that the Fly Fishing operation continues to operate without county approvals and in violation of a January 2012 Stipulated Judgment Order (case SVC 248895) entered into between Sonoma County and Fly Fishing Outfitters, LLC in California Superior Court by Judge Mark Tansil.

After reviewing the record and correspondence from the California Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics (2006 & 2011) letters, the USDA May 4, 2006 letter and the September 19, 2011 Airport Land Use Commission Staff Report, it is abundantly clear to AOPA that this Leland Fly Fishing project is not compatible with aviation operations at the Sonoma Valley Airport and creates a significant hazard to air navigation. Not only does the proposed project fail to meet Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidance relating to wild life attractants near airports, the project is deemed incompatible with aviation operations by the County Airport Land Use Commission. In light of the extensive record demonstrating these incompatible land uses, an approval could surely open the county up to significant exposure of liability should an accident occur as the result of allowing this incompatible land uses.

Therefore, AOPA requests that the above referenced project application (submitted after the fact) be denied and that remedial actions to correct these incompatible land uses be undertaken immediately to remove these hazards to the public and aviation. We also request that the county undertake immediate

legal actions to enforce the requirements of the January 2012 Stipulated Judgment Order granted by and approved by the Superior Court.

Sincerely,

Bill Dunn Vice President Airport Advocacy

Cc: Supervisor Valerie Brown

Supervisor David Rabbitt Supervisor Mike McGuire Supervisor Efren Carrillo