

## Sasha Linker

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**From:** Steve Orellana <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2021 1:21 PM  
**To:** CommAsst  
**Subject:** Letter for Charles Grace FPPC No. 20/416

### EXTERNAL EMAIL

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Steve Orellana and I am a current employee of Grace Environmental and Charles Grace. I am a Certified Operator for the Districts Water and Wastewater Facilities and work under Jerry Copeland the Chief Plant Operator and Superintendent.

A little about myself, I have lived or visited the Cambria and San Simeon areas for over 30 years. In that time I have come to have a fairly substantial knowledge of the areas drought and water quality issues prior to moving here, it was very common knowledge to most people that research a potential place to move to, that San Simeon had severe water issues. In the time prior to Grace's involvement, it was very well known what terrible water quality and severe water issues San Simeon had to deal with due to lack of funding and aging infrastructure.

As an individual with a substantial background in infrastructure and building projects, it's quite eye opening for me that in the years prior to Charles Grace's involvement in the community, not much was accomplished to improve the district given the issues that were present. The District had multiple violations with the State and the infrastructure was not being maintained, of which there is plenty of photographic evidence to corroborate this. One such previous General Manager/District Engineer was even using his own survey company to do work in the district.

From 1985 when the building moratorium was initiated to the mid 2000's nothing was done, from the mid 2000's to Present you have a Well Rehab project, Upgrades and Repairs at the Wastewater Plant, and a state of the art Reverse Osmosis (not desalination) facility. It seems fairly safe to say that's more of a benefit and not a detriment to this community.

While my time working for the district is short, it does not take much thought to see that Charles Grace's time in this community has been nothing but a benefit with many improvements to the community's quality of life. The water quality is the best it has ever been and we are constantly trying to improve and better maintain the district, all the while being as frugal as possible for the benefit of this small district.

Thank you for your time,

Steve Orellana