TO:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM:

MICHAEL S. LEBRUN MA

GENERAL MANAGER '

DATE:

MAY 22, 2015

AGENDA ITEM F

MAY 27, 2015

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

ITEM

Standing report to your Honorable Board -- Period covered by this report is May 8, 2015 through May 22, 2015.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

Administrative

- On May 20th, the Nipomo Mesa Management Area (NMMA) Technical Group reported the Spring 2015 Key Wells Index is in Severe Shortage conditions. NMMA public water purveyors (NCSD, Golden State WC, Woodlands Mutual WC, and Rural WC) are required to reduce groundwater production by 30%.
- On May 21st, the Board of Directors held a Special Board Meeting and declared Stage III Shortage conditions in accordance with the District's Water Shortage Response and Management Plan. Stage III Response Actions include:
 - ✓ Turn off automated irrigation systems
 - ✓ Provide minimum necessary water to preserve trees and shrubs
 - ✓ Do not drain or fill swimming pools or spas
 - ✓ Do not use water for dust control or construction
 - ✓ Do not wash cars or equipment
 - ✓ Drain ornamental water features
 - ✓ All Stage I and II actions
- In July, the District will begin delivering Supplemental Water via the Nipomo Supplemental Water project. As well, on July 1, District water rates will increase by approximately 30% in order to purchase the new water. Water rates are scheduled to increase by another 9% on November 1. These necessary rate increases will provide a significant 'cost signal' to District customers and further encourage water conservation.
- The District continues to use an active education and outreach program to assist customers with water conservation and reduce the impact of rate increases on customer bills. All customers are encouraged to allow turf areas to 'brown-out' this summer.
- The District encourages community residents to provide reports of any observed water waste. Staff follows up each report received and provides written notice to customers when warranted.
- During April 2014, staff responded to 14 reports of water waste. All reports were followed up on with phone calls, door hangers, or letters to customers. Additionally, staff hung 18 door hangers on accounts who's billing meter read showed anomalously high water usage.
- During April 2014, staff issued 4 leak adjustments at a total value of \$2,413.11.

- On May 6, staff issued notice to affected property owners of the June 10, 2015 hearing regarding delinquent solid waste charges.
- On May 12, 2015, staff sent San Luis Obispo County the District's comments on the proposed Countywide Water Conservation Program and draft Supplemental EIR (Attached).
- May 13, Public Information Director, Jessica Matson, attended SLO County Partners in Water Conservation meeting. Ms. Matson's meeting summary is attached.
- On May 18, staff provided CA SWRCB the District's April 2015 monthly drought report. April 2015 production was 20% lower than April 2013. Report summary is attached.
- On May 19, staff provide a letter of support to CA Senate and Assembly Budget Committees regarding Budget Item 8885 Mandate Reimbursement – see attached.
- On May 20, Director of Engineering and Operations, Peter Sevcik, gave a presentation on District Supplemental Water Project to the local chapter of American Public Works Association (APWA). Mr. Sevcik's presentation slides are attached.

Safety Program

No accidents, incidents, or injuries to report.

Public Outreach

The following Public Outreach Program materials are attached:

- A summary of outreach and education activities
- Press release log and press release
- Chloramine and Fluoride Fact Sheets
- District related news coverage
- District website and social media traffic summary

Supplemental Water Accounting

Supplemental Water Reserved (Will Serve Letter Issued)	-5.8 AFY
Subtotal Net Available Supplemental Water	494.2 AFY
Supplemental Water Assigned (Intent-to-Serve Issued)	-206.3 AFY

NOTES:

- 1.) This accounting includes projects under consideration by your Board at today's meeting if these projects are not approved, their contribution will be removed.
- 2.) 206.3 AFY of water reservations represents approximately \$2.9 million in potential Supplemental Water Capacity Charges.

Connection Report

No new water or sewer connections have been added this year. Over the past ten years, the District has averaged approximately 35 water and 39 sewer connections annually.

See table, next page

Nipomo Community Services District Water and Sewer Connections

END OF MONTH CONNECTION REPORT

	AUG-14	SEPT-14	OCT-14	Nov-14	DEC-14	JAN-15	FEB-15	MAR-15	APR-15
Water Connections (Total)	4321	4322	4322	4324	4325	4325	4325	4325	4325
Sewer Connections (Total)	3112	3112	3112	3112	3112	3112	3112	3112	3112
Meters turned off (Non-payment)	25	15	22	13	41	13	24	13	21
Meters off (Vacant)	45	42	41	40	41	44	39	42	41
Sewer Connections off (Vacant)	16	13	13	12	13	15	11	14	12
New Water Connections	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
New Sewer Connection	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Galaxy & PSHH at Orchard and					_				
Division Sewer Connections billed to the County	464	464	464	468	468	468	468	468	468

Fire Hydrant Metered Use

The District provides limited water sales via metered fire hydrant for construction and other in-District requests and local county projects. Project specific hydrant meters are set upon request and a hydrant located adjacent to the District office is outfitted with a meter for common use.

During the month of April, six project specific hydrants were in service. A combined total of 101 units of water were sold with 83 of those units going to Spiess Construction in support of supplemental water construction. Additionally, 14 units of water were utilized at the common hydrant meter for County projects, including street sweeping.

Other Items and News of Interest

The following are included as attachments to this Report:

- May 21, 2015 LAFCO Meeting Agenda
- Draft SLO Co Water Resource Advisory Committee comments on Laetitia Ag Cluster
- City of San Jose water conservation approach
- April 26 and May 15 Wall Street Journal articles on CA drought
- Twitchell Management Authority Public Hearing Notice, Santa Maria Valley Management Area 2014 Annual Report of Hydrogeologic Conditions.

Meetings

Meetings Attended (telephonically or in person):

- May 11, Director of Engineering and Operations
- May 11, County Energy Watch
- May 12, Regular Board Meeting
- May 12, SWRCB Conference Call, Emergency Water Conservation
- May 14, Planning Commission
- May 14, Quarterly All-Staff Meeting
- May 18, NMMA Technical Group
- May 19, Sewer Rate Consultant
- May 19, Special Counsel on 218 Procedure
- May 20, Director of Outreach
- May 20, APWA Chapter Meeting

ITEM F. MANAGERS REPORT MAY 27, 2015

- May 21, Special Board Meeting
- May 22, Cal Fire Battalion Chief Geoff Money

Meetings Scheduled:

- May 26, Drought Webinar
- May 26, Director of Engineering and Operations
- May 26, Blacklake HOA
- May 27, Regular Board Meeting
- May 27, SLO County Planning & Building
- May 28 and June 4, Management Coordination
- May 29, SLO County Parks
- June 1, NMMA Purveyors
- June 1, Board Officers
- June 3, SLO County Regional Water Management Group
- June 5, Santa Maria Valley Annual Report Presentation

RECOMMENDATION

Staff seeks direction and input from your Honorable Board

ATTACHMENTS

- A. May 12, 2015 Comment Letter to SLO County
- B. SWRCB Drought Report Summary
- C. May 19, 2015 Budget Item 8885 Support Letter
- D. Water Conservation Meeting Summary
- E. Supplemental Water Project Presentation Slides
- F. Education and Outreach Program Summary
- G. May 21, 2015 SLO County LAFCO Agenda
- H. SLO County WRAC draft Laetitia Comments
- I. San Jose Drought Approach
- J. April 26 and May 15, Wall Street Journal Articles
- K. Twitchell Management Authority News Release

May 27, 2015

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ATTACHMENT A

NIPOMO COMMUNITY

BOARD MEMBERS
CRAIG ARMSTRONG, PRESIDENT
DAN GADDIS, VICE PRESIDENT
BOB BLAIR, DIRECTOR
ED EBY, DIRECTOR
DAN WOODSON, DIRECTOR



SERVICES DISTRICT

<u>STAFF</u>

MICHAEL S. LEBRUN, GENERAL MANAGER
LISA BOGNUDA, FINANCE DIRECTOR
PETER SEVCIK, P.E., DIRECTOR OF ENG. & OPS.
MICHAEL W. SEITZ, GENERAL COUNSEL

Celebrating 50 Years of Service to the Community, 1965 - 2015

148 SOUTH WILSON STREET POST OFFICE BOX 326 NIPOMO, CA 93444 - 0326 (805) 929-1133 FAX (805) 929-1932 Website address: ncsd.ca.gov

May 12, 2015

Xzandrea Fowler
San Luis Obispo County
Department of Planning & Building
976 Osos Street
Room 200
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
efowler@co.slo.ca.us

Dear Ms. Fowler:

SUBJECT: PROPOSED COUNTYWIDE WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

On May 12, 2015, the Nipomo Community Services District Board of Directors reviewed the draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) which supports the proposed Countywide Water Conservation Program (Conservation Program). The District appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the draft SEIR and proposed Conservation Program prior to consideration by the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors.

The District offers the following comments and suggestions:

In general, we are concerned that by developing the Conservation Program and drafting the SEIR concurrently, the impact of the final Conservation Program cannot be adequately addressed. As the Program's Project Description and Objectives are still being developed, it is difficult to accurately assess the environmental impacts of the Program.

One of the four Project Objectives is to "Substantially reduce increases in groundwater extraction in basins that have been certified at Level of Severity III." Not only is this objective unclear and unmeasurable, it does not address depletion of a basin that, by the County's criteria, is at the highest level of concern with demand equal to or in excess of available supply. The objective should be revised to adhere to the County's Resource Management System recommended actions for addressing Level of Severity III resources, namely; to reduce the level of severity with a goal of achieving LOS!

A second Project Objective is to "Provide a mechanism to allow new development to proceed in certified LOS III groundwater basins ... in a manner that fully offsets projected water use." At best, this Objective would maintain status quo in a basin that is at LOS III with demand equal to

supply. In basins where demand already exceeds supply, failure to achieve and maintain offsets would result in new permanent demand and further exacerbate the level of severity in the basin.

Offsets result in theoretical water savings – we know a new fixture saves a set amount of water per use or per minute relative to the old fixture, but we don't know how much the device (e.g. sink, toilet, shower) is or will be used, how long it will be in service, and we don't know that it will be used as designed. The value of landscape related offsets are even more problematic to define and rely on over time. For this reason, it is appropriate to use offsets as a means to lessen resource demands of current basin users in LOS III settings, but it is ill advised and inappropriate to use an offset program as the basis for allowing new development with its potential for permanent new resource demands.

A third Project Objective is to "Reduce the wasteful use of water in the County". The objective needs to be strengthened and better defined. Consideration should be given to revising the goal to 'eliminating water waste in the County' and including measurable goals based on reasonable estimates of current levels of water waste in the County.

In 2005, the County Board of Supervisors certified water resources underlying the Nipomo Mesa Water Conservation Area (NMWCA) as LOS III and subsequently adopted Ordinance 3090. The Ordinance requires development and land divisions to pay a water development fee to offset new urban water demand that will result from the development. The land division can then proceed while the development fee is directed to obtain water resources to meet the proposed project's needs. As it is currently unclear how the proposed Conservation Program would affect Ordinance 3090, this interrelationship needs to be discussed in the draft SEIR.

Finally, the draft SEIR must specifically evaluate the water resource impacts of the proposed Conservation Program. As outlined above, we do not believe this impact can be presumed to be positive.

We strongly encourage the County to improve the Project Description and define measurable and meaningful Project Objectives that will serve to address the critical level of severity in the NMWCA. The District Board and staff are committed to assisting in this effort in every way possible.

Sincerely,

NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Vichald Le Orun

Michael S. LeBrun General Manager

Cc (by email): 4th District Supervisor Lynn Compton

4th District Planning Commissioner Jim Harrison 4th District Legislative Assistant Jocelyn Brennan

Director of Planning and Building James A. Bergman

May 27, 2015

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ATTACHMENT B

Michael LeBrun

From:

SWRCB Office Research, Planning & Performance <drinc@waterboards.ca.gov>

Sent:

Monday, May 18, 2015 9:07 AM

To:

Michael LeBrun

Subject:

Monitoring Report Acknowledgement for 0415

Hello Michael LeBrun,

Thank you for your Monitoring Report. Below is the information you have submitted for the month of 0415. If this information is incorrect, please re-submit your report for the month with the corrected information. We use your most recently submitted monthly report in our calculations.

Reporter	Michael LeBrun
Urban Water Supplier/Number	Nipomo Community Services District (406)
Reporting Month	0415
Stage/Mandatory	2 Yes
Days Outside Irrigation	2
Complaints	14
Follow-ups	14
Warnings	10
Penalties	none
Enforcement Actions	
Total Potable Water Production	180 AF
2013 Same Month Monthly Production	224 AF
Residential Use Percentage	84 %
Non-revenue Water	AF
Qualification	
Population	12512
R-GPCD	131
Implementation	
Recycled Water	

Office of Research, Planning & Performance



May 27, 2015

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ATTACHMENT C

NIPOMO COMMUNITY

BOARD MEMBERS
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Celebrating 50 Years of Service to the Community, 1965 - 2015

148 SOUTH WILSON STREET POST OFFICE BOX 326 NIPOMO, CA 93444 - 0326 (805) 929-1133 FAX (805) 929-1932 Website address: ncsd.ca.gov

May 19, 2015

The Honorable Mark Leno, Chair Senate Budget Committee State Capitol, Room 5100 Sacramento, CA 95814 The Honorable Shirley Weber, Chair Assembly Budget Committee State Capitol, Room 6026 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Budget Item 8885 Mandate Reimbursement - Support

Dear Senator Leno and Assembly Member Weber:

Nipomo Community Services District is pleased to support Budget Item 8885 which provides the funding for pre-2004 mandate reimbursement through the Commission on State Mandates. Nipomo Community Services District porovides our residents with water, wastewater, solid waste franchise, street lighting in our Blacklake Division, and drainage.

The state owes special districts, cities, and counties \$1.8 billion in reimbursable mandates. \$765 million of this debt is attributable to pre-2004 mandates. Proposition 1A of 2004 constitutionally required the state to repay these mandates and reimburse local agencies for new mandates going forward. The 2014 Budget Act included "trigger language" to, after satisfying Prop 98, use any state revenue above projections for this purpose.

Nipomo Community Services District supports honoring the 2014 Budget Act trigger language to pay down the "Wall of Debt" owed to local agencies for over a decade. Once paid back, these funds will be used to provide infrastructure and essential services at the local level.

While Budget Item 8885 puts \$765 million toward state mandate debt, we look forward to exploring options for the state to repay the remaining \$1 billion of mandate debts in ways that make sense for both local agencies and the state.

For these reasons, Nipomo Community Services District is pleased to support Budget Item 8885. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely.

