

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: MICHAEL S. LEBRUN *MSL*  
GENERAL MANAGER

DATE: JUNE 5, 2015

## AGENDA ITEM

### F

JUNE 10, 2015

## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

### ITEM

Standing report to your Honorable Board -- *Period covered by this report is May 22, 2015 through June 5, 2015.*

### DISTRICT BUSINESS

#### Administrative

- On May 20<sup>th</sup>, 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 21<sup>st</sup>, 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.
- On July 1, District water rates will increase by approximately 30% in order to purchase Supplemental Water.
- The District continues to use an active education and outreach program to assist customers with water conservation. 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 May 2014, staff responded to 3 reports of water waste. All reports were followed up on with phone calls, door hangers, or letters to customers. Additionally, staff hung 41 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.
- The District qualified for renewal of its Certificate of Excellence for Transparency. The May 28 Notice from Special District Leadership Foundation is attached.



### **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 CSDA Letter regarding Drought Water System Consolidation Budget Trailer Bill 825.
- June 4, 2015 SLO County Planning Commission Agenda

### **Meetings**

*Meetings Attended (telephonically or in person):*

- *May 26, Drought Webinar*
- *May 26, Director of Engineering and Operations*
- *May 27, Regular Board Meeting*
- *May 27, SLO County Planning & Building*
- *May 28, Chamber of Commerce President*
- *May 28 and June 4, Management Coordination*
- *May 29, SLO County Parks Director*
- *June 1, NMMA Purveyors*
- *June 2, Board Officers*
- *June 3, SLO County Regional Water Management Group*
- *June 3, Lucia Mar Unified School District Facilities Director*
- *June 4, Blacklake Developer*

*Meetings Scheduled:*

- *June 8, Brassica Nursery*
- *June 9, District Customer*
- *June 10, Regular Board Meeting*
- *June 11, Director of Engineering and Operations*
- *June 12, NMMA Purveyors*
- *June 12, SLO County CSDA*
- *June 15, Board Officers*
- *June 16, SLO County Board of Supervisors Meeting: County Wide Water Conservation Plan, Water Neutral New Development*
- *June 17, Public Information Director*

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff seeks direction and input from your Honorable Board

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A. May 28, Special Districts Leadership Foundation Letter
- B. Outreach Program Summary
- C. Budget Trailer Bill 825
- D. June 4, 2015 SLO County Planning Commission Agenda

June 10, 2015

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ATTACHMENT A



**SPECIAL DISTRICT  
LEADERSHIP  
FOUNDATION**

1112 I Street, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916.231.2939  
www.sdlf.org

RECEIVED  
JUN 02 2015  
NIPOMO COMMUNITY  
SERVICES DISTRICT

May 28, 2015

Mr. Michael S. LeBrun  
General Manager  
Nipomo Community Services District  
148 S. Wilson Street  
Nipomo, CA 93444-0326

RE: District Transparency Certificate of Excellence Renewal

Dear Mr. LeBrun:

Congratulations! The Nipomo Community Services District has successfully completed the District Transparency Certificate of Excellence program renewal through the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF).

On behalf of the SDLF Board of Directors, I would like to congratulate your district on achieving this important certificate. By completing the District Transparency Certificate of Excellence Program, the Nipomo Community Services District has proven its dedication to being fully transparent as well as open and accessible to the public and other stakeholders.

Included with this letter is your press release template and a window cling so your district may showcase this important accomplishment.

Congratulations and thank you for your dedication to excellence in local government.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Aranda', written in a cursive style.

