



**SAN BENITO COUNTY  
JOHN R. HODGES  
COUNTY CLERK/AUDITOR/RECORDER**

July 19, 2004

Voting Modernization Board  
C/o Elections Division  
Secretary of State's Office  
1500 11<sup>th</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento. CA 95814

Re: January 2005 Deadline

I am writing in regard to the scheduled January 1, 2005 deadline for San Benito County to submit and receive approval from the VMB their Project Documentation Packages. I feel there is a need for me to respond in regard to the deadline.

There are several reasons I feel that warrant a deadline extension. Time is needed to complete Project Packages, and this being a Presidential Election Year does not allow a lot of time to complete special projects. Smaller counties do not have additional resources to utilize.

Furthermore, in San Benito County the Board of Supervisors will experience a turnover come January 2005. Three incumbent members will be off the Board in January due to political and controversial issues that had arose during the Primary Election. Two incumbents lost in the Primary Election. A third chose not to run. Due to these circumstances and the political times, the deadline period critically needs to be extended.

In the best interest of the citizens of San Benito County I am requesting that the deadline be extended to January 2006. Please submit this to the VMB since I am unable to attend the meeting.

Sincerely,

s/John R. Hodges, County Clerk/Auditor/Recorder