Michael S. LeBrun, General Manager

cc: Mark Ibele, Chief Consultant, Senate Budget Committee Joe Shinstock, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus Genevieve Morelos, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee Anthony Archie, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus Michael Cohen, Finance Director, Department of Finance Senator William W. Monning Assemblymember Katcho Achadjian California Special Districts Association May 27, 2015

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ATTACHMENT D

Partners in Water Conservation Meeting Water Purveyors of SLO County May 13, 2015

Present: City of SLO, City of Arroyo Grande, Atascadero Mutual, Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District, County Public Works, City of Morro Bay, Templeton CSD, County-Cayucos/Shandon/Santa Margarita, Nipomo CSD, Los Osos CSD, UC Cooperative Extension

Storm Water Rewards Program

Nicole, Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District

- Rebates for people to convert landscapes into rain gardens
- The RSC has an irrigation evaluation program (handed out brochure)
- 2 yr contract with the property owner (challenges with this approach)
- Check out Green Gardener training for landscapers
- Our area would benefit from a regional clearinghouse and the RCD would like to help
- Nicole will send a survey to the group to determine needs

SLO Waterwise Landscaping Website

- The website will be undergoing some changes:
 - Cosmetic
 - o Restructuring of menu bars to make it more user friendly
 - o Addition of water calculator
 - Improved plant list
- Christie, botanist with the County, will also be writing descriptions and benefits of each plant
- Nola with the County will send out information to the group regarding cost for these upgrades
- Ron and Nola will see if the web designer can come show the improvement ideas to the group before implementation

Round Table - Response to State Mandates

Ron, City of SLO:

- The City is currently deferring landscaping for new development; no spray irrigation
- Voluntary conservation program through July; will mandate conservation after July, if necessary
- Use a GIS system in conjunction with the billing system so customers can compare their water usage with neighbors' water usage

Jaime, Atascadero Mutual:

- Board just adopted a drought water rate structure (increased from 5 tiers to 6)
- Commercial surcharge for any excess over water usage in 2013 (ex. 8 units over x rate at 2013 tier)
- 2 days/week watering
- Sent over 600 letters to high users and send postcards out to customers
- Hired a PT conservation specialist to handle rebates, etc.
- Have radio spots with Templeton CSD and the County

City of Arroyo Grande:

- City Council passed an Ordinance for penalty enforcement
 - Phase II of Ordinance will be no outdoor watering
- Working on a Resolution with penalty information and conservation tips
- Focusing on residential only
- Hired a marketing firm, Barnett Cox & Associates, with Pismo and Grover to develop an outreach campaign

o ThinkH2Onow.com

Nola, County - Cayucos/Santa Margarita/Shandon:

- Focusing on educating the public
- 2 day/week watering
- Putting together a regional commercial for KCOY
 - O Will run for the 3 summer months
 - \$3,000 total
 - o Will reach out to group to partner in cost/content cost will be based on # of connections
 - Will reach out to KSBY as well

Jason, Los Osos CSD:

- Also hired marketing firm, Barnett Cox, to develop an outreach campaign/items
- Conservation items such as shower times, shower heads, etc have been very popular AM Conservation
- Has followed Nipomo CSD's idea of vehicle wrapping and are wrapping two of their vehicles

Templeton CSD:

- Focusing on education and outreach
- Will be getting into the schools to educate children about conservation

Upcoming Meetings

- The group would like to meet more regularly due to the drought and to help each other with conservation efforts
- Next meeting will be in June to discuss the regional commercial and possibly the upgrades to the SLO water wise landscaping website

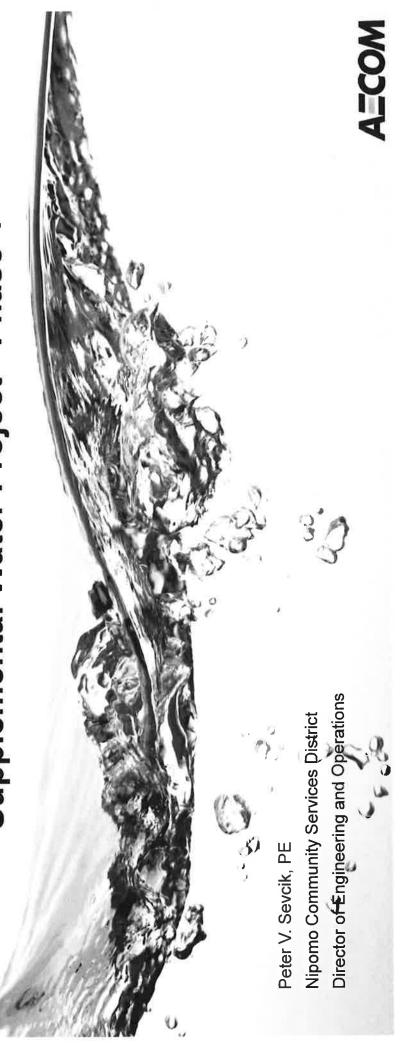
May 27, 2015

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ATTACHMENT E



Supplemental Water Project - Phase 1



Agenda

- District History and Service Area Overview
- Project Planning and Development Summary
- Project Components
- Construction Overview and Progress
- Questions

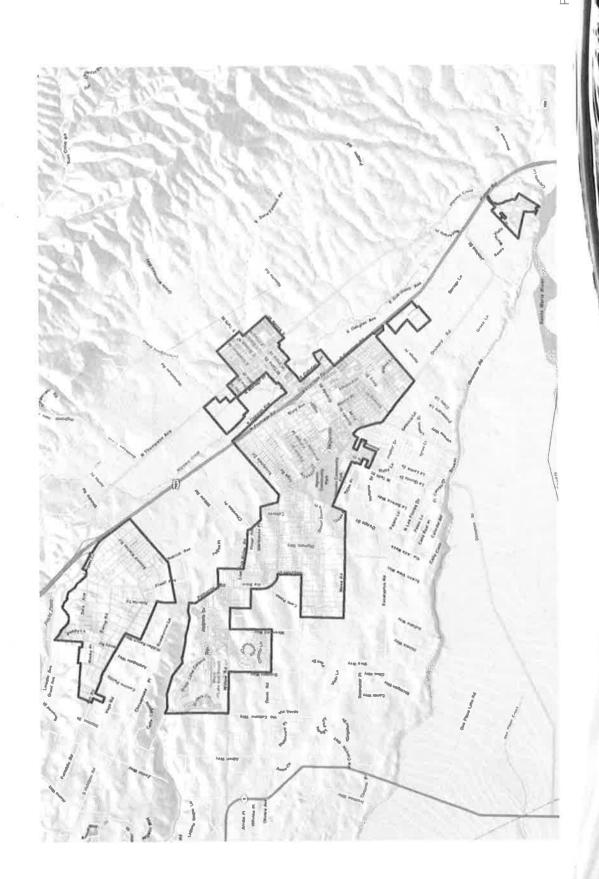


District History and Service Area Overview

- Community Services District founded on January 28, 1965
- Formed to address water and sewer problems in Nipomo
- Initial water system built in 1966 at a cost of \$650,000
- Initial wastewater collection system and wastewater treatment plant built in 1985
- Completed \$11.5 million upgrade of Southland WWTF in ate 2014
- Currently provide water, sewer, and solid waste services to population of approximately 12,000



District Service Area



age 5

Project Planning and Development - History

- Nipomo currently has one source of water groundwater
- Over the years, District has commissioned multiple studies analyzing supplemental water supply options:
- Santa Maria Intertie
- Santa Maria Groundwater
- Desalination
- Oso Flaco Lake surface water
- State water
- Nacimiento pipeline
- Recycled wastewater

age 6

Project Planning and Development - History

- Groundwater comes from the Nipomo Mesa Management Area (NMMA) of the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin
- Basin litigation started in 1997
- In 2008, Court issued Final Judgement that approved 2005 stipulation 0
- 2005 stipulation requires importation of 2,500 acre-feet of Supplemental Water into NMMA each year 0

Project Team

- District Staff
- Design Engineer AECOM
- Construction Manager MNS Engineers, Inc.
- General Contractor ARB, Inc. BP #1 - Santa Maria River Crossing
- General Contractor D-KAL Engineering, Inc. BP #3 – Blosser Road Waterline
- General Contractor Spiess Construction Co., Inc. BP #4 - Joshua Road Pump Station



age 8

Project Planning and Development **Design Parameters**

- of Santa Maria at a maximum rate of 2,000 gpm (500 AFY for infill Supply – 3,000 acre-feet per year of potable water from the City development within District service area)
- Delivery Flows to District to be constant over 24-hour period of each
- <u>Transmission</u> Connect City of Santa Maria system to District system
- Quality Convert District well disinfection to chloramines to match City of Santa Maria disinfection process

Project Planning and Development - Concept

- Concept Design Report identified infrastructure:
- Connection to City of Santa Maria system at Taylor and Blosser 0
- 5000 LF 18 inch DIP transmission main and metering facilities along Blosser to the levee 0
- 30 inch HDPE river crossing by Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) 270 LF Jack and Bore, 860 LF 24 inch DIP open cut and 2600 LF of to top of Nipomo Mesa 0
- .5 MG semi-buried reservoir at top of the Nipomo Mesa and a 2000 gpm booster pump station 0
- 1750 LF 24 inch DIP transmission main and pressure-reducing station at connection to District system 0
- 16,000 LF 12 inch DIP in-system improvements and 4 pressurereducing stations

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Project Planning and Development - Phasing

- Phase 1:
- 650 AFY Capacity
- Connection to City of Santa Maria system at Taylor and Blosser
- Transmission main and metering facilities along Blosser to the levee 0
- River crossing by Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) to top of Nipomo Mesa 0
- Booster pump station with 400 gpm pumps 0
- Fransmission main and pressure-reducing station at connection to District system 0
- Improvements grouped into three Bid Packages as Supplemental Water Project (SWP) Phase 1

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Sage 11

SWP Phase 1 – Bid Package Overview

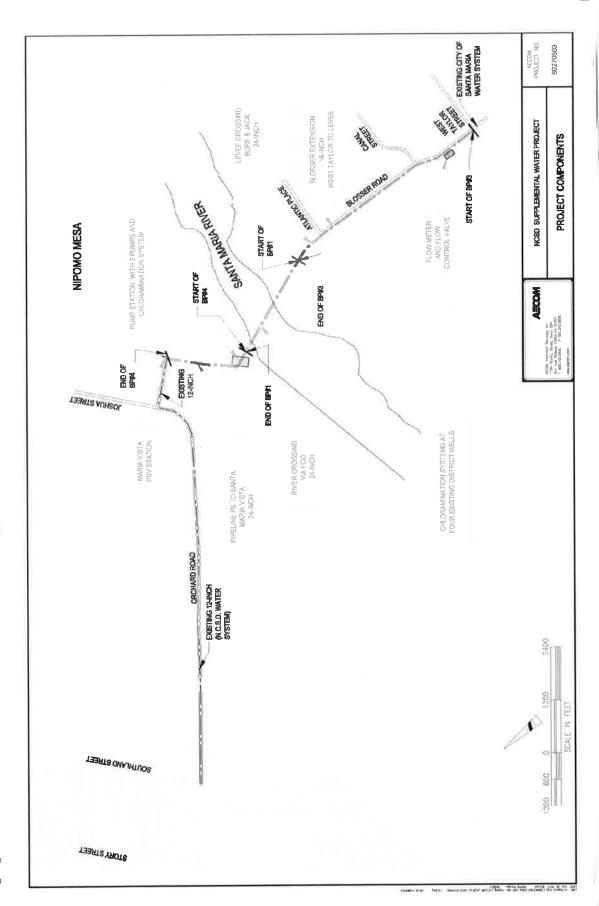
- Bid Package 1 Santa Maria River Crossing
- 2600 LF 30-inch HDPE waterline installed under Santa Maria River by Horizontal Directional Drilling 0
- Bid Package 3 Blosser Road Water Main
- 5,000 LF of 24-inch DIP transmission main along Blosser 0
- 270 LF jack and bore under Santa Maria River south levee
- 860 LF deep DIP transmission main to BP1 connection point 0

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SWP Phase 1 – Bid Package Overview

- Bid Package 4 Joshua Road Pump Station and Wellhead Chloramination Improvements
- 400 gpm (2,000 gpm future) booster pump station with 2 (of 4 total future) vertical turbine can mounted pumping units
- 1750 LF of 24-inch DIP transmission main 0
- Pressure reducing station
- Chloramination systems at four District wells 0
- Metering vault along Blosser Road

Supplemental Water Project Phase 1 - Overview



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Bid Package 1 - Santa Maria River Crossing

- 2,600 foot HDD Crossing
- 30-inch OD HDPE Pipe
- 110 foot elevation difference
- Midpoint Intercept
- Environmental Habitat

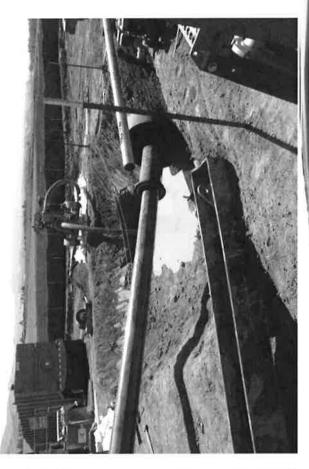




Bid Package 1 - Santa Maria River Crossing **Ground Conditions**

- 54-inch conductor barrels
- Electromagnetic Coil and Probe Guidance System
- Two drill strings at 1,450 feet and 1,150 feet respectively





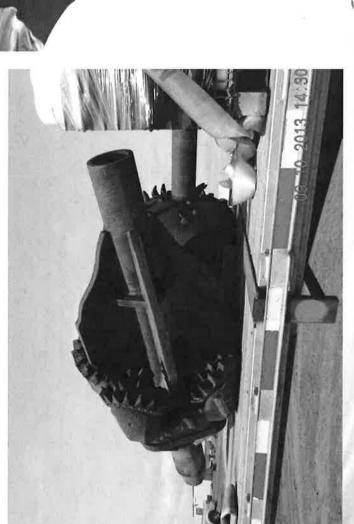
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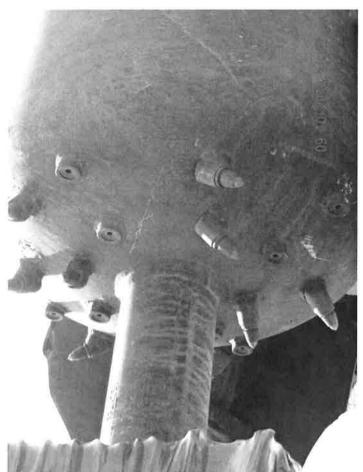
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Bid Package 1 – Santa Maria River Crossing

Reaming

- Reamed from river toward Nipomo Mesa
- 26, 36, and 42-inch passes

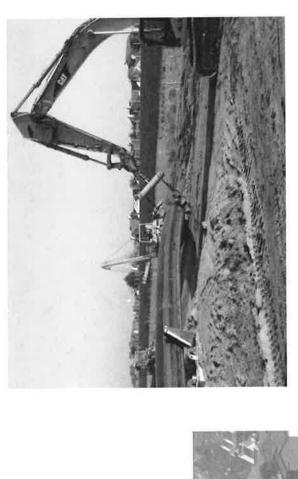


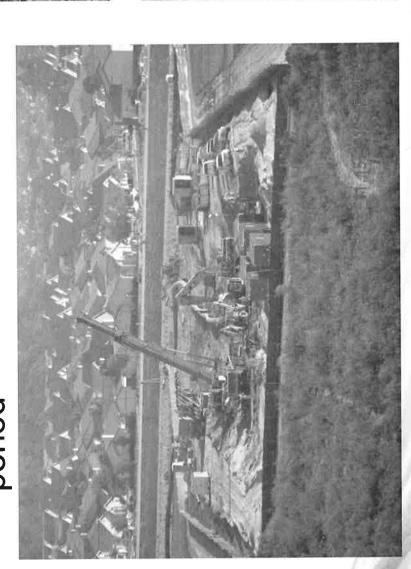


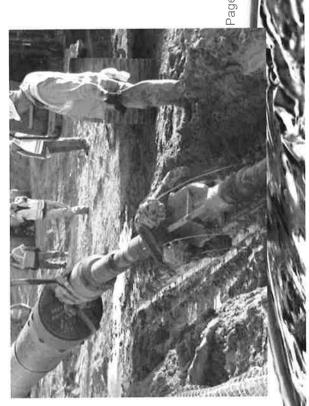
Bid Package 1 – Santa Maria River Crossing

Pullback

 2600 LF continuous pullback over a 12-hour period







Bid Package 3 - Blosser Road Water Main

Pipeline Inside Levee

- Tie-in to BP1 (deep pipe)
- 860 LF 24-inch DIP



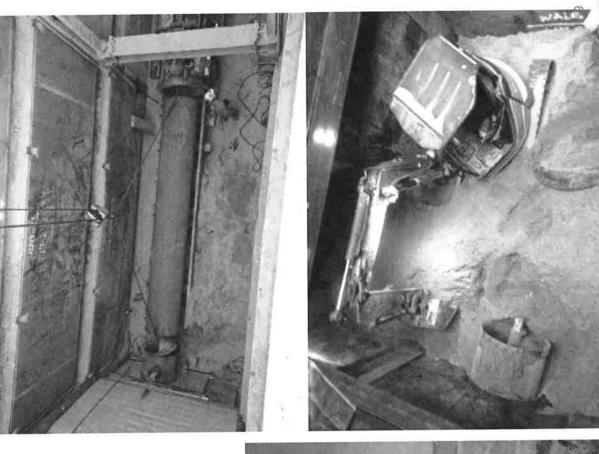


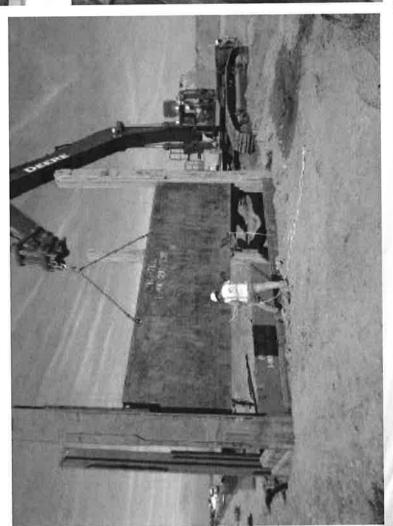


Bid Package 3 - Blosser Road Water Main

Levee Jack and Bore

- 270 foot jack and bore
- Engineered jacking and receiving pits



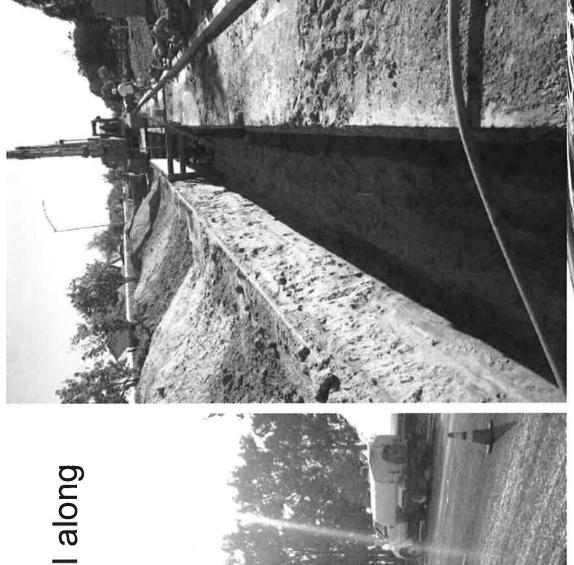


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Bid Package 3 - Blosser Road Water Main

