June 30, 2013

Kittitas County Community Development Services 411 North Ruby St., Suite 2 Ellensburg, WA 98926



## To Whom It may Concern:

I consider myself lucky to reside in Thorp and Kittitas County. My ancestors on both father and mother sides farmed in high mountain valleys. They raised crops and a variety of animals for food. I admire the life-style of those whose work and skills are devoted to land management for food crops and animal husbandry. The rural life offers peace and quiet in an environment of wholesome health and considerable natural beauty.

Adding to this desirable lifestyle is the convenience of the Thorp Fruit & Antique Mall with the adjacent gasoline-diesel filling station and convenience store. Until recently it was also possible to purchase locally grown fresh produce at a small family owned business. I have regularly been able to purchase items from all of these facilities. Therefore, it was a surprising disappointment when I discovered that the little local produce store owned and operated by the Christman family was closed pending a county conditional use permit. Thereupon I made inquiry at your office and requested a copy of sections 9, 10 and 11. Reading thoughtfully this portion "Project Narrative" stamped received Feb.11, 2013 motivates me to write this letter supporting the right of the Christmans and equally the right of their customers to continue to purchase locally grown foods as a special convenience. It is GOOD LAND USE: good for the business owners AND their customers to permit each of these operations.

Inasmuch as the matter is one impacting the lifestyle of all of us who are proud to dwell in the Thorp area, and inasmuch as a careful reading of the Project Narrative would only seem to support fully the right of use which benefit all parties concerned and to the detriment of none. Therefore, it is greatly hoped that this little local family agriculture business may be endorsed by continuance and that its customers be able to count this another special reason to consider themselves fortunate to reside in this Kittitas Valley.

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