David Aranda  
SDLF Board President

June 10, 2015

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ATTACHMENT B

**NCSO Outreach Summary  
June 2015**

<b>Date Started</b>	<b>Outreach</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Date Completed</b>
5/21/2015	Brown is the New Green Campaign	Data collection for letters to top water users	Complete; ongoing	5/21/2015
5/18/2015	Press Release	Board Declares Stage III Water Shortage Conditions and Moves Forward with Response Plan	Complete	5/22/2015
5/21/2015	Manager's Column	Article 27 for Manager's Column in Adobe Press, pub date 5/29	Complete	5/22/2015
5/26/2015	Chamber Email Blast	Conservation Tip for Chamber of Commerce weekly email update	Complete	5/26/2015
5/26/2015	Ad	Conservation 1/4 page ad in 5/29 Adobe	Complete	5/26/2015
5/26/2015	Brown is the New Green Campaign	Bill insert regarding 30% reduction in Jun/Jul bills	Complete	5/27/2015
4/1/2015	Ad	District ad and editorial for 2015-2016 Nipomo Directory, Aug publish date	Complete	5/28/2015
5/29/2015	Chamber Newsletter	Conservation ad for Chamber of Commerce June newsletter	Complete	5/29/2015
6/1/2015	Chamber Email Blast	Conservation Tip for Chamber of Commerce weekly email update	Complete	6/1/2015
6/1/2015	Ad	Conservation 1/4 page ad in 6/5 Adobe	Complete	6/1/2015
6/1/2015	Chamber Newsletter	Editorial for business spotlight section of newsletter	Complete	6/1/2015
5/27/2015	Supplemental Water Arrival	Confirmation of public info session at Blacklake Club House on 6/23	Complete	6/3/2015
6/4/2015	Press Release	Transparency Certificate of Excellence Awarded a Second Time to Nipomo Community Services District	Complete	6/4/2015
5/22/2015	Social Media	Content posting	Complete; Ongoing	6/4/2015
5/22/2015	Website Updates	Home page; minutes; press releases; reports; forms; transparency badge; etc	Complete; Ongoing	6/4/2015



**NCSO Outreach Summary  
June 2015**

<b>Date Started</b>	<b>Outreach</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Date Completed</b>
5/18/2015	CCR	2014 Consumer Confidence Report	<b>In Progress</b>	
5/28/2015	Brown is the New Green Campaign	Letters for top and bottom water users	<b>In Progress</b>	
6/1/2015	Brown is the New Green Campaign	Creation of banners promoting conservation	<b>In Progress</b>	
6/3/2015	Brown is the New Green Campaign	Posters promoting conservation	<b>In Progress</b>	
6/3/2015	Brown is the New Green Campaign	Purchase of outdoor water saving giveaways	<b>In Progress</b>	
6/5/2015	Brown is the New Green Campaign	Create e-newsletter template	<b>In Progress</b>	

# OPINION

## Rail spur benefits don't outweigh risk to community

**O**bviously, Lionel Simes as president of the United Steel Workers Local 534 has a "dog" in the fight, relative to the Phillips 66 rail project (Guest Commentary, "Balance people's needs with safety of the community," Adobe Press/Times-Press-Recorder, May 15).

That being said, I'd invite him to actually read the draft recirculated environmental impact report. There are five Class I impacts relating to air quality that cannot be mitigated both within the refinery and along the Union Pacific railroad tracks.

1) Operational activities associated with the rail spur project at the refinery would generate criteria pollutant emissions that exceed APCD thresholds.

2) Operational activities of trains along the mainline rail route outside of SLO County

**Guest Commentary**  
**Laurance Shinderman**

associated with the project would generate criteria pollutant emissions that exceed thresholds.

3) Operational activities at the refinery associated with the project would generate toxic emissions that exceed APCD thresholds.

4) Operational activities of trains along the mainline rail route associated with the project would generate toxic emissions that exceed thresholds.

5) Operational activities associated with the rail spur project at the refinery would generate greenhouse gas emissions that exceed APCD thresholds.

There is no compelling benefit to the community when balanced against the risk of a potential derailment and/or explosion posed

by 400 tanker cars per week carrying highly volatile crude down the coast past schools, hospitals and businesses.

Yes, life is full of risks, but why invite more into a community to satisfy the limited special interest of the shareholders of Phillips 66?

No one is saying close the refinery. Let them do business as they have in the past with a passive pipeline.

In fact, there are two more pipelines scheduled to come on stream that will pretty much accommodate the needs of Phillips 66.

Let's be candid: This is a strategic plan of oil by rail so that Phillips 66 could avail itself of "advantaged" crude from the Alberta tar sands. "Advantaged" means cheaper.