Blosser Pipeline

• 5,000 LF 24-inch DI along Blosser Road

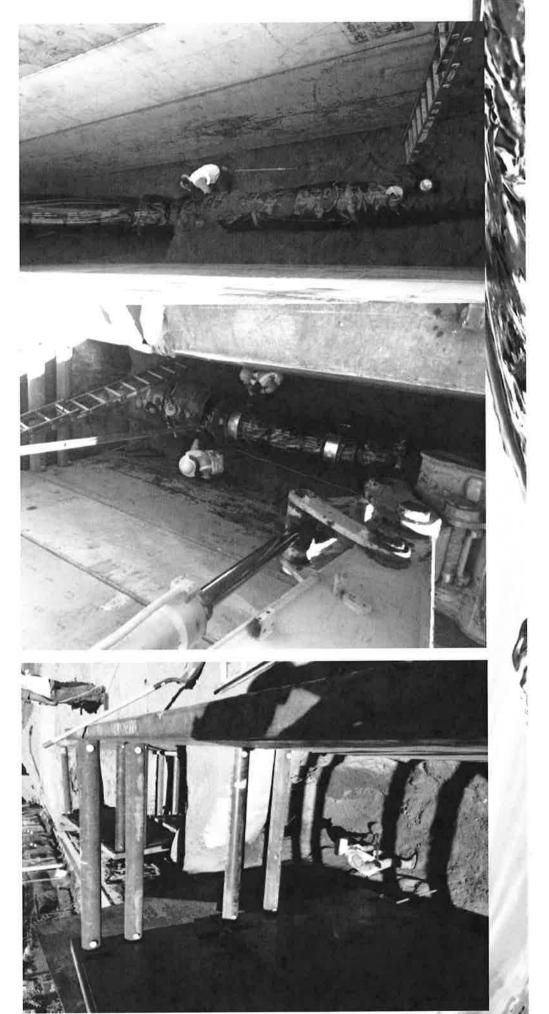




Bid Package 3 - Blosser Road Water Main

Storm Drain Crossings

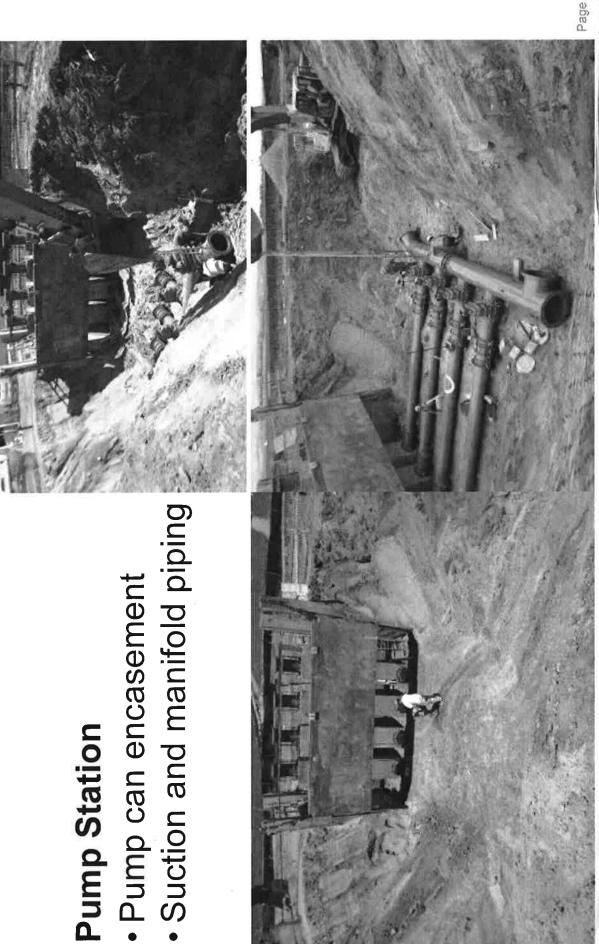
48 and 72 inch Storm Drain Crossings



Pump Station

- Site grading
 Installation of pump cans





Pump Station

- Inlet pipe
- Piglaunching port
- connection reservoir • Future









Pump Station Building

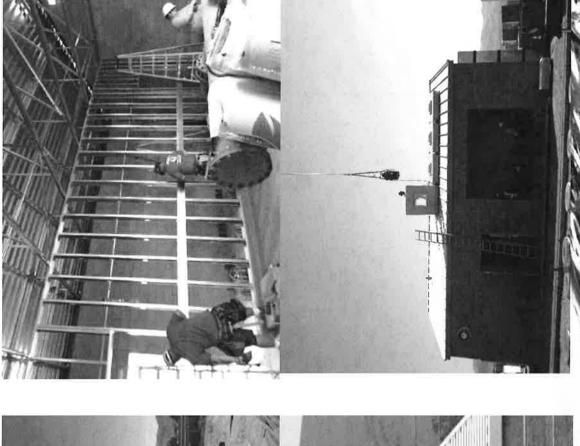


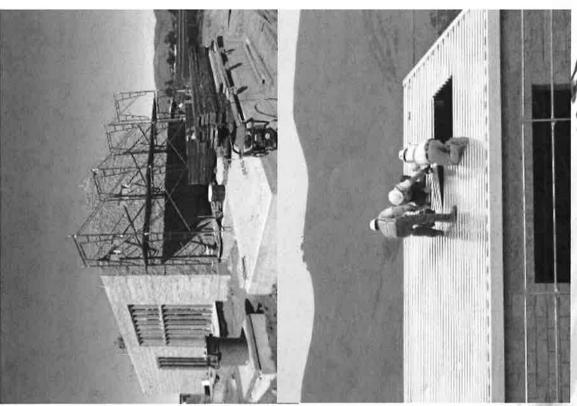




Pump Station Building and Site

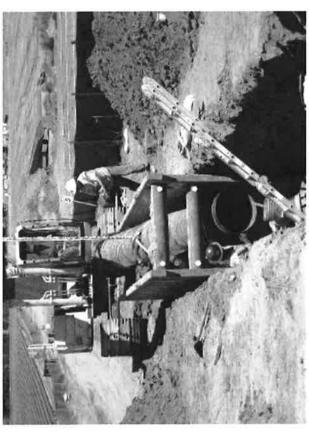






Access Road Pipeline

- 1,750 LF 24-inch DI
- Pressure-reducing station

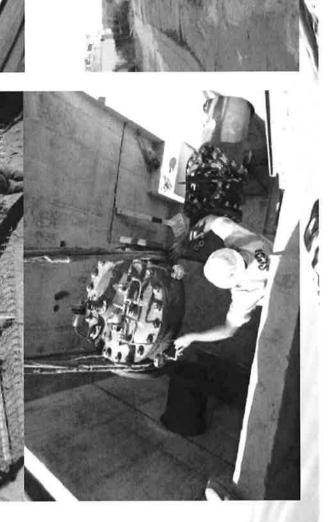






Blosser Meter and Flow Control Valve Vaults

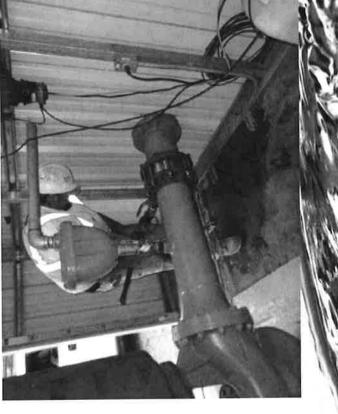


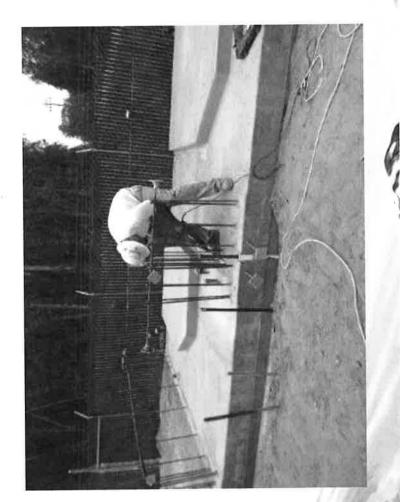


Well Chloramination Systems

- Sodium Hypochlorite
 - Ammonium Sulfate
 - Static Mixers
- Analyzers







SWP Phase 1 Capital Construction Costs

Bid Package 1 – Santa Maria River Crossing \$6,068,300

\$2,841,600 Bid Package 3 - Blosser Road Watermain Bid Package 4 - Joshua Road Pump Station \$5,304,400

Total Projected Construction Costs

\$14,214,300

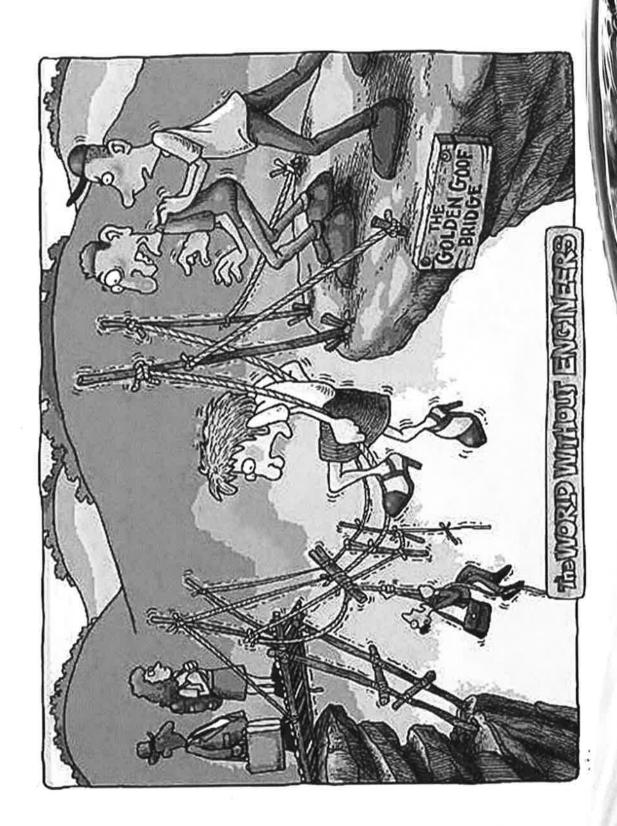


³age 31

SWP Phase 1 Schedule

- Bid Package 1 Santa Maria River Crossing
- August 2013 to December 2013
- Bid Package 3 Blosser Road Watermain
- December 2013 to March 2015
- Bid Package 4 Joshua Road Pump Station
- December 2013 to June 2015

Questions



Contact Information

Peter Sevcik, PE psevcik@ncsd.ca.gov 805.929.1133



May 27, 2015

F

ATTACHMENT F

NCSD Outreach Summary May 2015

Date Started	Outreach	Description	Status	Date Completed
2/28/2014	Brochure	Creation of "Detecting Leaks" insert for "Water Meter" brochure	In Progress	
7/10/2014	Emergency Communication Plan	Development of District's Emergency Communications Plan	In Progress	
10/9/2014	Spanish Brochure	Translation of "13 Ways to Conserve Water at Home" brochure	In Progress	
3/31/2015	Supplemental Water Delivery	Update of Project FAQs	In Progress	
4/1/2015	Ad	District ad in 2015-2016 Nipomo Directory	In Progress	
3/18/2015	Drought Messaging	Development of District's messaging in response to State restrictions; publish information	Complete; Ongoing	4/17/2015
4/9/2015	Drought Messaging	FAQ One-Sheet	Complete	4/17/2015
4/1/2015	Supplemental Water Delivery	Scheduling of Info Sessions on June 23rd	Complete	4/20/2015
4/20/2015	Chamber Email Blast	Conservation Tip for Chamber of Commerce weekly email update	Complete	4/20/2015
4/20/2015	Ad	Conservation 1/4 page ad in 4/24 Adobe	Complete	4/21/2015
4/17/2015	Manager's Column	Article 26 for Manager's Column in Adobe Press, pub date 5/1	Complete	4/24/2015
4/27/2015	Chamber Email Blast	Conservation Tip for Chamber of Commerce weekly email update	Complete	4/27/2015
4/28/2015	Workshop	Distribution of materials at Blacklake waterwise landscaping workshop 4/28	Complete	4/28/2015
4/30/2015	Chamber Newsletter	Conservation ad for Chamber of Commerce May newsletter	Complete	4/30/2015
4/27/2015	Notice	Publishing of Resolution 2015- 1374 Revised WSRMP in Legal section	Complete	5/1/2015
5/4/2015	Chamber Email Blast	Conservation Tip for Chamber of Commerce weekly email update	Complete	5/4/2015

NCSD Outreach Summary May 2015

Date Started	Outreach	Description	Status	Date Completed
4/3/2015	District Newsletter	2015 2nd quarter newsletter for May distribution	Complete	5/5/2015
4/28/2015	Bill Insert	Bill Insert regarding Misc fees for May/June bills	Complete	5/5/2015
5/6/2015	Ad	Conservation 1/4 page ad in 5/15 Adobe	Complete	5/6/2015
5/6/2015	CSDA Public Affairs Workgroup	1st conference call of group	Complete	5/6/2015
4/17/2015	Website Updates	Home page; minutes; calendar; community announcements; construction reports; reports; etc	Complete; Ongoing	5/7/2015
4/17/2015	Social Media	Content posting	Complete; Ongoing	5/7/2015
5/4/2015	Drinking Water Week	Social Media/Website posts regarding Drinking Water Week May 3rd-9th	Complete	5/9/2015
5/11/2015	Chamber Email Blast	Conservation Tip for Chamber of Commerce weekly email update	Complete	5/11/2015
5/13/2015	Partners in Water Conservation SLO County	Attendance of Partners in Water Conservation meeting in SLO	Complete	5/13/2015
5/14/2015	Door Hanger Tags	Notice on door hangers regarding increase of fees beginning July 1st	Complete	5/14/2015
5/14/2015	Handout	One-sheet FAQ handouts on SW disinfection change	Complete	5/15/2015
5/15/2015	Notice	Publishing of Notice in local newspaper of Public Hearing for 2015-2016 Budget	Complete	5/15/2015
5/15/2015	Notice	Publishing of Notice in local newspaper of Public Hearing for the Landscape Maintenance District	Complete	5/15/2015
5/15/2015	Notice	Publishing of Notice in local newspaper of Public Hearing for Solid Waste Charges	Complete	5/15/2015
5/15/2015	Notice	Publishing of Notice in local newspaper of Public Hearing for Blacklake Street Lighting	Complete	5/15/2015

NCSD Outreach Summary May 2015

Date Started	Outreach	Description	Status	Date Completed
5/18/2015	Chamber Email Blast	Conservation Tip for Chamber of Commerce weekly email update	Complete	5/18/2015
5/15/2015	Press Release	Historic Project Nears Completion – New Water is Even Better	Complete	5/18/2015
5/18/2015	Ad	Conservation 1/4 page ad in 5/22 Adobe	Complete	5/18/2015
4/16/2015	Drought Messaging	Development of summer "brown out" campaign	Complete	5/20/2015
5/18/2015	Press Release	Court Appointed Technical Group Releases Spring 2015 Index; Area Groundwater in Severe Shortage Condition; Nipomo CSD Calls Special Meeting	Complete	5/20/2015
5/8/2015	Social Media	Content posting	Complete; Ongoing	5/21/2015
5/8/2015	Website Updates	Home page; minutes; community announcements; reports; etc	Complete; Ongoing	5/21/2015
5/18/2015	CCR	2014 Consumer Confidence Report	In Progress	
5/18/2015	Press Release	Board Declares Stage III Water Shortage Conditions and Moves Forward with Response Plan	In Progress	
5/21/2015	Manager's Column	Article 27 for Manager's Column in Adobe Press, pub date 5/29	In Progress	
5/21/2015	Brown is the New Green Campaign	Data collection for letters to top water users	In Progress	

OPINION

Balance people's needs with safety of the community

have been employed at the Phillips 60 Santa Maria Retinery for nearly 14 years. I have been a resident of the Central Coast since 1988 and have raised three children here. I am an avid cyclist and have much respect for the beauty of this area and of the need to runder tour

the need to protect our environm ent.

the need to protect our environment. I am also a pragmatist in realizing I would never have been able to stay on the Central Coast and raise my family here without a good paying jeb, which the refinery provided.

