

Email from Robin Downey, Executive Director of the Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association to Don Stave, Harstine Island resident

From: <robindowney@pcsga.org>
To: <Evatsdl@aol.com>
Subject: Geoduck debates
Date: Tue, 1 Jul 2008 08:50:47 -0700

Hi Don

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner. I've been on the road more than home for the last several weeks and playing catch up now that I'm finally back in my office.

I have discussed your idea of a public debate on geoduck issues with other growers. Our experience with previous such events is that they have not been that useful – the room has typically been filled with individuals that have strong opinions on both sides of the issues, and common ground has been difficult to find. In addition, geoduck issues were debated in the 2007 Legislature, resulting in HB 2220 and the SARC process. At this point, it seems appropriate to allow the SARC process, which involves all stakeholders involved in geoduck issues, to be the forum for debate.

Thank you for issuing the invitation and I do look forward to seeing the facts of this issue brought further to light.

Sincerely,
Robin Downey
Executive Director
Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association