Phillips 66 will admit we are swash in crude from the coastal islands; it simply doesn't want to pay the prevailing market costs.

What's more, Mr. Simes talks about Bakken crude, but that was taken off the table by Phillips 66 and replaced with an equally volatile crude from tar sands.

And it's not a sport. It's an intrusive crude-by-rail transfer facility that will be in operation throughout the day, five days a week, unloading the most toxic and volatile crude.

There are hundreds of head-of-household jobs along the main line of Union Pacific that would be put at risk should there be a cataclysmic conflagration.

Laurance Shinderman is a member of the Nipomo Mesa Refinery Watch Group that opposes the Phillips 66 Santa Maria refinery rail spur extension project. For more about the group, visit [membersofnerywatch.com](http://membersofnerywatch.com).

### KRANKY



## Join Nipomo in Bloom

**M**embers of the Nipomo in Bloom project will work again Sunday, May 31, to spruce up the West Tenth Street center median and Old Towne Nipomo flower baskets and barrels.

Plan to volunteer a few hours, starting at 8 a.m., with members of the Rotary Club of Nipomo and the Rotary Club Five Cities Eco to help keep your community lovely.

We meet in the CVS Pharmacy parking lot, start with the median and move on to Old Towne. Bring your own work gloves and such hand tools as clippers and rakes.

It is very satisfying work, as the gratification is instant. I enjoy when people stop their cars to express their appreciation.

You know the adage, "many hands make light work." It would be nice to have a swarm of people show up to help so that more can be done.

Nipomo in Bloom is also looking for more people to adopt a flower barrel in Old Towne. There are 12 barrels, and two are adopted by Maria Hughes, who is doing a fabulous job of keeping them beautiful and maintained.

If you are interested, contact me at 929-1120 or [jacqueline@frederick.net](mailto:jacqueline@frederick.net).

Hope's Village of SLO is a nonprofit organization formed to help the



**Bits and Pieces of Nipomo**  
**Jacqueline Vitti Frederick**

homeless by providing them with RVs in which to live.

The group just passed on its 9th RV to a local unshowered veteran, thanks to Dana Cummings of the Veterans Service Office in San Luis Obispo.

Members are currently looking for two more RVs — one for a 44-year-old woman whose father, both brother and an uncle are all in the service and one for a male Army veteran.

If you know people who have a motorhome, travel trailer or fifth wheel they're not using and would like to provide a home for a veteran or a veteran's family, let them know they can contact Becky Jorgeson, the founder of Hope's Village of SLO at 234-5478.

For more information, go to [www.hopesvillageofslo.com](http://www.hopesvillageofslo.com).

Jacqueline Frederick is a lawyer and former in Nipomo and can be reached at [jff@frederick.net](mailto:jff@frederick.net) or 929-1120.

### RUBES



Before fortune cookie companies hired editors

**330 BARNER WAY, SANTA MARIA**—Great investment top ex property in good condition. Three consist of 2-3 bedroom units with attached 2 car garage. Middle unit is a 2 bedroom 1 bath. All units have sunny connections in garage, tile flooring, large rooms with walk in closets. All tenants have lived in property 3 plus yrs. Live in one and rent the others many possibilities. \$339,000

**Yolanda Perez**  
(805) 748-7514  
BRE#01741813

**Desirable Southpoint Estates Gated Community!** Wonderful cul-de-sac home, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths plus spacious lot, approximately 1344 sq ft, and lot is over 11,000 sq ft with plenty of room for children, pets, and entertainment. Attractive tile floors, newer carpeting, stainless steel appliances, newer garage door. Master offers walk-in closet, dual sinks, separate shower, lots of light in the home. Delightful property! \$265,000

**Diane Adams**  
805.570.9099  
LIC #01103806

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**50th Anniversary**  
**NIPOMO**  
Nipomo Community Services District  
f / NipomoCSD

The **Adobe** Press.com

## Inside NCSD:Tech group finds severe groundwater shortage

MAY 26, 2015 5:56 PM

This past week, the group tasked by the courts with monitoring the health of the local groundwater basin announced conditions had worsened significantly from this time last year.