Prior to my employment at the refinery provided, a prior to my employment at the refinery, I spent 22 years working on liqueffed matural gas tanhers. During those years, there was much fear that LNG tankers were time bombs that would explode and full thousands.

The predictions of that

The predictions of that fear mongering never materialized. Our ships sailed for 22 years and delivered millions of tons of LNG without incident.

KLUNK!

MEST WHY DON'T

YOU WATCH WHAT

RUBES

Guest Commentary

Similarly, the railways deliver milions of gallons of crude oil and chemicals throughout the nation

of crude oil and chemicals throughout the nation with very few incidents. I have altended several of the public meetings on the proposed Philips 50 rail spur project. The concerns oil the groups that oppose the rail spur may seem logical to the general public, but they are also deserving and full of fear mongering. The fact is that the Bakken crude that has been involved in high-profile rail accidents in recent years will not be transported to the refinery, since this refinery cannot process that type of crude oil. The public needs to understand that crude and chemicals are already being transported safely through our county. There is inherent risk in

any enterprise. There is more risk in driving your car down Highway 101 than there is from the trains that come through our county. At the Gover Beach City Council meeting, one opponent stated are felt she would

one opponent stated, she fell she would have to move because she was in the "blast zone" of a potential derailment. I couldn't help but think that I was also in the "blast zone," and then I thought, I am also in the Diablo Canyon evacuation are earthquake fault lines. I also shought that If there were a tsunami, my home would be flooded. Maybe I should move away from this terribly dangerous area. I think not. Life is full of choices and risks. No one wants

and risks. No one wats a disaster to occur.
Mitigalion of risk and safety are our primary concerns. Common some tells us that we need to balance the needs of the people and the safety of the hard working.

As the representative of the hard working the community.
As the representative of the hard working the community.

As the representative of the hard working the refinery who live here, raise their families here and spend their hard same here and the refinery who live here. I support the rail spur project. and risks. No one wants

Lionel Senes was recently elected president of United Steelworkers Local 534, which represents 69 members of the work force at the Phillips 66 Santa Maria Befinery.

KRANKY



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Putting blame on a president

1 am responding to a recent letter, "Show respect for president." Just because a person has a certain title or holds a certain office does not mean they automatically command

automatically command respect. A person has to earn respect.

The mess we are in its turper due to the president. I know most media will tell you this is not true, so I suggest you get your news from a fair and belanced news source so you know the Intil. so you know the truth. Judith L Wiltse

Congress fails U.S. veterans

So the Veteran's Choice

So, the Veteran's Choice program is not working. Surprise. It was determined that it would take \$60 billion to dispose of the backlog and streamline veterans' benefits. Congress thought wels were only worth a

sixth of that and approved \$10 billion. And now there is confu-tion about why it is not working. Sorry, fellow wels, Congress is not in your corner.

Rick Tibben N≃000

Racial profiting:

Two views

In the past year there
has been controversy over
whether police are racially
profiling the public or not.
Racial profiling is a term
used when a police officer
engages in enforcement
based on someone's race
or ethnicity.
There have been many
controversies in the past
year based off this unlawful practice, and, sadly,
may appended the base for
their lives from it.
One of the biggest controversies was the case of
a cop and binheal Brown,
an unammed teenager.
Another recruit case
that shocked the ration
was the dilling of an
unammed New York City

nore rational decision-when it comes to con-fronting suspects? Raymond Barron Narono

Want to sound off about something? Send us your thoughts and ideas in a letter to the editor. Letters should be kept to 500 words or less but may be

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

edited for content and length. Letters can be emailed to etters the central contrarios com, fased to 928-557; or maked in the 144-557;

93456-0400
Be sure to include your name an email address or phone number and your hometown.

addresses are not published but are used by the editorial staff for venication purposes. For more aformation, call editor Mike Hodgson at 739-2221.









Jessica Matson

From:

Nipomo Chamber of Commerce <info@nipomochamber.org>

Sent:

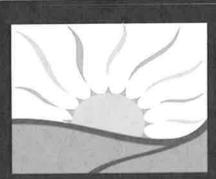
Tuesday, May 12, 2015 12:52 PM

To:

Jessica Matson

Subject:

Monday News on Tuesday! May 12, 2015



Nipomo

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Richard Malvarose Chamber President Nipomo Properties

Monday News - on Tuesday!

May 12, 2015

Nipomo Chamber of Commerce

May Mixer Smith's Alarms & Electronics

Thursday, May 14th
3634 Orcutt Rd.
Santa Maria
5:00-7:00pm

Our monthly Business Mixers provide two hours of power networking for Chamber members.
Building relationships and making business connections at these networking events are key strategies for small business success. Come enjoy food, beverages and door prizes.

Chamber Hours

Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm

239 W. Tefft St. Nipomo, CA 93444

Office: 805.929.1583 Fax: 805.929.5835 info@nipomochamber.org

For Info Contact:

Amber Wilson
Executive Director

amber@nipomochamber.org

Platinum Sponsor

Rabobank

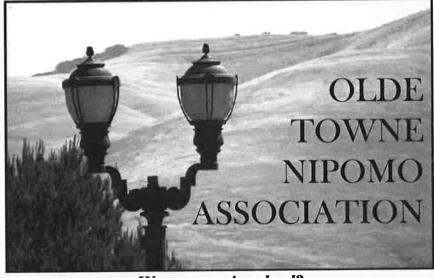
Nipomo

President's Circle Sponsors

Community Health
Centers

Nipomo Recreation





Want to get involved?
Group meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at the Nipomo Chamber of Commerce
11:30am
239 W. Tefft St.
Nipomo

OTNA's Non Profit Group of Nipomo residents, business owners and ranchers are dedicated to maintaining and improving the area known as Olde Towne
Nipomo

Become a Nipomo Chamber



Supplemental Water – Chloramine Facts

With delivery of supplemental water, the disinfectant in the District's water supply will be switched from chlorine to chloramine. The District is making this change to ensure system compatibility with the new water received from Santa Maria.

What are "chloramines"?

Chloramines are a type of drinking water disinfectant that are formed when chlorine is combined with a small amount of ammonia.

Chlorine and chloramines -- what's the difference between these disinfectants?

Chlorine is most commonly used because it's quick, effective, safe, and the least expensive method of water disinfection. However, chlorine can also form regulated chemical compounds called "disinfection byproducts" when it mixes with naturally occurring organic compounds found in surface water. **Chloramines are safe and effective** and they reduce the formation of disinfection byproducts in potable water supplies that include surface water sources - like our new supplemental water supply.

Are chloramines safe?

Yes. Chloramines have been used for disinfection purposes for more than 90 years and are approved by state water quality regulators.

Are there special considerations for chloramines?

Yes, the following can be impacted by chloramines:

- kidney dialysis
- aquariums

Kidney Dialysis

Medical centers that perform dialysis are responsible for purifying the water that enters the dialysis machines to ensure they don't have chlorine, chloramines or other substances. Persons with home dialysis machines should check with their physician or equipment supplier to ensure purification techniques will remove chloramines. Please contact your doctor and dialysis equipment provider for more information.

Aquariums

Chlorine and ammonia are toxic to all fish. Chloramines can stay in the water for several weeks, so a dechloraminating agent must be added to remove them. This includes the water for both freshwater and saltwater aguariums. Check with your local pet or fish store.



Nipomo Community Services District

How much of a dechloraminating agent, or what type of filter should be used?

Pet stores should have a product that will quickly neutralize both the chlorine and ammonia molecules. Also, ask your pet supplier about types of filtration equipment that can be used.

Will reverse osmosis systems remove chloramines?

No. Salts can be caught by the reverse osmosis systems, but chloramines pass through easily.

Can persons with kidney ailments, diabetes, or on low-sodium diets drink chloraminated water?

Yes. People with medical conditions should consult their doctor, but in general, chloraminated water can be used to drink, bathe, and clean with. It can be used for any other purpose except for dialysis treatment.

What about people who are sensitive to chemicals?

The amount of chloramines will be extremely small – typically 1.5 parts per million and no more than 4 parts per million can be expected in the District water supply. The ratio will be approximately five parts chlorine to one part ammonia to form monochloramine. If you are concerned that this small amount of ammonia could cause problems for you, consult your physician. Additionally, Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filters on your home's water supply, if properly maintained, can remove the chloramines.

Do home water softeners remove chloramines?

Softeners that have a Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filter may be effective at removing chloramines.

Will chloramines harm plants?

No. It is safe to water plants of any type, including ornamentals, vegetables, fruit and nut trees.

Are chloramines new?

No. Many counties and cities in the U.S. have used chloramines for decades. Chloramines have been approved by the US EPA for use as a municipal drinking water disinfectant for decades.

Will chloramination affect routine household water uses?

No. Chloramination will not affect routine water uses such as food preparation, household laundering and dishwashing, watering plants, etc.

Source: Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Nipomo Community Services | 805 929-1133 | www.ncsd.ca.gov | info@ncsd.ca.gov



Supplemental Water – Fluoridation Facts

The District does not add fluoride to its water supply; however, the City of Santa Maria adds safe and approved amounts of fluoride. The District will not add fluoride, so District water will contain fluoride at levels equal to or less than found in the City's water. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), "community water fluoridation has been a safe and healthy way to effectively prevent tooth decay. The CDC has recognized water fluoridation as one of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century. The proper amount of fluoride from infancy through old age helps prevent and control tooth decay."

Safe

- The safety and benefits of fluoride are well documented and have been reviewed comprehensively by several scientific and public health organizations.
- No convincing scientific evidence has been found linking community water fluoridation (CWF) with any
 potential adverse health effect or systemic disorder such as an increased risk for cancer, Down
 syndrome, heart disease, osteoporosis and bone fracture, immune disorders, low intelligence, renal
 disorders, Alzheimer's disease, or allergic reactions.
- Documented risks of CWF are limited to dental fluorosis, a change in dental enamel that is primarily cosmetic in its most common form. In the United States today, most dental fluorosis is of the mildest form, with no effect on how teeth look or function.

Effective

- The US Community Preventive Services Task Force issued a strong recommendation in 2001 and again in 2013 for CWF for the prevention and control of tooth decay.
- Water fluoridation prevents tooth decay by providing frequent and consistent contact with low levels
 of fluoride, ultimately reducing tooth decay by about 25% in children and adults.
- Schoolchildren living in fluoridated communities on average have 2.25 fewer decayed teeth compared with similar children not living in fluoridated communities.

Reduce Disparities

 CWF has been identified as the most cost-effective method of delivering fluoride to all members of the community regardless of age, educational attainment, or income level.

Cost-Saving

 By preventing tooth decay, CWF has been shown to save money, both for families and the health care system.



Nipomo Community Services District

 The return on investment for CWF varies with size of the community, increasing as the community size increases. CWF is cost-saving—even for small communities.

Public Health Achievement

- Because of its contribution to the dramatic decline in tooth decay over the past 70 years, CDC named
 CWF 1 of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century.
- In 2012, more than 210 million people, or nearly 75% of the U.S. population served by public water supplies, drank water with optimal fluoride levels to prevent tooth decay.

International Fluoride Use

- Nearly all developed countries practice fluoridation, just not always through water. Instead, salt is often used as the primary way of providing fluoride to the public.
- The World Health Organization supports fluoridation of water, salt, and milk as a way to reduce dental decay.

Source: Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT ADOPTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 BUDGET

DATE:

JUNE 10, 2015

TIME:

9:00 A.M.

PLACE:

District Office, 148 S. Wilson, Nipomo CA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

- 1. The District General Manager has prepared a proposed final Budget which is available for inspection, during regular District business hours, at the District Office at 148 South Wilson, Nipomo, California.
- 2. On June 10, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. at the District Office, located at 148 South Wilson, Nipomo, California, the Board of Directors will meet to consider the final budget.
- 3. At the time and place specified in this Notice any person may appear to be heard regarding any item in the Budget, or regarding the addition of any other items.
- 4. The hearing on the Budget may be continued from time to time.

If you should have questions related to the Budget, please contact the Finance Director at (805) 929-1133 or email lbognuda@ncsd.ca.gov.

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 27 AND JUNE 3, 2015

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT TO

CONSIDER DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO LEVY ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE STREET LANDSCAPE AND MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NO. 1 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Nipomo Community Services District ("NCSD") has, by previous Petition and Resolutions, formed the Nipomo Community Services District 's Street Landscape Maintenance District No. 1 (hereinafter referred to as "Street Landscape Maintenance District No. 1") and initiated proceedings for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 pursuant to the provisions of the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, Streets and Highways Code of California, beginning with Section 22500 (hereinafter referred to as "Act") that provides for the levy and collection of assessments by the County of San Luis Obispo for the Nipomo Community Services District to pay for the maintenance and services of all improvements and facilities related thereto; and

WHEREAS, the Street Landscape Maintenance District No. 1 and the associated assessments are in compliance with the provisions of California Constitution Article XIIID; and

WHEREAS, the NCSD appointed Peter Sevcik, District Engineer, to prepare the Annual Levy of the District and to prepare and file a Report in accordance with the Act, and that said Report has been prepared and filed with the NCSD and presented to the Board of Directors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED, AND ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, FOR THE STREET LANDSCAPE AND MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NO. 1 PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 3, SECTION 22624 OF THE ACT AS FOLLOWS:

- <u>SECTION 1</u> <u>Intention:</u> The NCSD hereby declares that it intents to seek the Annual Levy of the District pursuant to the Act, over and including the land within the Street Landscape Maintenance District No. 1 boundary, and to levy and collect assessments on all such land to pay the costs of the following: the operation, maintenance, and servicing of landscaping and all appurtenant facilities and operations related thereto.
- SECTION 2 Description of Improvements and Any Substantial Changes Proposed: The improvements within the Street Landscape Maintenance District No. 1 include: the maintenance and operation of and the furnishing of services and materials for landscaping which includes trees, shrubs, grass, and other ornamental vegetation, and appurtenant facilities, including irrigation systems within the Street Landscape Maintenance District No. 1. The Engineer's Annual Levy Report describes all new improvements or substantial changes in existing improvements.
- <u>SECTION 3</u> <u>Boundaries and Designation:</u> The boundaries of the Street Landscape Maintenance District No. 1 are described as the boundaries previously defined in the formation documents of the original Street Landscape Maintenance District No. 1.
- <u>SECTION 4</u> <u>Increase in Assessments:</u> The assessment is proposed to increase from the previous year. However, the proposed increase in assessment will not exceed the assessments authorized by the Petition for the Formation of Street Landscape Maintenance District No. 1.

SECTION 5 Engineers Report: The Engineer's Report is on file with the Secretary of NCSD Board of Directors and contains a full and detailed description of the improvements, the boundaries of Street Landscape Maintenance District No. 1, and the proposed assessments upon assessable lots and parcels of land within Street Landscape Maintenance District No. 1.

SECTION 6 Notice: Pursuant to Section 22626 of the 1972 Act and 6061 of the Government Code, the NCSD shall give notice of the time and place of the Public Hearing to all property owners within Street Landscape Maintenance District No. 1 by causing the publishing of this Resolution once in Santa Maria Times and The Tribune not less than ten (10) days before the date of the public hearing and by posting a copy of this notice on the official bulletin board customarily used by the NCSD for the posting of notices.

SECTION 7 Time of Public Hearing: Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Directors of the Nipomo Community Services District on June 10, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. the Regular Meeting Room located within the District Offices located at 148 South Wilson Street, Nipomo. California 93444.

<u>SECTION 8</u> <u>Incorporation of Recitals</u>: The above Recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

<u>SECTION 9</u> <u>Other Actions</u>: The Board of Directors and such employees of the NCSD as are appropriate are authorized and directed to execute such other documents and take such further action as shall be consistent with the intent and purpose of this Resolution.

