

## **Sacramento Bee, February 10, 2008 Letters to the Editor**

### **The blurring of green and blue**

Re "CEQA's being hijacked; where are the enviros?" Feb. 2: This editorial wrongly and unfairly implied that the lawsuit by the Environmental Council of Sacramento challenging the authorization by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the ill-advised Greenbriar development project was a nefarious attempt at "greenmail."

ECOS asked for union support of our action against Greenbriar. Unions provided expert witnesses and assistance with procuring counsel. Union members are co-plaintiffs. No quid pro quo was requested. Union members, like all of us, have an interest in a quality living environment. ECOS welcomes their participation.

The Bee's speculation on labor's motives for cooperating with ECOS only diverts attention from the simple fact that the Greenbriar development is a bad idea. It is within a deep flood basin and undermines the Natomas habitat conservation plan; it is within an airport overflight zone and jeopardizes residents' health because of its proximity to two freeways. It leapfrogs outside the County Urban Service Boundary.

The Bee expresses rhetorical shock that organizations with different perspectives might legitimately agree on the folly of a deeply flawed project. Such a position disregards the overlapping interests of self-identified "environmentalists" and working people. As we confront the mounting costs of past development mistakes, the line between green values and blue-collar values will continue to blur.

- Eric W. Davis, Sacramento

President,

Environmental Council of Sacramento