The group uses an index of eight carefully selected wells, known as the Key Wells Index, to evaluate the basin's condition over time.

April 2015 groundwater level measurements have brought the Index to its lowest level in its 40-year record.

The index dropped 46 percent from last year's measurement and now indicates the Mesa is in a severe water shortage.

Nipomo Community Services District declared Stage 3 water shortage in response to the index. That means, the district must reduce groundwater pumping by 30 percent immediately.

Supplemental water will begin flowing in July and will help the district reduce groundwater demand in two ways:

First, for every gallon of water we import, we pump one less gallon of groundwater.

Next year we are scheduled to import more than 200 million gallons of supplemental water and pump 200 million less gallons of groundwater.

Second, our new water source is expensive, and district customers can expect to see a 30 percent jump in their water rates starting in July.

All customers are encouraged to make every effort to conserve water this summer to avoid "water-bill shock" in the fall when summer use bills arrive.

District staff is reaching out to high-use residential, commercial and irrigation customers directly and is coordinating with other area water companies, the county and Lucia Mar Unified School District to address the Mesawide threat.

Customers whose typical two-month summer water use is 60 billing units, or 45,000 gallons, or greater can likely make adjustments to landscape irrigation and see a steady or declining bill in the face of the scheduled rate increase.

More importantly, saving water today will help preserve our basin so less expensive groundwater can be preserved as a source in the future.

Call us to get a record of your water use and more information about how you can save water

and save money.

Water is precious, and money is hard-earned. Let's do all we can to save all we can.

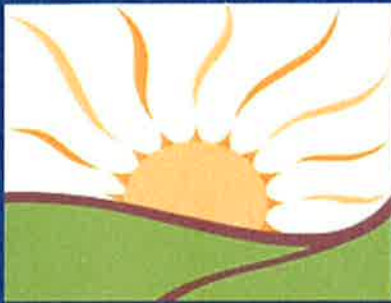
What have you done to conserve? If you have cut your water use, we want to hear from you.

Also, if you have converted your landscape to native, drought-tolerant plants, we want to hear from you.

You may be featured in upcoming NCSD communications. Contact the district at [info@ncsd.ca.gov](mailto:info@ncsd.ca.gov).

**Jessica Matson**

**From:** Nipomo Chamber of Commerce <info@nipomochamber.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 26, 2015 2:23 PM  
**To:** Jessica Matson  
**Subject:** Monday News, May 26, 2015



**Nipomo**  
CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE



Richard Malvarose  
Chamber President  
Nipomo Properties

**Monday News**

**May 26 2015**

*Nipomo Chamber of Commerce*

***May Luncheon  
The Reserve at Leatitia***

*The 1910-acre Laetitia Vineyard and Winery is proposing an innovative "ag cluster" development that would preserve 93 percent of the property in permanent open space/ag use and create 101 lots for future home development. Project planner Vic Montgomery of RRM Design will share details of the project and the economic and other benefits it can bring to the community*

***Thursday, May 28th  
Blacklake Golf Resort  
1490 Golf Course Ln.  
11:45-1:00pm***

**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](mailto:info@nipomochamber.org)

**For Info Contact:**

Amber Wilson  
Executive Director  
[amber@nipomochamber.org](mailto:amber@nipomochamber.org)

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Centers**

**Nipomo Recreation**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: May 22, 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



**Board Declares Stage III Water Shortage Conditions and Moves Forward with Response Plan**

At a Special Meeting of its Board of Directors held on Thursday May 21, the Nipomo Community Services District declared Stage III Water Shortage conditions and directed District staff to implement the response plan.

The Water Shortage Response and Management Plan is based on five escalating stages of drought. In Stages III through V, there are targeted reductions in water use designed to protect long-term groundwater supplies. Stage III represents Severe Water Shortage Conditions and sets a goal of reducing District-wide water use by 30%. District customer and *all users of the local groundwater basin* are encouraged to:

- Turn off all automated irrigation systems. (Take manual and direct control of irrigation)
- Provide minimum necessary irrigation to preserve trees and high-value landscape. (Let turf areas 'brown-out' this summer and recover when winter rains return)
- Do not drain or fill swimming pools or spas.
- Do not use water for dust control or construction.
- Do not use hoses to wash cars or equipment. (Wash vehicles only when necessary for safety or maintenance).
- Turn off and drain ornamental fountains and water features.