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 27, 2015

NOTICE OF HEARING ON REPORT OF NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT GENERAL MANAGER REGARDING DELINQUENT SOLID WASTE CHARGES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on May 6, 2015, the General Manager of the Nipomo Community Services District caused to be filed a written report ("Report") containing a description of each parcel of real property for which mandatory solid waste charges are delinquent as of May 1, 2015, and the amount of charges and delinquencies for each affected parcel for the year.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that on June 10, 2015, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., at the Nipomo Community Services District offices located at 148 South Wilson, Nipomo, California, a public hearing will be held before the Board of Directors, at which time the Board shall hear and consider all objections or protests, if any, to the Report. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Board of Directors may adopt or revise the charges and penalties. The Board of Directors shall make its determination on each affected parcel and its determination shall be final.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the charges and penalties, approved by the Board of Directors, will be collected on the tax roll in the same manner as property taxes.

The Report is on file, for public inspection, with the Secretary of the Board of Directors at 148 South Wilson Street, Nipomo, California.

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 27, 2015 AND JUNE 3, 2015

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

TO

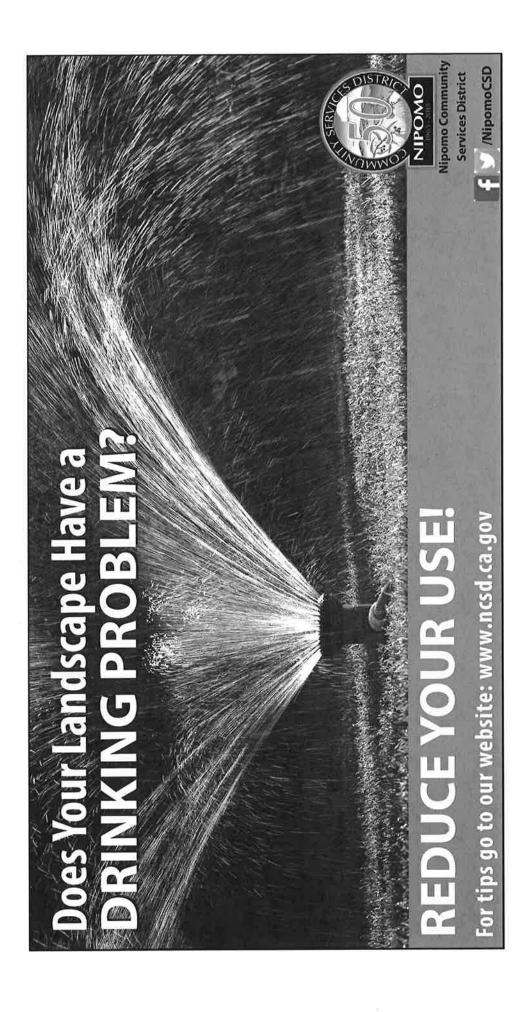
CONSIDER STREET LIGHTING ASSESSMENTS FOR THE BLACK LAKE VILLAGE

ON

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2015

The Board of Directors of the District will conduct a Public Hearing on June 10, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. at 148 South Wilson Street, Nipomo. At that time, the Board will receive and consider all public comments concerning the Black Lake Village Street Lighting Assessments for the fiscal year 2015-2016. The assessment report recommends the proposed annual assessment to be \$44 per parcel (not including County administrative fee), which annual rate does not exceed the approved maximum assessment rate of \$50.00 per parcel. The rate for 2014-15 was \$44.00 per parcel. No increase is recommended.

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 27 AND JUNE 3, 2015



1/4 page Ad - Lawn with Drinking Problem - 6 columns (9.889 inches wide) x 5.25" tall.

		1			
Activity	Media/Location	Description	Run Date(s)	May-Sep Cost	Notes
		Online	e.		
Twitter Posts	Online - Social Media	Schedule to post conservation tips every other day	Ongoing	0\$	
Facebook Posts	Online - Social Media	Schedule to post conservation tips every other day	Ongoing	0\$	
		Email	Į.	167	
F-noweletter	Fmail	E-newsletter every 4 weeks with water supply updates,	0/0/2013 7/6/2015 8/3/2015	OŞ	\$0 232 subscribers as of 5/7/15
	5	conservation tips and the most newsworthy items	1010	3.	
		Media - Print & TV	int & TV		
			5/15/2015		
Conservation Ad 1 - Ought to be a Law	Adobe Press	1/4 page color ad	6/26/2015 8/7/2015	\$1,328	\$1,328 Hit hard Jun-Sept (weekly ads)
8			9/18/2015		
			5/22/2015		
Conservation Ad 2 - Lawn Drinking	Adobe Press	1/4 page color ad	7/3/2015 8/14/2015	966\$	\$996 Hit hard Jun-Sept (weekly ads)
Problem			9/25/2015		
Conservation Ad 3 -			5/29/2015		
Brown is the New Green	Adobe Press	1/4 page color ad	7/10/2015 8/21/2015	\$996	\$996 Hit hard Jun-Sept (weekly ads)
			6/5/2015		
Conservation Ad 4 - Time for a Change	Adobe Press	1/4 page color ad	7/17/2015 8/28/2015	966\$	\$996 Hit hard Jun-Sept (weekly ads)
		2	6/12/2015		
Conservation Ad 5	Adobe Press	1/4 page color ad	7/24/2015	966\$	\$996 Hit hard Jun-Sept (weekly ads)
			9/4/2015		
			6/19/2015		
Conservation Ad 6	Adobe Press	1/4 page color ad	7/31/2015 9/11/2015	966\$	\$996 Hit hard Jun-Sept (weekly ads)

		madag (pin			
Activity	Media/Location	Description	Run Date(s)	May-Sep Cost	Notes
Commercials	KCOY KSBY	Regional commercial - (78) 30- second spots	26 spots/month, Jun-Aug TBD	ТВО	Partnership with PWC Group
Manager's Column	Adobe Press	Article - blog format with conservation message, max 400 words	5/29/2015 6/26/2015 7/31/2015 8/28/2015 9/25/2015	0\$	
ž:		Direct Mail	Mail		
30% Reduction Bill Stuffer	Direct Mail	Bill stuffer for Jun/Jul bills with tips on how to reduce 30%	6/10/15 - 7/10/15	~\$400	
Update Bill Stuffer	Direct Mail	Bill stuffer for Aug/Sep bills with update on conservation efforts	8/10/15 - 9/10/15	~\$400	
Newsletter	Direct Mail/ Distribution	District newsletter mailed to residents and distributed in the community	5/15/2015 8/14/2015	\$3,600	May: SW arrival + State cestrictions + conserve Aug: update on water shortage + conserve
CCR	Direct Mail	Water Quality report with conservation message	6/5/2015	\$1,800	
Letter	Direct Mail	Targeted mailer to residential high users with tips, etc.	End of May, June, July, August	~\$50	
Chamber Newsletter	Direct Mail/ Distribution	Conservation ad in the monthly Newsletter, tips in weekly updates distributed by the Chamber	May, June, July, August, September	\$300	\$300 \$60/month
		Community	ınity		
Banner 1 - Ought to	In front of District Office	3'x8' vinyl banner with	6/15/15 - 7/15/14 8/16/15 - 9/15/15	\$3C\$	Rannors will be rotated monthly
be a Law	Fence at Operations Yard	conservation message	7/16/15 - 8/15/15 9/16/15 - 9/30/15	555	

Activity	Media/Location	Description	Run Date(s)	May-Sep Cost	Notes
Banner 2 - Brown is	Fence at Mary & Juniper towards Swap Meet	3'x8' vinyl banner with	6/15/15 - 7/15/15 9/16/15 - 9/30/15	\$255	Banners will be rotated monthly
the New Green	In front of District Office	conservation message	8/16/15 - 9/15/14		
Banner 3 - Lawn	Fence at Operations Yard	3'x8' vinyl banner with	7/16/15 - 8/15/15 9/16/15 - 9/30/15	\$255	Banners will be rotated monthly
Drinking Problem	In front of District Office	conservation message	8/16/15 - 9/15/15		
i	In front of District Office	Him sound brain 10x16	7/16/15 - 8/15/15 9/16/15 - 9/30/15		
Banner 4 - Lime Tor a Change	Fence at Mary & Juniper towards Swap Meet	conservation message	8/16/15 - 9/15/15	\$255	Banners will be rotated monthly
Posters	Native Gardens, Library, Chamber of Commerce, etc.	Conservation ad/posters in high Jun-Sept visibility locations in the community	Jun-Sept	~\$100	
Workshops	NCSD	Waterwise landscaping workshops	July, Sept	~\$200	
Public Info Session	Blacklake & NCSD	Public information session discussing supplemental water and conservation	June 23rd	\$500	
		Promotions	ions		
Conservation Giveaways	District Office/Events	Giveaways such as toilet tabs, shower heads, shower timers, mirror vinyls, etc.	Jun-Sep	\$1,000	
Press Release	Adobe Press and Social Media	Press Release announcing campaign and conservation items for District customers; Update on conservation	6/8/2015 8/10/2015	\$0	

				May Con	
Activity	Media/Location	Description	Run Date(s)	Cost	Notes
Lawn Signs	Community	Conservation signs for customers who have converted lawns	Jul-Sept	TBD	
		Education	ion		
	0000	Conservation Education in Nipomo			
Education in Schools	Nipolilo Flomontary Schools	elementary schools through	Beginning in Sept	\$2,000	\$2,000 Science Discovery Fee.
	Elementally Schools	Science Discovery			
	Mom Toch /Ninomo	Conservation video contest for			
Video Contest	New Tech/Mipolino	high school students focusing on	Early Sept	\$200	\$500 Prizes.
	riigii əcilool	landscape conservation			

Press Release Log 2015

Date of PR	Title	Date Sent It to Media	Date Placed On Website	Media Pub	Date PR Published	Media Published	Date PR Published	Media Published	Date PR Published	Media Published	Date PR Published
1/2/2015	NCSD Customers Will Receive 50% Discount on Solid Waste Bill	1/2/2015	1/2/2015	SM Times	1/4/2015	Adobe	1/9/2015				
1/9/2015	NCSD Hires New Chief Plant Operator	1/9/2015	1/9/2015								
1/14/2015	NCSD Celebrating 50 Years of Service to the	1/14/2015	1/14/2015	Tribune	1/16/2015	Adobe	1/20/2015	SM Times	1/20/2015	Times Press	1/23/2015
	Community			КСОУ	1/28/2015	KSBY	1/28/2015	SM Times	2/3/2015	Adobe	2/6/2015
1/14/2015	Board of Directors Ratifies Committee Assignments for 2015	1/15/2015	1/15/2015								
1/20/2015	Thieves Strike District Fire Hydrants	1/20/2015	1/20/2015	Tribune	1/21/2015	KCBX	1/22/2015	KEYT	1/22/2015	KSBY	1/22/2015
2/11/2015	District Awards Grant Funds for Continued Solid Waste Removal to Nipomo Chamber of Commerce	2/11/2015	2/11/2015	Adobe	2/20/2015	SM Times	2/13/2015				
4/8/2015	A Call For Action: Increased Conservation is Everyone's Responsibility	4/9/2015	4/9/2015	Tribune	4/11/2015					¢.	
5/15/2015	Historic Project Nears Completion – New Water is Even Better	5/18/2015	5/18/2015	KCOY	5/18/2015	KCBX	5/18/2015				

Press Release Log 2015

Date of PR	Title	Date Sent to Media	Date Placed On Website	Media Pub	Date PR Published	Media Published	Date PR Published	Media Published	Date PR Published	Media Published	Date PR Published
<u> </u>	Court Appointed Technical Group Releases Spring 2015 Index; Area Groundwater in Severe Shortage Condition; Nipomo CSD Calls Special	5/20/2015	5/20/2015								
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 20, 2015

Contact: Michael S. LeBrun, General Manager

Nipomo Community Services District 148 S. Wilson St., Nipomo, CA 93444

Phone: (805) 929-1133 - Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov



Court Appointed Technical Group Releases Spring 2015 Index Area Groundwater in Severe Shortage Condition Nipomo CSD Calls Special Meeting

The court-appointed technical group tasked with monitoring the health of the groundwater basin underlying the Nipomo Mesa recently released their spring 2015 Key Wells Index measurement along with a statement on current basin conditions (accompanying this release).

The group's Key Wells Index is intended to provide a representation of Mesa area groundwater health. The Index is at its lowest recorded level since 1975 and is now in Severe Water Shortage Condition.

The District's Board of Directors has called a Special Meeting for 2PM on May 21, 2015 to be held at the Jon S. Seitz Board Room, 148 South Wilson, Nipomo. The Board will hear an update from staff and consider actions in response to the Severe Shortage Condition.

For more information about the water shortage conditions, conservation programs and other water related issues, please contact the Nipomo Community Services District at 929-1133, info@ncsd.ca.gov, or visit www.ncsd.ca.gov.

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Established in 1965 to meet the health and sanitation needs of the local community, Nipomo Community Services is pleased to provide a wide variety of services throughout its district including the provision of water, sewer, and waste management services as well as lighting and drainage in limited areas. The mission of Nipomo Community Services District is: Provide our customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 18, 2015

Contact: Michael S. LeBrun, General Manager

Nipomo Community Services District 148 S. Wilson St., Nipomo, CA 93444

Phone: (805) 929-1133 - Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov



Historic Project Nears Completion – New Water is Even Better

The District's historic Supplemental Water Project (NSWP) is nearing completion with water delivery expected this July. During its fifty year history, the District's sole source of water has been wells on the Nipomo mesa. This second source of water represents a long-term solution that will help balance the groundwater basin and secure water resources.

With delivery of supplemental water, the disinfectant in the District's water supply will be switched from chlorine to chloramine – a quick, effective, and safe method of water disinfection. The District is making this change to ensure system compatibility with the new water received from Santa Maria.

Chloramines have been used for disinfection purposes for more than 90 years and are approved by state water quality regulators. Special considerations for chloramines include those on kidney dialysis and those who have aquariums. Individuals on dialysis should contact their physician.

Additionally, the City of Santa Maria adds safe and approved amounts of fluoride to their water. The District will not add fluoride, so District water will contain fluoride at levels equal to or less than found in the City's water. The CDC has recognized water fluoridation as one of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century. The proper amount of fluoride from infancy through old age helps prevent and control tooth decay.

The District will hold public information sessions in June to discuss the delivery of the new water and change in disinfection. More details will be announced in June.

For more information on the project and the change in disinfection, the public is encouraged to visit the District's website at www.ncsd.ca.gov or call the office at 929-1133.

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Established in 1965 to meet the health and sanitation needs of the local community, Nipomo Community Services is pleased to provide a wide variety of services throughout its district including the provision of water, sewer, and waste management services as well as lighting and drainage in limited areas. The mission of Nipomo Community Services District is to provide its customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.



Nipomo Announces Changes To Water Disinfectant

<u>Dave Alley</u>, KEYT - KCOY - KKFX Reporter, <u>DaveAlley@kcoy.com</u> POSTED: 04:44 PM PDT May 18, 2015 UPDATED: 04:45 PM PDT May 18, 2015



NIPOMO, Calif. -

The Nipomo Community Services District announced Monday it will soon change the way it disinfects water when its tie-in pipeline to Santa Maria is completed by July.

The disinfectant used will be switched from chlorine to chloramine, a move needed to ensure system compatibility with Santa Maria's water supply.

The NCSD added it will hold public information sessions in June to discuss the new supplemental water project, as well as answer any questions regarding the new disinfectant.

The district pointed out chloramines have been used in the water disinfection process for more than 90 years and are approved by state water quality regulators. It also noted special considerations need to be taken for residents on kidney dialysis and those with aquariums.

The NCSD also said water delivered from Santa Maria will contain fluoride, which is currently not added to Nipomo's water supply.

Listen Now > ON AIR Morning Gup

On Air Schedule

Community Calendar

Donate Now

Website Help

Weekly Program Highlights

Live Oak Music Festival



Conservative, Catholic Ireland Votes On Same-Sex Marriage



Judge Sends 11 Afghan Policemen To Prison Over Mob Killing Of



Goats And Soda They're Going Door To Door In The Amazon To See Why People Get

Water Issues And Drought

6:24 PM MON MAY 18, 2015

Nipomo's water soon to have noticable change in odor, taste

By KCBX NEWSROOM



Residents of the Nipomo Community Services District (NCSD) will soon experience some changes to their local water supply. The chemical used to treat the water will switch from chlorine to chloramine to match what's already used in neighboring Santa Maria.

