

Callosa d'en Sarrià
February 2013

Dear Madam,

We are writing you in relation to your participation in **Bèrnia Project**, promoted by *Miragolf S.A.* enterprises. From **Callosa Sostenible** organization, which is composed by citizens from Callosa d'en Sarrià and other towns of *la Marina Baixa*, we worried about a coherent and sustainable development in our town and the rest of the region. We are writing you because we think that you should be conscious about some facts before getting involved in a project like this.

The project is located in a mountain called **Serra de Bèrnia**, in an area that is qualified as Site of Community Interest (SCI) called LIC "Serres de Bèrnia i el Ferrer", and classified as Special Protection Area for Birds (SPAs) (called ZEPA "Muntanyes de la Marina"), both included within the Natura 2000 network of the European Union. This area is part of Callosa d'en Sarrià town, which bases its economy in agricultural development and has approximately 8 000 inhabitants. For the moment, the town has maintained apart from urban pressure that suffer other towns nearby as Benidorm, La Nucia, Altea or l'Alfàs del Pi. This fact makes possible that it conserves its compact urban composition and its traditional social structures and neighbor relationships, which are so valuable in global contemporary context.

The whole region, *la Marina Baixa*, has suffered a massive suburban typology construction that, firstly, has destroyed an environment which is very valuable not only for its ecological importance but also for its beautiful landscape, exhausting the water resources by overuse. It also has spoiled the life quality of the population because of less public equipment, massive use of cars that impacts in less investment for public transport and loss of the social links. In our opinion, this project will be one more step over the destruction of our environment and cultural heritage. What this project raises is not sustainable economically, not ecologically nor sociologically. Moreover, from our point of view that nowadays the disadvantages of suburban typology and mono-functional land use are over-proved in opposition to compact and plural cities.

In promotional videos you talk about balance, adequacy to environment, respect, making city, architecture as a response, as a solution to a problem. It does not seem balanced the construction of more than 2 000 luxury houses in

lands of a town which population would be doubled. Houses the actual inhabitants cannot afford because of their high price. Nothing to say about the adequacy of the golf courts in an area with this kind of climatic conditions. We also do not understand what kind of city will make an intervention which is located some kilometers away from any existing town and where it was planned to arrive by helicopter. So, how and with who is or it can be respectful this kind of intervention? It won't be necessary an architectural solution because nowadays there isn't any problem in Bèrnia mountain. It's quite clear that this project is not based in the needs of the majority of population but in the economic interests of few people.

On the other hand, the legal process that has been followed for implanting the urban plan where this project is included has been plenty of irregularities. About *Bèrnia project*, it has never been exposed to citizens clearly. Organizations as *Callosa Sostenible*, *Ecologistes en Acció* and *Coordinadora d'Estudis Eòlics del Comtat* have presented allegations to Callosa d'en Sarrià Town's Hall. There are also denounces presented at Top Court of Justice which are depending on resolution.

We hope that, as a well-known professional with works that support your international prestige, you would consider your participation in this project. For any doubt or inquiry don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Callosa Sostenible

Callosa d'en Sarrià, la Marina Baixa

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