Stage III also results in the District suspending acceptance of applications for new water connections. Development projects that are in process will continue to move forward. Should Stage IV conditions be triggered, the District would cease processing all applications.

General Manager Michal LeBrun stated, "Basin health has declined significantly since last year. This is not entirely unexpected as we enter the fourth year of serious drought. Our supplemental water supply is arriving just in time!"

The District's water shortage response plan is designed to manage water supplies during the current drought. The new supplemental water supplies are part of a long-term solution to balance water supply and demand and sustain groundwater basin health.

The District is working with neighboring water agencies and County agencies to coordinate conservation efforts across the Nipomo Mesa.

For more information about the drought, conservation programs and other water related issues, please contact the Nipomo Community Services District at 929-1133, [info@ncsd.ca.gov](mailto:info@ncsd.ca.gov), or visit [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov).

###

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.

# OPINION

## A world of water on tap

Water and its sources are on our mind right now because of California's persistent drought and because policymakers have finally seen the wisdom of mandating reduced consumption.

We need water to survive, and since necessity is the mother of invention, some among us are coming up with innovative ways of saving water and acquiring more of it.

For example, San Luis Obispo County officials have worked out a deal with Pacific Gas and Electric Co. to buy some of Diablo Canyon Power Plant's excess desalinated water when it's needed to fight fires.

The plant's reverse-osmosis desal system turns ocean water into usable fresh water at the rate of 450 gallons a minute, but the plant only needs about half that.

SLO County's acquisition of water won't be cheap at more than \$1,000 an acre-foot, which compares very

### IN OUR POINT OF VIEW

unfavorably with water prices from what is clearly a bygone era. But the cost really doesn't matter — if that's all the extra water you can get.

The policymakers at Cuesta College also put on their thinking caps and came up with a plan to redesign landscaping on its two campuses.

The strategy involves removing overly thirsty plants and grasses and replacing them with greenery that doesn't need so much water.

They reckon the new look will save up to 6.5 million gallons of water a year.

Not everyone can work a deal with a nuclear power plant to buy surplus desalinated water, but most of us can take a hint from the Cuesta program and rethink our

own lawns and gardens. For years, we've taken readily available, inexpensive water for granted, so our landscaping habits were based on that paradigm.

But now, facing what the science community believes could be the first few years of a mega-drought, we all need to start thinking in new ways.

We need to ask such questions as: Are we sure all our faucets are water-tight? Are any spigots in the yard leaking?

The irony is that we live on a planet that is, literally, almost completely covered by water. About 71 percent of Earth's surface is covered with it, and the oceans contain all but 3.5 percent of the planet's water.

If you could collect all Earth's water — in, on and above the planet — you'd end up with nearly 333 million cubic miles of the wet stuff.

If you could slosh it into a ball, it would have a diameter of about 860 miles.

Earth's supply of fresh water is just a fraction of the total, and if it was rolled into a ball it would have a diameter of about 170 miles.

The problem is, a lot of that fresh water is too deeply embedded underground to do humans much good. The supply of readily available fresh, mostly surface water hauled up would have a diameter of only about 35 miles.

It would be far better and more practical for us to take the time, energy and money necessary to avail ourselves of the abundance of water that only needs to have the salt removed to make it potable.

SLO County's move to buy desal water from the Diablo Canyon operation makes sense. We need to expand on that concept to a regional scale.

### KRANKY



## Tech group finds severe groundwater shortage

This past week, the group led by the courts with monitoring the health of the local groundwater basin announced conditions had worsened significantly from this time last year.

The group uses an index of eight carefully selected wells, known as the Key Wells Index, to evaluate the basin's condition over time.

April 2015 groundwater level measurements have brought the index to its lowest level in its 40-year record.

The index dropped 46 percent from last year's measurement and now indicates the Mesa is in a severe water shortage.