The reason: starting in July, Nipomo is expected to throw the switch on its new water project bringing in water from Santa

Apiece of water pipeline ready for installation,

connecting the Nipomo Community Services District with Santa Maria.

Credit Nipomo Community Services District

NCSD Manager Michael LeBrun said there will be a noticeable, positive change in

odor and taste.

"Chlorine is more volatile, and so you'll get a taste or odor if you have a chlorinated water supply," said LeBrun. "With Chloramine, that's no the case, it's more stable.

Chloramines are a group of chemical compounds that contain chlorine and ammonia, according to the Centers for Disease Control. It's been used to treat water supplies since 1929. In California, several of the state's largest cities use Chloramine to disinfect their drinking water.

The NCSD's new water source will also introduce fluoridation to the mix. Santa Maria adds fluoride to its drinking water and that will now blend with Nipomo's supply which is

Lebrun said the NCSD water project has been a couple of decades in the making and brings a secondary water source to Nipomo residents for the first time ever.

TAGS: Nipomo (/term/nipomo) NCSD (/term/ncsd) Water (/term/water) chloramine (/term/chloramine) Santa Maria (/term/santa-maria)

RELATED PROGRAM

KCBX News (/programs/kcbx-news)

2015 Website Traffic Summary

Week	Visits	Unique Visitors	Pageviews	Pages/Visit	Avg. Visit Duration	Bounce Rate	% New Visits	Highest Traffic Day	Significant Actions During the Week Possibly Contributing to Traffic
12/29/14 - 1/4/15	163	116	324	1.99	0:01:37	58.28%	52.15%	Wed 12/31	Low due to holiday
1/5/15 - 1/11/15	303	211	604	1.99	0:01:31	26.77%	50.17%	Mon 1/5	15
1/12/15 - 1/18/15	234	165	458	1.96	0:01:32	51.28%	50.85%	Tue 1/13	
1/19/15 - 1/25/15	249	190	450	1.81	0:01:40	58.23%	53.82%	Fri 1/23	
1/26/15 - 2/1/15	253	190	518	2.05	0:01:42	51.78%	56.92%	Wed 1/28	
2/2/15 - 2/8/15	296	213	599	2.02	0:01:36	59.46%	46.96%	Mon 2/2	
2/9/15 - 2/15/15	255	184	493	1.93	0:01:12	54.51%	52.55%	Mon 2/9	
2/16/15 - 2/22/15	316	225	595	1.88	0:01:34	57.28%	49.05%	Tue 2/17	
2/23/15 - 3/1/15	251	182	525	2.09	0:01:53	48.61%	49.80%	Tue 2/24	
3/2/15 - 3/8/15	250	180	469	1.88	0:01:08	53.60%	46.40%	Tue 3/3	
3/9/15 - 3/15/15	245	184	496	2.02	0:01:11	51.02%	53.47%	Mon 3/9	
3/16/15 - 3/22/15	236	185	455	1.93	0:01:39	60.59%	28.90%	Mon 3/16	
3/23/15 - 3/29/15	250	190	999	2.66	0:02:31	53.20%	58.40%	Mon 3/23	
3/30/15 - 4/5/15	318	245	642	2.02	0:01:20	53.77%	58.49%	Fri 4/3	Governor's drought regulation
4/6/15 - 4/12/15	358	266	780	2.18	0:01:38	52.79%	53.63%	Mon 4/6	Governor's drought regulation; press release
4/13/15 - 4/19/15	398	294	762	2.08	0:01:34	61.20%	58.47%	Tue 4/14	
4/20/15 - 4/26/15	332	271	708	2.11	0:02:01	55.82%	62.39%	Mon 4/20	
4/27/15 - 5/3/15	287	224	536	1.87	0:01:45	54.01%	57.84%	Fri 5/1	
5/4/15 - 5/10/15	374	283	798	2.13	0:01:56	50.27%	56.68%	Wed 5/6	
5/11/15 - 5/17/15	362	282	839	2.32	0:02:21	49.72%	57.73%	Th 5/14	

2015 Social Media Summary FACEBOOK

				FACEBOOK		
Week	New Users	Comment	Comment Shares	User Posts	*Content Views	Most Popular Post
2014	19					
12/5/14 - 1/8/15	4	2	0	0	NA	
1/9/15 - 2/5/15	2	4	0	0	NA	
2/6/15 - 2/19/15	2	2	0	0	NA	
2/20/15 - 3/5/15	3	4	0	0	NA	
3/6/15 - 4/2/15	2	9	0	0	NA	Funny video, serious issue. What are your water priorities? #CAdrought #savewater #everydropcounts (157 views)
4/3/15 - 4/16/15	4	7	0	2	494	Hopefully we receive the forecasted rain tomorrow. If we do, make sure to turn off your irrigation! Governor Brown's recent order calls for no watering for 48 hours after rain. #CADrought #savewater (144 views)
4/17/15 - 5/7/15	0	4	0	0	228	What do you know about H2O? #drinkingwaterweek (42 views)
5/8/15 - 5/21/15	2	1	0	0	122	Waterwise vegetable gardens! #CADrought #waterwisegardening #savewater (19 views)
					* 1 - 4 - 1 - 11 1.	11-11

*data will be available after 30 users

				TWITTER		
Week	New Re-twee Followers (share	Re-tweets (shared)	Mentions/ Favorites (comments)	Link Visits (visits to links)	Content Views (Impressions)	Most Popular Post
2014	30					
12/5/14 - 1/8/15 (28 day period)	7	4	0	8	1,100	Options for disposing of your tree http://fb.me/104KKY5dO (97 views) We hope you are yours had a great Christmas! As a reminder, the office is closed today and will reopen Monday at 8 AM. (84 views)

2015 Social Media Summary

				30000	,	
Mook	New	Comment	Comment	Hear Poets	*Content	Most Popular Post
Acce	Users	Likes	Shares		Views	
1/9/15 - 2/5/15 (28 day period)	5	5	9	9	086	Your Monday tip has to do with MULCH! #savewatersavemoney #everydropcounts [68 views] lot of works goes into making sure your water is safe. Here's a fun video of people drinking sewage water for http://fb.me/7m0RQQiUd (148 views)
						We'll take the rain but the storms did not
2/6/15 - 2/19/15						provide us enough to ease drought
(14 day period)						symptoms. In January, District
	3	0	0	5	669	http://fb.me/3ADhXucdM (35 views)
2/20/15 - 3/5/15						Ever wondered who your District's staff are?
(1/20/13-3/3/13						The friendly faces of NCSD (picture of staff)
(14 day period)	3	0	0	4	555	(31 views)
						Fix A Leak Week: Videos on how to check
2/2/15 2/10/15						your home for leaks!
3/0/13 - 3/13/13 /1/ day poriod)	2	Ţ	0	9	577	#FixaLeak #everydropcounts
(14 day period)						#savewatersavemoney
						http://fb.me/6uttTDQnC (82 views)
77/00/0						Defensible space tips from CAL FIRE. #calfire
3/20/15 - 4/2/15	2	П	3	4	708	#springcleaning http://fb.me/3gZitywPR (99
(14 day period)						views)
						Saving water is increasingly important. Share
3/12/4 3/10/4						what you are doing to conserve. #CADrought
4/5/13 - 4/10/13	6	2	2	2	705	#EveryDropCounts #savewater
(14 day perlod)						http://fb.me/3YFdOISCJ
						(182 views)

2015 Social Media Summary

Week	New Users	Comment	Comment Shares	User Posts	*Content Views	Most Popular Post
4/17/15 - 5/7/15 (21 day period)	9	2	9	11	1,200	"We need to stop pretending we have lots of water." A humorous look at our serious drought. #CADrought #savewater http://fb.me/3esmPdh59 (88 views) Its South County Sanitary's clean-up week. Check out the flyer for more information. #cleanupweek #nipomo http://fb.me/3icMkQiPS (82 views)
5/8/15 - 5/21/15 (14 day period)	9	9	7	Ō	1,100	Remember, State regulations prohibit watering 2 days following rain. Turn off those sprinklers! #savewater #Cadrought (270) views) Press Release: Technical Group Releases Spring 2015 Index; Groundwater in Severe Shortage Condition; Meeting Thur http://ncsd.ca.gov (109 views)

May 27, 2015

F

ATTACHMENT G



SAN LUIS OBISPO LAFCO Local Agency Formation Commission

Meeting Agenda

May 21, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Local Agency Formation Commission is committed to serving the residents of San Luis Obispo County and the State of California by discouraging urban sprawl and encouraging the orderly formation and development of local agencies based on local conditions and circumstances.

COMMISSIONERS

Tom Murray, Chair, Public Frank Mecham, Vice-Chair, County Roberta Fonzi, City Marshall Ochylski, Special District

Meeting Location

Board of Supervisors Chambers County Government Center 1055 Monterey Street San Luis Obispo, California

Muril Clift, Special District Bruce Gibson, County Ed Waage, City

ALTERNATES

David Brooks, Public Robert Enns, Special District Adam Hill, County Jamie L. Irons, City

Contact Information

David Church, Executive Officer Phone: (805) 781-5795 Fax: (805) 788-2072 www.slolafco.com

MEETING AGENDA

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order/Roll Call

Approval of the Minutes:

April 16, 2015

Non-Agenda Public Comment Period

This is the period where persons may speak on items that are not on the regular agenda. All persons wishing to speak on agenda items or during this non-agenda public comment portion of the meeting are asked to fill out a "request to speak form" and provide it to the Commission Clerk prior to the beginning of that item. Each speaker will be limited to a three-minute presentation. During public hearings, applicants or their representatives will be given the opportunity to speak first after the staff report is given and questions of the Commission have been addressed.

Consent Agenda

A-1: Approved LAFCO Resolution and Budget for Fiscal Year 2015/16 (Receive and File with the County Auditor's Office)

Informational Matters

B-1: Study Session: Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Water District-History and Current Status of Basin, County's Resolution of Application (Recommend Receive and File)

- **B-2:** Sphere of Influence-Municipal Service Review Update: Community Services Districts Road Maintenance-Solid Waste/California Valley, Creston Hills Ranch, Ground Squirrel Hollow, Independence Ranch, Linne, and Squire Canyon (Recommend Receive and File)
- **B-3:** Legislative Update, Water-related Legislation (Recommend Receive and File)

Commissioner Comments:

Legal Counsel Comments:

Executive Officer Comments:

Adjournment:

Submitted Proposals:

California Valley CSD Activation of Parks and Recreation Powers-On Hold

May 27, 2015

F

ATTACHMENT H

DRAFT COMMENTS BY THE WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE FINAL REISSUED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

LAETITIA AGRICULTURAL CLUSTER SUBDIVISION TENTATIVE TRACT MAP AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT SUB2003-00001 (TRACT 2606)

SCH#2005041094

The Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) provides the following comments and recommendations concerning The Final Reissued Environmental Impact Report (FREIR) for the Laetitia Agricultural Cluster Subdivision Tentative Tract Map and Conditional Use Permit SUB2003-00001 (Tract 2606) SCH# 2005041094.

Introduction and Summary:

The conclusion made by WRAC on the basis of the project description, the responses to WRAC concerns provided as input to the Draft EIR, and other concerns is that the project should be denied on the basis of uncertainties regarding the long-term sustainability of the water supply. Regarding the Final REIR, WRAC finds the analysis to be quite thorough and the analysis extensive, but also finds the conclusion of long-term water sustainability for the project is not supported by that same information.

WRAC earlier provided comments to the Draft REIR. The responses to these comments and to changes in the FREIR are addressed herein. To better enable the reader to see how WRAC's conclusions were founded, this document follows the order in which the FREIR's "Responses To Comments" are presented. The FREIR's responses to WRAC comments are identified as issues labeled WRAC(b)-1 through WRAC(b)-42. For the convenience of readers, the WRAC comments and FREIR response are attached as an appendix at the end of this letter.

The WRAC subcommittee has distilled the issues into the following sections labeled (A) through (J). At the end of each of these section, a summary sentence (underlined) establishes either that the issue was either an item of concern that contributed to the recommendation for project denial or found to not have that effect.

The most significant change to the project between the first introduction of the project and the current project is a change in well configuration. Wells 10, 11, 14, and 15 are now the sources for domestic supply, removing Wells 12 and 13 as they impact Los Berros Creek. All wells serving the proposed development are completed in bedrock.

(A) Equestrian Center.

WRAC's comments on a proposed equestrian center (WRAC Comments (b)-4 through (b)-7) are no longer pertinent as the center has been removed from the

project. If the applicant intends to develop this integrated part of the development at a later date this would appear to be piecemealing as defined by CEQA.

(B) Agricultural Water Demand

WRAC commented on agricultural irrigation demand calculations in the DREIR. The response to these comments is satisfactory and reflects a reasonable range of demand. There is some concern that climate change might result in longer periods of drought, which would increase irrigation demand, but WRAC concurs that the high demand of 1.3 afy/a is appropriate if there was no demand for countering winter frost. Thus, as sustained drought is becoming more likely under conditions of climate change, WRAC recommends that the high demand usage rate be applied in any future projection.

WRAC supports the findings of the FREIR on this issue, but remains concerned that planned increases in agricultural demand, while remaining unregulated and permissible under California law, may have an incremental negative impact on the Northern Cities Management Area (NCMA), which is supplied in small part via Los Berros Creek and bedrock discharges. (note V.P.-35). We note the letter from Oceano CSD supporting import of supplemental water by Nipomo CSD which notes that the basin is overtaxed.

(C) Impacts to Northern Cities Management Area (NCMA)

In further clarification of NCMA related issues, WRAC commented (WRAC (b)-11 & (b)-12) that Oceano is included in NCMA, and is party to the adjudicated judgment in the Stipulated Settlement concerning importation from the Santa Maria basin. Signatories are committed to preserve the water supply, and no new wells are permitted within NCMA. In response the FREIR notes that the wells are not new and are outside of the NCMA, but recognizes that net losses to downstream discharge will impact NCMA. The FREIR then states that "The County concurs that adherence to Final EIR mitigation measure WAT/mm-9 (groundwater recharge) and WAT/mm-10 (implementation of low impact development design techniques), and compliance with current stormwater regulations is required. Enhancement of groundwater recharge in bedrock aguifers is limited by the low bulk hydraulic conductivity of the bedrock (low ease with which the water moves through fractures). The effects of recharge would be localized." This response to WRAC (b)-11 shows that, as project described demand incorporates low impact design and as recharge capability is 'limited', there remains a future deleterious impact to NCMA. The issue of removing Well 11 as a mitigation against downstream impacts is discussed in the next section. WAT Impact 6, in spite of implementation of mitigations WAT/mm-1 through WAT/mm-8, is shown to have a residual negative impact on Los Berros Creek, and by inference, NCMA.

<u>In summary, WRAC finds that this project will have a negative impact to water supply via Los Berros Creek into NCMA and that mitigation of this impact may be insuffucient.</u>

In further illustration of potential impacts to NCMA, WRAC submits this extraction from a 2015 report to NCMA by Water Systems Consulting with two illustrative graphics. Please note that Los Berros Creek enters the NCMA just above the area of greatest drawdown.

In addition, the 2013 NCMA Annual Report identified that groundwater elevations are highest in the eastern portion of the NCMA and drop to approximately 5 ft above MSL along the coastline. It also identified that there are pumping depressions within the NCMA associated with municipal and agricultural pumping. The area with lowest groundwater elevations occurred in the east - central part of the NCMA in the vicinity of, and south of, lower Arroyo Grande Creek. However, in late 2013 and throughout most of 2014, groundwater levels within the NCMA monitoring wells have dropped to levels similar to those seen in 2008 and 2009. This drop in groundwater levels has occurred in spite of significantly reduced municipal groundwater pumping and increased conservation efforts. Additionally, a deepening pumping depression within the NMMA appears to have reduced or eliminated the aroundwater divide between the NCMA and NMMA. With the loss of this divide there has been a reversal of groundwater gradients and the development of a landward gradient in the southern portion of the NCMA. This landward gradient creates conditions favorable for seawater intrusion in the NCMA and NMMA. In spite of the NCMA agencies' ongoing efforts to reduce their groundwater pumping to amounts well below the identified safe yield for the NCMA, groundwater levels have declined to levels that are similar to those observed in 2009, when seawater intrusion was detected in one of the NCMA TG's coastal monitoring wells. Given the decreased groundwater levels, the NCMA agencies are very concerned that seawater could intrude into the basin and impact the water quality of their groundwater supplies (Water Systems Consulting, 2015).



