

Water costs ground airport project

SANTA MARIA, Calif. — The Santa Maria Airport District's proposal to develop a light industrial park with a 36-hole golf course has been grounded because of water problems.

Cost of 728 acre-feet of state water (one acre-foot equals 325,851 gallons) would be \$2 million initially, and about \$350,000 in annual payments. Airport directors termed state

water too expensive.

Airport officials thought this city should foot the bill for state water, since the city has been negotiating to lease the airport golf course.

The city declined.

The airport board is looking for other sources of water. A storm-water retention project is a possibility. Until the water snag is solved, the project won't fly.

According to Hawaiian super

'Golf's good for the atmosphere'

HILO, Hawaii — "Growing turf grass may not be the solution to global warming, but that type grass has a great potential to absorb carbon dioxide."

That was the message from Mauna Kea Beach Hotel golf course superintendent Bob Itamoto to the County Council Planning Committee.

People do not perceive golf courses to be beneficial for open green spaces, as they once did,

Itamoto added.

Controversy surrounding golf courses and contamination of underground and near-shore waters has not helped, said Neil Bustamonte, Mauna Lani Resort course manager.

The days of 100- to 150-acre courses are dwindling. The growing cost of maintaining the courses will contribute to the size reduction of golf courses, Itamoto said.

Landscapes Unlimited a party in contract suit

"Promises, Promises."

Shavertown, Pa., excavator Anthony R. Popple has filed a federal lawsuit alleging the contractor for the proposed Glenmaura National Golf Course in Moosic promised to use him as a subcontractor but gave the work to a competitor. Popple seeks in excess of \$50,000 damages from Landscapes Unlimited.

The suit alleges "the promises and conduct" of Landscapes Unlimited induced Popple to incur out-of-pocket expenses and suffer loss of profits.

Conference center, 36 holes planned for Vernon, N.J.

VERNON, N.J. — Project plans for "Evergreen at Great Gorge," featuring two 18-hole golf courses and a \$3 million clubhouse atop Hamburg Mountain, have been submitted to the Vernon Planning Board Office.

A 400-room conference-center hotel also is part of the project.

Water for irrigation would be obtained from seven ponds at the top of the mountain. Pest control on the golf courses would include both use of pesticides and biological control of insects and would be through "organic" golf course maintenance.

Endangered and threatened species have been sighted near the project site, but developers say the golf courses and hotel can be built without serious detriment to the environment.

Strong opposition to Ooma II complex emerges in Kona

KONA, Hawaii — An 18-hole golf course would be part of an Ooma II development in North Kona where a 550-room hotel, 50-room Japanese style inn, 300 single and multi-family house lots, seven-acre swimming lagoon and a commercial area are planned. But strong opposition has surfaced.

At a state Land Use Commission hearing, state Rep. Mike O'Kieffe accused Ooma II developer Kahala Capital Corporation of seeking land-use approvals so the land could be sold at a profit.

The project application is similar to one rejected by the LUC in 1987 because of concerns over its effect on near-shore waters.

UNFORTUNATELY, BLENDS JUST CAN'T MATCH OUR GREENS GRADES.