Nipomo Community Services District declared Stage 3 water shortage in response to the index. That means, the district must reduce groundwater pumping by 50 percent immediately.

Supplemental water will begin flowing in July and will help the district reduce groundwater demand in two ways:

First, for every gallon of water we import, we pump one less gallon of groundwater.

Next year we are scheduled to import more than 200 million gallons of



Inside NCSD  
Michael LeBrun

supplemental water and pump 200 million less gallons of groundwater.

Second, our new water source is expensive, and district customers can expect to see a 30 percent jump in their water rates starting in July.

All customers are encouraged to make every effort to conserve water this summer to avoid "water-bill shock" in the fall when summer use bills arrive.

District staff is reaching out to high-use residential, commercial and irrigation customers directly and is coordinating with other area water companies, the county and Lucia Mar Unified School District to address the Mesawide threat.

Customers whose typical

two-month summer water use is 60 billing units, or 45,000 gallons, or greater can likely make adjustments to landscape irrigation and see a steady or declining bill in the face of the scheduled rate increase.

More importantly, saving water today will help preserve our basin so less expensive groundwater can be preserved as a source in the future.

Call us to get a record of your water use and more information about how you can save water and save money.

Water is precious, and money is hard-earned. Let's do all we can to save all we can.

What have you done to conserve? If you have cut your water use, we want to hear from you.

You may be featured in upcoming NCSD communications. Contact the district at [info@ncsd.ca.gov](mailto:info@ncsd.ca.gov).

Michael LeBrun is the general manager of the Nipomo Community Services District. He can be reached by calling 929-1133 or by email at [info@ncsd.ca.gov](mailto:info@ncsd.ca.gov). Follow NCSD on Facebook or on Twitter at [NipomoCSD](https://twitter.com/NipomoCSD).

### RUBES



Another reason Pinocchio wished to be a real boy.

### DETOX SUPPORT RECOVERY

Addiction Physician Directs All Patient Care  
Medical Detox • Evidence Based  
Individualized Treatment • Affordable  
Outpatient Care • Confidential  
Individual and Group Counseling  
12 Step and Non 12 Step Programs

Diplomat of the American Board of Addiction Medicine

1200 Van Buren Drive #180, Los Osos  
151 W. Dana Street #101, Nipomo  
760-345-3321 | [www.addictionrecovery.com](http://www.addictionrecovery.com)

### Do You Need a Boost?

I have a new app for my iPhone that measures my sleep quality. Why I want this is a mystery even to myself. Each morning when I turn off my alarm, the app asks me to choose an emotion to describe how I feel. Today, I chose great. Now, granted, I didn't sleep well last night, my aging back ached and I was worried about a sick parishioner, but as soon as I tapped "great" I started feeling great, at least I would like to think so.

Once the Holy Spirit comes in, it nudges us with opportunities to change the way we think so that we change the way we feel. Maybe it is an emotion, maybe it is a bird song outside your window, maybe it is a shot out of tea. All of those things are little Spirit boosts. If you would like to experience the Spirit's empowering power in your life, join us. I'm Eugene Coeble. I'm the pastor and I'll love to meet you.

Nipomo Community Presbyterian Church  
1414 S. Thompson Ave. St. Mary 161  
473-8052

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# BROWN is the new GREEN.

## REDUCE YOUR USE!

Our water supply is threatened.

[www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov)  
[f](https://www.facebook.com/NipomoCSD) [t](https://twitter.com/NipomoCSD) /NipomoCSD



Nipomo Community Services District



**BROWN  
is the new  
GREEN.**

**SEVERE WATER  
SHORTAGE**

**We MUST reduce water use  
by 30%!**



**Nipomo Community Services District**



# BROWN IS THE NEW GREEN!

## Nipomo MUST reduce use by 30%

State regulations require the District to reduce water use or face significant daily fines. Additionally, the District's Board of Directors recently declared Stage III Water Shortage Conditions. District customers are strongly urged to make necessary water cutbacks to achieve a 30% reduction in District groundwater pumping by making the following changes:

- ◆ Turn off all automated irrigation systems. *(Take manual and direct control of irrigation)*
- ◆ Provide minimum necessary irrigation to preserve trees and high-value landscape. *(Let turf areas 'brown-out' this summer and recover when winter rains return)*
- ◆ Do not drain or fill swimming pools or spas.
- ◆ Do not use water for dust control or construction.
- ◆ Do not use hoses to wash cars or equipment. *(Wash vehicles only when necessary for safety or maintenance)*
- ◆ Turn off and drain ornamental fountains and water features.