Groundwater contours in NCMA 2011



Groundwater contours in NCMA 2013

(D) Impacts related to the changed configuration of domestic supply wells

WRAC Comment (b)-13 supported the reconfiguration of domestic supply wells to Wells 10, 11, 14 & 15, removing Wells 11 and 12. It noted a possible hydraulic connection between Well 9 to the creek. The FREIR made a thorough response and noted that Wells 11, 12 and 13 all showed a response concurrent to increased flow Los Berros Creek, but noted that the response of Wells 9 and 10 may reflect conditions in a north-south trending drainage independent of Los Berros Creek. While the discussion in the FREIR is fair, it illustrates the general lack of knowledge of subsurface storage and connectivity within wells screened in bedrock.

On p. V.P.-36 the FREIR notes the demonstrated impacts of Wells 10 and 11 on Los Berros Creek underflow and recommends water production limitations from August through November. Production would be shifted to Well 15 on the basis that it has the greatest available drawdown. WRAC notes that the periods when Wells 10 and 11 would be shut down are also likely to be high-summer periods of maximum demand. This puts a lot of pressure on the remaining wells, and is further discussed under (E) below.

On p. V.P.-37 the FREIR notes that agricultural Well 9 probably impacts Los Berros Creek and possibly domestic Wells 10 and 11, given connectivity between Los Berros Creek underflow and the underlying fracture permeability of the Obispo Formation in which all three wells are completed. On p. V.P-53 the FREIR states that the 22-26% increase in Laetitia water production will impact Los Berros Creek underflow though Wells 9, 10 and 11. Project specific mitigations of limiting seasonal pumping on Wells 10 and 11 fails to address the impacts of Well 9, which lies outside the scope of regulation as an existing agricultural well.

WRAC therefore finds that, while the reconfiguration of residential supply wells in an improvement to the project, the FREIR illustrates that there is insufficient information to establish with absolute certainty the amount of hydraulic connectivity of wells to Los Berros Creek and of some agricultural wells to the domestic supply wells. WRAC is also concerned about impacts to Well 15 that might be induced by extensive drought-driven shut down of Wells 10 and 11.

(E) Ability to provide Maximum Daily Demand (MDD)

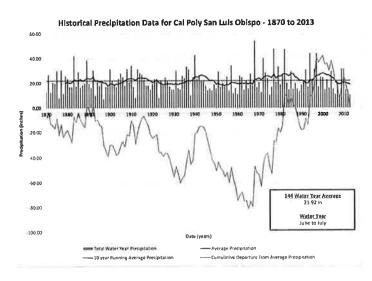
On p.V.P.-32 the FREIR discusses the ability of the proposed set of domestic wells to serve at MDD calculated to be 46 gpm (Cleath-Harris Geologists 2010). Hydrologic analysis places a sustainable production rate of 54 gpm on the four domestic production wells, but the FREIR then calculates the production in the absence of Well 11 at 38.7 gpm. WRAC is concerned that (1) as wells failed to fully recover after pump tests, and (2) there remains an issue that 46 gpm is very close to 54 gpm, and (3) as the effects of agricultural pumping of agricultural wells is not considered,

the extraction may not be sustainable during a period of severe drought.

What is troubling is the statement in the FREIR that the timeline for estimating the adequacy of supply is given as several decades, and not 'forever'. The FREIR notes that fractured aquifers may have long term yields that are substantially smaller than short term yields, and yet all hydrologic computations are based on the relatively short term pump test analyses.

WRAC does recognize that the updated agricultural well data in Attachment H-4 does show full recovery of most of the wells (see also FREIR response to WRAC(b)-16). WRAC's comment that the wells illustrated a general condition of overdraft is therefore answered and WRAC agrees that no persistent overdraft is supported by these hydrographs.

The fact remains that all hydrographs showed declines up to 2010 and then all suddenly recovered. The older data can be seen in Attachment H-1a, Figure 18. The FREIR notes on p. V.P.-3 that below average rainfall was experienced between 2002-2004 and 2007-2009, but had significantly higher than average (138%) after 2009 into 2011. Thus the implication is that any sustained period of below average rainfall will result in a decline in well levels in wells, but that above average can recover the wells. This becomes a significant issue if long term climatic data is brought into the analysis. The Cal Poly data shown below shows, as an orange line, the cumulative departures from average, which closely follows the Laetitia data for water levels for the years being discussed. Of concern are the very long periods in which cumulative declines persist (such as 1915 to 1932, and 1944 to 1965) and while the trend line 'recovers' back to average, we have no idea how the Laetitia agricultural well field would perform.



Another issue is that agricultural wells were all completed in the Obispo Formation, but the maximum pressure for supplying MDD will come from Well-15, which is

completed in Monterey Formation shales.

WRAC finds that there is too small a margin between calculated supply requirements and calculated sustainable well production rates, and that any small error in these calculations would render the project unsustainable. WRAC also questions the assumption that a few years of decline will always be offset by a high rainfall year of recovery such as 2010.

(F) Long Term Sustainability of Residential Supply

The FREIR response to WRAC(b)-29 and (b)-30 is that the comments are noted. WRAC's comments referred to the DREIR's Appendix H "Review of Well Testing and Sustainable Yield Assessment" and FREIR Appendix H1a. The original WRAC comments addressed the statement in the Geosyntec analysis of the Cleath & Harris well tests on Wells 10, 14, and 15. Geosyntec state:

Continuing general decline of water levels in Wells 10, 14, and 15 during the three phases of pumping indicates that stable equilibrium groundwater conditions were not attained. Moreover, continued decline in water levels at three of the four wells during the Phase 3 pumping indicates that the 87 AF/Y sustainable yield estimated by CHG (July 2010) will not result in full recovery to "the Phase 1 operational static water levels," but will cause additional depletion of groundwater storage.

The projections of downward water level trends exhibited during testing and the unknown time to possibly achieve equilibrium pumping conditions underscores that time frame is an important issue with respect to long-term viability of the wells to meet the proposed project demands. Climate change is predicted to result in rainfall occurring in fewer and more intense periods (DWR, 2003), which would likely result in more runoff, perhaps less recharge to groundwater, and possibly long-term decrease in base flow of creeks.

With continued pumping at Phase 3 rates, an expanding cone of depression of groundwater elevation will result in capture of more groundwater and an equilibrium condition accompanied by stable water levels may be attained. However, equilibrium groundwater flow conditions may not occur for decades or longer (e.g. Alley et al., 1999; Bredehoeft, 2002; Bredehoeft and Durbin, 2009). Based on the water level records during Phase 3 pumping, if the linear trend in decreasing groundwater elevations continues at the rates observed during the Phase 3 testing, the water levels in the wells will likely drop below the top of the well screens-- within months in Wells 10 and 14, and within a few years in Well 15. (Geosyntec)

In response to WRAC(b)-30 the FREIR states with probable accuracy that: Based on the long-term testing conducted, the pumping of groundwater from the four project wells can meet the project demand of 46.3 afy for decades, and the recommended reduction in pumping from Well 11 during the dry months would help minimize direct impact on Los Berros Creek. As reported, decreasing water levels in

some of the wells at end of the Phase 3 testing indicates that depletion of storage of groundwater continued (following Phase 3 pumping rates, which are higher than proposed well yield rates). Accurate quantification of the depletion of storage is not possible, particularly for fractured bedrock aquifers for which the connected porosity (useable storage) is not well defined and would require use of monitoring wells located in the same fractured bedrock system as pumping wells.

WRAC does not dispute this statement, and does not find fault with the conclusion that the domestic well field may have a life of decades, but as the longer term sustainability has not been sufficiently quantified. WRAC, in taking note of the Geosyntec analysis, considers the well tests do not sufficiently pass a benchmark by which the housing should be approved.

(G) Can aquifers in fractured bedrock suddenly fail?

WRAC Comment (b)-31 concerned the sudden loss of production that can occur when a fracture aquifer is drained. The response was that that Geosyntec concurred, but that, as well tests did not show an increase in drawdown with time, there was no evidence of an impermeable barrier being reached. WRAC does not find that this sufficiently puts the issue to rest. Provided water can enter the bottom of a well at a rate larger or equal to pumping rate, the well production may remain constant and stable until the fracture system is drained. By analogy, a partly open spigot at the bottom of a barrel filled with rubble and water could provide a steady flow even as the pressure head diminished. The FREIR comment that there is no evidence of impermeable barriers from the pump tests, but the barrel analogy still holds.

As noted elsewhere in WRAC comments, Wells 5 and 9 are completed in the Obispo Formation, and not the Monterey Formation. (see also V.P.-36). Thus the response statement to WRAC (b)-13: "Moreover, as stated in the Geosyntec Report (2011), 11-year and 26-year records of groundwater production rates of 21 AF/Y reported by CHG (July 2010) for each of two irrigation wells (wells 5 and 9) at the Project Site supports that long-term groundwater production from wells completed in the fractured bedrock at the site is possible." does not have much pertinence to WRAC's concern on wells completed in the fractured Monterey Formation

WRAC remains concerned that domestic production from fractures in the Monterey Formation may suddenly be lost or severely reduced if the aquifer becomes depleted, and insufficient evidence has been presented that this cannot happen. WRAC is also concerned that sustainability estimates based on wells supplied mainly from the Obispo Formation should not be applied to wells supplied mainly from the Monterey Formation.

(H) Laetitia's water demand requires water be recharged from land beyond the Laetitia boundaries.

WRAC Comment (b)-32 concerned the differences between on-site project recharge and on-site project demand. WRAC noted that a projection that 5% of rainfall would be recharged on site was too high a number, and the FREIR notes that Geosyntec concurs. The FREIR response is:

"Geosyntec agrees that local recharge of 5% of rainfall to groundwater is optimistically high. However, the recharge to the fractured bedrock aquifers is not limited to the Laetitia project land. Recharge to the deep fractured bedrock hundreds of feet below the ground surface, in which Wells 10, 14, and 15 are screened, is a slow diffuse process for which the influence of variation in rainfall is delayed and attenuated. The recharge occurs as leakage of groundwater from adjacent fractured bedrock to which seepage from local streams and percolation of rainfall contribute. A substantial portion of recharge to the fractured bedrock may occur where the fractured bedrock outcrops, which is unrelated to the both the Laetitia property and local watershed boundaries. In addition, the entire Los Berros Creek watershed, which is nearly 15 square miles in area, contributes to the local recharge of Well 11 because it is influenced by creek flow. While there are no current restrictions on well yields, mitigation is recommended that would restrict domestic well yields to avoid an adverse effect on Los Berros Creek.

WRAC agrees that the recharge will largely be supplied from beyond the project's boundaries. However this raises an issue that is currently being debated statewide in terms of a needed revision of groundwater regulation. Sustainability of the Laetitia project is dependent on drawing in water from neighboring lands, which is currently legal as groundwater is not considered a 'commons'. However the sustainability becomes dependent on future extraction by other landowners that might tap into the same fractured aquifer. This cannot be predicted with any accuracy. We have much evidence during the 2011-2015 drought that a property can be severely impacted by the action of neighbors.

By way of further illustration that water supply is already a significant issue on nearby agricultural lands, there is evidence of serious drought-induced impacts on nearby agricultural lands. This would suggest that groundwater supply is insufficient. For example an avocado orchard directly across Highway 101 has been 'stumped' and productive row crop fields have been left in cover crops.



Google Earth image with Hwy 101 entrance to Laetitia (circle), stumped avocado orchard (1) and fallowed row crop land (2) with main channel of Los Berros Creek (blue)

(I) WRAC's concerns with the proposed Mutual Water Company, Home Owners Association, and Master Water Plan.

In WRAC (b)-33 and (b)-34 concerns were raised regarding compliance with a Master Water Plan by both the Homeowner's Association and Mutual Water Company. WRAC agrees that Mitigation WAT/mm-1 in which the Company provided evidence of compliance to County agencies should be sufficient to allay WRAC concerns.

WRAC (b)-35 was a concern that water demands of the agricultural operations and the residential project might conflict, as the Mutual Water Company will become a completely independent entity. The FREIR response acknowledges that this is an issue:

The commenter is correct that yields of agricultural irrigation wells would not be limited, unless otherwise determined by the County decision makers. The applicant has noted that agricultural practices would be adjusted in the event of a drought requiring such action. At this time, such action is voluntary, and the County is not currently imposing any restrictions on the agricultural operations. Any legal ramifications would be the burden of the applicant and subsequent owners. The EIR evaluates the impacts of the project on the environment, and speculation regarding potential conflicts due to changes to the project description (which are not proposed by the applicant) are outside of the scope of environmental analysis. Regardless, these concerns are noted for County decision makers' consideration.

In WRAC (b)-36 and (b)-37 a concern was expressed that mitigation WAT/mm-1 (the creation of the Master Water Plan) not be implemented until Phase 3 of the project is completed. Issues such as the diversion of water from agricultural to residential use in the event of problems with the residential supply should be resolved, although WRAC agrees that the Drought Management Plan in WAT/mm-1 is a vitally important part of a Master Water Plan. The FREIR notes the WRAC comment.

In WRAC (b)-38 concerns were expressed about the degree to which mitigations WAT/mm2 through /mm6 would be implemented, and this has been sufficiently answered as the FREIR notes that, while policing of in-home issues is difficult, the net effect of compliance with the Master Water Plan has been addressed through required reporting to public agencies.

WRAC is concerned that separation of winery operations and a residential mutual water company will lead to future conflict over water supplies, and finds that, while drought mitigation plans for the company might be in place and are a positive contribution, the potential conflict would remain. WRAC recommends that, in the event that the project is approved, some water sharing between the entities be established. However WRAC also finds that the residential development might also put the existing agricultural operations at risk.

(J) Issues concerning surface hydrology

WRAC (b)-39 notes that there will be an increase in Net Peak Runoff Rate, as described in the DREIR. This violates SLO County regulations. The response to this comment accepts that this remains an issue that is currently unresolved as no onsite retention is currently proposed, and that more analysis is needed of 2, 5 and 10-year runoff events. WRAC concurs with the recommended changes to mitigation WAT/mm-9.

Similarly WRAC (b)-40 addresses sediment production and the lack of retention basins. These concerns were also addressed by the changes to mitigation WAT/mm-9.

WRAC finds that peak runoff rates and sediment production have been insufficiently mitigated in the current project.

This concludes WRAC comments on the Laetitia FREIR.

The following appended document provides a synopsis of WRAC issues introduced in the DREIR and the responses received.

May 27, 2015

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ATTACHMENT I

California drought: How San Jose's mandatory water rationing will work

By Paul Rogers

progers@mercurynews.com

Posted: 05/13/2015 06:17:51 AM

May 12:

SAN JOSE -- Think of it like a diet. Or a household budget. Only for water.

But instead of counting calories or pennies, hundreds of thousands of Silicon Valley residents are soon going to have to learn how to read their water meters and keep weekly records of their water use if they want to avoid fines under the region's strict new water-rationing rules.

The San Jose Water Company on Tuesday released details of its new mandatory water rationing plan, which will affect 1 million customers -- including 80 percent of San Jose's population and residents of Los Gatos, Saratoga, Monte Sereno, Campbell and parts of Cupertino.

The rules, if approved, as expected, by the state Public Utilities Commission, will take effect June 15.

All single-family residences -- defined as any home that has its own water meter -- will be given monthly water allocations. Apartments and most businesses, however, will not.

The allocations will require homeowners to cut water use 30 percent from 2013 levels.

The 30 percent isn't based on a home's individual use, however. Instead, it's calculated on the monthby-month average of all residential users in San Jose Water's service area, minus 30 percent.

"For some people it is going to be harder than others, because they haven't been as successful conserving," said John Tang, a spokesman for San Jose Water District.

"The folks who will find it difficult are those with higher usage and more landscape irrigation. But for a lot of our customers it is certainly going to be achievable."

For the months of July, August and September, each home will be allowed 13 units of water -- about 30 percent less than 19 units, which was the 2013 average for those months in the region. Each unit is 100 cubic feet, or 748 gallons.

Ratepayers will pay the normal cost per unit, which varies from \$3.20 to \$3.91 a unit. On top of that, however, they will pay a penalty of \$3.56 per unit for each unit above their allocation, and \$7.12 per unit for each unit above the 2013 baseline.

"We think the program we have put in place is very fair," Tang said, "and people who have been good at conservation will find their usage will be at or below the target."

Tang noted that San Jose Water, like all cities and water districts in California, must itself hit tough water conservation targets under new mandatory state drought rules set by Gov. Jerry Brown's administration -- or face fines of \$10,000 a day this summer.

He said that large irrigation customers, such as city parks and schools, will be required to cut 30 percent from their own 2013 month-to-month baseline use. Other businesses were exempted because 85 percent of the company's customers are residential users, and "most businesses are fairly efficient already with their indoor water use," Tang said.

Public reaction on Tuesday continued to be mixed.

"I guarantee we'll be reading our meter," said Jon Hoover, a software engineer who lives in West San Jose with his wife and family. "And we'll be involving our kids, too. We'll write down once a week what we use."

Hoover said he already has cut watering to twice a week and put buckets in his shower to water other plants.

"At first you have a lot of questions," he said. "But if you think about it, it makes sense. It's something that we all have to do. We're in an enormous drought. We have to make it work."

David Sedlak, an engineering professor at UC Berkeley, said other large cities around California will be watching San Jose. So far, only smaller cities, such as Santa Cruz, have put in place strict water rationing with household allocations.

Even though the fines are relatively small, he said, most people will probably follow the rules.

"Most of us don't like breaking the rules," Sedlak said. "There will be some people who do the math and realize they can afford to break the rules, but most people in California want to be seen as good citizens, especially with all the information we are hearing about the drought and how everyone must do their part.

"Being ethical or moral is something most people will follow through with. They believe their individual actions are needed to overcome the problems with the drought."

San Jose Water will mail a notice to all of its customers explaining the rules on May 19, and plans to hold a public hearing to explain them at 7 p.m. on May 28 at the Rotary Summit Center, 88 South 4th Street in San Jose.

The company also has posted details about the new rules on its website at www.sjwater.com. Questions? Call 408-279-7900.

Contact Paul Rogers at 408-920-5045. Follow him at Twitter.com/PaulRogersSJMN.

May 27, 2015

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ATTACHMENT J

E WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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http://www.wsj.com/articles/forget-the-missing-rainfall-california-wheres-the-delta-smelt-1430085510

OPINION | COMMENTARY

Forget the Missing Rainfall, California. Where's the Delta Smelt?

Guided by bad science, regulators are flushing away millions of gallons of water to protect a three-inch fish.

ByALLYSIA FINLEY April 26, 2015 5:58 p.m. ET

In California, it takes about 1.1 gallons of water to grow an almond; 1.28 gallons to flush a toilet; and 34 gallons to produce an ounce of marijuana. But how many gallons are needed to save a three-inch delta smelt, the cause célèbre of environmentalists and bête noire of parched farmers?

To protect smelt from water pumps, government regulators have flushed 1.4 trillion gallons of water into the San Francisco Bay since 2008. That would have been enough to sustain 6.4 million Californians for six years. Yet a survey of young adult smelt in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta last fall yielded just eight fish, the lowest level since 1967. An annual spring survey by state biologists turned up six smelt in March and one this month. In 2014 the fall-spring counts were 88 and 36. While the surveys are a sampling and not intended to suggest the full population, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service warns that "the delta smelt is now in danger of extinction."

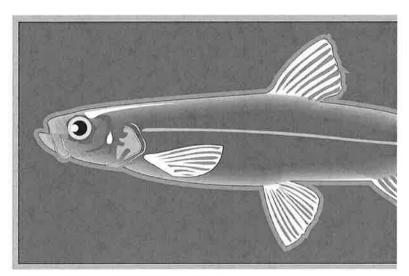


PHOTO: MCT GRAPHICS VIA GETTY IMAGES

The agency acknowledges that its "existing regulatory mechanisms have not proven adequate" to arrest the fish's decline since its listing under the Endangered Species Act in 1993 and that "we are unable to determine with certainty which threats or combinations of threats are directly responsible."

Herein is a parable of imperious regulators who subordinate science to a green political agenda. While imposing huge societal costs, government policies have failed to achieve their stated environmental purpose.

The smelt population has been shrinking since the 1970s, with a few intermittent rebounds. In 2008 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service issued a 396-page "biological opinion" identifying delta pumps, which export water to Central Valley farms and Southern California, as a major culprit in the smelt's decline. The agency imposed stringent restrictions on water pumping based on regression models—for measuring variables—that purportedly correlated water flows with smelt killed.

In 2009 Central Valley farmers sued the Fish and Wildlife Service under the Administrative Procedure Act for failing to apply the "best available science." In a 225-page decision in 2010, federal Judge Oliver Wanger skewered the federal agency for not conducting an environmental-impact statement, and for misapplying data and making unexplained assumptions. "The public cannot afford sloppy science and unidirectional prescriptions that ignore California's water needs," he wrote. The judge ordered the Fish and Wildlife Service to redo its "arbitrary, capricious and unlawful" regulations.

But last year the Ninth Circuit of Appeals—renowned for its liberal outlook—reversed the decision. The three-judge panel did rip the agency's biological opinion as a "jumble of disjointed facts and analyses." Yet the ruling said that the restrictive pumping limits were warranted to "counteract the uncertainties" of its scientific analyses. In other words: The government's actions were justified by its sloppy science.

The smelt's decline might not seem such a mystery today had government regulators more closely examined the science. For instance, a 2008 study by San Francisco State University researcher Wim Kimmerer—a paper used by the Fish and Wildlife Service to support its pumping restrictions—found that the sporadic population losses attributed to pumping during the winter and spring when smelt are spawning failed to take into account "subsequent 50-fold variability in survival from summer to fall" when the young fish are growing.

Other studies have noted that the biggest driver of species abundance in the delta is precipitation, which may explain why the smelt population has plummeted over the past four years of drought after rebounding in 2011—a wet year.

According to biologist Peter Moyle at the University of California, Davis, who has studied the delta ecosystem and smelt since the 1970s, precipitation levels can drastically transform the delta ecosystem's complex food web. For instance, the invasive Asian clam—introduced to the delta in the 1980s—increases during droughts and competes with the smelt for food.

Dry conditions, Mr. Moyle adds, also make the water clearer and render the translucent smelt more vulnerable to predators. Toxic fertilizers from delta farmers and contaminants from Sacramento urban users grow more concentrated when there is less water.

"The chances of recovery are low," Mr. Moyle tells me, noting that last month's survey captured smelt scattered in disparate areas of the delta (state data show that the government-survey trawls kill more adult smelt than the pumps do). So the tiny fish may have to swim great distances to find a mate. Another problem is that the few remaining females and males may be at different stages of development and unable to mate.

Mr. Moyle predicts that the smelt will disappear from the delta within the next two years—but strictly speaking, they won't be extinct: The Fish and Wildlife Service maintains a "refuge" population at a fish hatchery near Shasta Dam that can recolonize the delta when water is abundant again. Environmentalists claim that the fish have a right to return. UC Davis also raises hundreds of smelt for experiments and conservation at a lab south of Stockton. Long live the smelt.

Even if the delta smelt were eliminated from the delta forever, the federal government would continue to restrict pumping to protect other fish: the longfin smelt, steelhead and Chinook winter-run salmon. And green groups would continue petitioning the government to expand its list of endangered species. Parched Californians may soon wonder when it's their turn for such concern.

Ms. Finley is an editorial writer for the Journal.

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OPINION | COLUMNISTS | THE WEEKEND INTERVIEW

Slaking California's Thirst—if Politics Allows

Israel solved its water woes in five years by desalination. A CEO explains why it took him 10 years to build a single plant near San Diego.



PHOTO: KEN FALLIN

ByALLYSIA FINLEY May 15, 2015 6:41 p.m. ET Israel has made the desert bloom, but the task hasn't always been an easy one. For decades, the country suffered chronic water shortages brought on by intermittent droughts amid rapid population growth—a problem only partly ameliorated by aggressive water pricing and conservation. In 2009, after five consecutive dry winters, the government water authority restricted outdoor gardening and agricultural irrigation.

By the end of this year, Israel will have completed three massive desalination plants in Ashdod, Hadera and Sorek that combined are capable of producing 100 billion gallons of potable water each year from the sea. More such projects are in the works. Next year desalination will provide about half of Israel's water—not including the roughly 80% of recycled wastewater that goes mainly to agriculture—up from zero in 2004 and about 10% in 2009. The drought ended in 2012, and Israel doesn't need to worry much about the next one. In a mere five years, desalination has turned a scarce resource into a commodity that may soon be exportable.

On the far side of the world, in another state often portrayed as a promised land of milk and honey, Californians are suffering perhaps the worst drought in a millennium. Desalination to the rescue? Carlos Riva, the CEO of Boston-based Poseidon Water, hopes so. But the same political and regulatory forces that have already exacerbated the state's water shortage are standing in the way. Mr. Riva's diplomatic way of putting it: "Water is a simple molecule, but a complex commodity."

Most of the bureaucratic effort in California is going into cutting consumption. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has turned off the spigot of water trickling from the Sierra Nevadas to farmers in the Central Valley. Gov. Jerry Brown last month ordered urban water agencies to cut usage by 6% to 36% (based on per capita consumption) and threatened \$10,000 fines against noncompliant residents and businesses. All this while the untapped Pacific Ocean glitters nearby.

Desalination technology that is "mainstream outside the U.S.," Mr. Riva says, is proving exasperatingly difficult to bring to thirsty California.

"The water industry is probably one of the last industries that is still held in traditional municipal hands," Mr. Riva notes. As a result, the "market is ultraconservative because there's nobody in the municipalities that has any motivation to take the risk with new technology."

Poseidon does have a \$1 billion desalination plant slated to open this fall in Carlsbad, north of San Diego. Upon completion it will be the largest in North America, capable of producing 54 million gallons of water each day. Construction began in 2013, but first Poseidon spent six years battling 14 environmental lawsuits.

For instance, the Surfrider Foundation charged that the plant's open-ocean intakes might harm marine life, though a judge ruled that Poseidon had reasonably mitigated the threat. Mr. Riva says the intakes "entrain two to three fish eggs or larvae" for every thousand gallons of water sucked in. "Not to make value judgments about fish, but these aren't from any protected species," Mr. Riva says. "They're anchovies and things like that." He adds that environmentalists believe that "all fish life is precious, and you have to do everything to save it."

Obtaining the dozen or so permits required to build the plant was vexing as well, since regulatory authority over water in California is spread among state, federal and local agencies—the Bureau of Reclamation, the State Water Resource Control Board and the California Coastal Commission, to name a few.

"Because there are multiple agencies," says Mr. Riva, there are "multiple opportunities for intervenors to delay." The CEO is careful in his choice of words to avoid giving offense. However, what he appears to mean is that environmental obstructionists waged war on numerous fronts. Not totally without success, either: To obtain final approval from the Coastal Commission, Poseidon had to agree to restore 66 acres of wetlands and buy renewable energy credits—green indulgences.

Urged on by the Surfriders, the Coastal Commission is now gumming up Poseidon's plans to build a second plant, which has been in the planning stages for 15 years, south of Los Angeles in Huntington Beach. Though Poseidon had obtained almost all required government permits by 2012, Mr. Riva says, the commission's approval is pending the results of an independent panel convened to study alternatives to open intakes that would better protect fish eggs and larvae. Poseidon has proposed adding one-millimeter screens, which seems to be the simplest and most cost-effective strategy.

The panel concluded after its first phase, Mr. Riva says, that the only other option is what's called a seabed infiltration gallery, built about 1,000 feet offshore. He explains: "You build these coffer dams, then excavate the seabed, put in these drains and pipes, and put other filters on top of that, and then pipe the water back to shore." While technically feasible, it's a complicated engineering feat, so now the panel is examining the environmental impact and economic practicability.

Building an infiltration gallery, Mr. Riva says, would take five to seven years and cost multiple times the price of the rest of the facility—so he expects the review will show it isn't doable. But could the commission be using this process to deal the Huntington Beach project death by regulatory review? "If people just don't want it, put us out of misery," he quips.

Environmentalists are also howling that desalination is too energy-intensive. Mr. Riva thinks these complaints are bogus: "We use less energy than one of the data centers that are being built, and nobody claims that they are somehow immoral." Plus, as he points out, the only reason anybody is even discussing desalination in California now is because it is becoming so much more efficient, thanks to technological breakthroughs like energy-recovery systems, which conserve energy the way hybrid cars do. The Carlsbad plant will use less than half as much electricity per unit of water produced as desalination plants did in the 1980s.

Such improvements are fueled by the free market. "The operators are driven to find ways to reduce the energy because that increases the profitability of these projects," Mr. Riva says, adding that Poseidon has a profit motive to implement more-efficient filters, pumps and control systems that will reduce the cost of water—an incentive the government doesn't have.

Mr. Riva, who used to run a biofuels company, says he considers himself an environmentalist. "But I think the concept of environmentalism has been hijacked by extreme views," he says. "We're bending over backwards to protect the environment here."

Meantime, local residents and politicians in San Diego and Orange County have voiced ostensibly more justifiable concerns about desalination's high costs. Poseidon is a closely held private company but specializes in public-private partnerships. As Mr. Riva explains, "our model is to say: We will take on the risk of development, financing, building and operation, and in exchange you take the market risk of buying our water." This isn't too different from how public utilities contract for electric generation.

Under the terms of the purchase agreement, the desalinated water will cost San Diegans between \$2,014 and \$2,257 per acre foot (roughly 0.6 to 0.7 cents per gallon), or about twice as much as importing water from, say, the Sierra Nevadas. "We have a 30-year contract," Mr. Riva rejoins. "Depending on escalation rates of the imported water and CPI [consumer-price index], then the expectation is that sometime in the middle of the first decade, our water will be less expensive. There will be a crossover point."

Even so, desalinated water from Carlsbad will cost more than twice as much per unit as it does in Israel. There are multiple reasons for this. Electricity is more expensive in California than in Israel and most of the rest of the U.S. because of a state mandate requiring that pricey renewables make up a third of electric generation by 2020. Labor is more expensive in California, too. Cumbersome regulatory requirements jack up construction costs. Israel's Sorek plant will produce about three times as much water as the Carlsbad facility yet cost half as much to build. Both plants were designed by the same company: Israel Desalination Enterprises (IDE) Technologies.

Poseidon's Carlsbad desalination plant will augment the San Diego region's water supply by about 7% while increasing customers' bills by \$5 to \$7 a month. Although residents will have to pay for the additional supply even when they don't need it, Mr. Riva asserts that the "reliability justifies a premium." That is, many San Diegans may consider it worth paying a bit more per month to keep their verdant yards during droughts—or have a backup water supply if an earthquake destroys canals or aqueducts that import water from the north.

'We're talking about one of the only things that is really necessary for life. Your kids may think their phone is, but it's not," he says. "This is an absolute necessity in San Diego, which is a desert for life."

The same is true of California as a whole. More than a dozen desalination projects have been proposed along the coast, but prospective developers are waiting for Poseidon to run the regulatory gantlet before moving ahead. Meanwhile, Mr. Riva says Poseidon is considering developing projects in Texas where water is also scarce—and, one presumes, where the governmental burden is lighter and environmentalists are fewer. If Poseidon can make desalination work in California, it can work anywhere.

Ms. Finley is an editorial writer for the Journal.

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May 27, 2015

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ATTACHMENT K



NEWS RELEASE May 15, 2015

Santa Maria Valley Management Area 2014 Annual Report of Hydrogeologic Conditions, Water Requirements, Supplies and Disposition

The Twitchell Management Authority ("TMA") will hold a Public Hearing on Friday, June 5th at 2:00 p.m. in the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room at 511 East Lakeside Parkway, Santa Maria. The purpose of this Public Hearing is to discuss and receive public comments on the 2014 Annual Report of Hydrogeologic Conditions, Water Requirements, Supplies and Disposition for the Santa Maria Valley Management Area.

The Annual Report was prepared by Luhdorff and Scalmanini, the Santa Maria Valley Management Area Engineer, according to the terms of the June 30th, 2005 Stipulation for Santa Maria Valley Water Conservation District v. City of Santa Maria, et al. A representative from Luhdorff & Scalmanini will make a presentation on the Annual Report.

Written comments should be addressed to the attention of the TMA at 2065 East Main Street, Santa Maria, CA 93454, and must be received by Monday, June 8th at 10:00 a.m. Within 45 days after the public hearing, the TMA will submit to the court its recommendations regarding the Annual Report.

The 2014 Annual Report is available online on the City of Santa Maria's website: www.cityofsantamaria.org/city-government/departments/utilities-sewer-water-trash/twitchell-management-authority-documents and is available at the City of Santa Maria Utilities Department at 2065 East Main Street, Santa Maria.

For more information, please call (805) 925-0951 ext. 7219.

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