Visit the District's website for more information and tips.



Nipomo Community Services District

[info@ncsd.ca.gov](mailto:info@ncsd.ca.gov) | [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov)



## **Chamber of Commerce Editorial**

### **2015-2016 Directory**

The mission of Nipomo Community Services District is to provide its customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future. Established in 1965 to meet the health and sanitation needs of the local community, Nipomo Community Services District provides water, sewer, and waste management services throughout its services area. The District provides lighting, landscape management, and drainage services, in limited areas.

### **History of NCS D – Serving the Community for 50 Years**

After four confirmed cases of typhoid fever in the early 1960's, the San Luis Obispo County Health Department tested private wells in the community and found high concentrations of nitrate and chlorides in the water. Coliform was also found in some of the private water wells in Nipomo. It was determined that wastewater was seeping into the water supply. The County Health Department established a direct relationship between the occurrence of infant methemoglobinemia (Blue Babies) in the community and the presence of nitrates in the drinking water.

On June 4, 1964, County Hydraulic Engineer Mr. Bob Born made a report to the County Board of Supervisors on the water and sanitary problems in Nipomo. Mr. Born's report concluded with the recommendation that a public entity be formed to address the water and sewer problems in Nipomo.

On January 28, 1965, Nipomo Community Services District was formed under the Community Services District Law of California Government Code Section 61000. The first elected Board Members were William C. Black, Cecil E. (Gene) Davis, James A. Kitchen, Oren W. (Jim) Miller and John R. Mylan. The Board of Directors immediately pursued the construction of the District's first public water system. A bond election was held on February 15, 1966, and the property owners whose land was covered by the new District approved a property tax measure to support the sale of bonds worth \$650,000. These funds paid for the acquisition, construction, and installation of the District's first water system. Construction began in June 1966, and was completed in November 1966, at which time water began to flow. This 25-year bond issue was paid off June 15, 1991. Today, the District serves our growing community with over 4,000 water system connections and 90-miles of buried water lines. The District operates eight wells to produce water and holds over 4-million gallons of water in storage for system reliability and emergency (fire) response. In 2007, the District water system was valued at over \$90,000,000.

In the 1970's, County and State Health agencies continued to raise concern over septic systems (private sewage disposal systems) serving high density residential development in Nipomo. The county placed a building moratorium on the area and the State Regional Water Quality Control Board defined a septic system prohibition area covering most of Olde Towne Nipomo east of Highway 101 and areas of dense mobile home parks and residential lots on the west side of Highway 101. In 1984, a zero-interest loan was secured from the State and the District constructed its first sewer project. The project came on line

in 1986. In the 1990's the plant's treatment capacity was expanded while the collection system's reach continued to expand. In 2014, the District completed a \$13 Million project to replace the original treatment system. The new treatment plant achieves a much higher level of treatment and sets the ground work for plant expansion as the needs of the community increase. The treated plant effluent is put in basins and allowed to return to our local groundwater supply, effectively and efficiently recycling the community's wastewater.

Today, the District serves over 3,000 sewer connections via forty-miles of buried sewer collection lines. Wastewater is conveyed to one of two independent treatment facilities. In 2007, the Town Sewer collection and treatment system was valued at nearly \$40,000,000, and system serving Blacklake Village was valued at \$10,000,000.

### **Abilities, Powers, and Jurisdiction of NCS D**

Nipomo Community Services District is a non-profit, customer-owned public utility formed under California Community Services District law. A five-member Board of Directors is elected by and from the District's registered voter–customers. The elected Board is responsible for establishing District policy and hiring a General Manager.

The current Board is comprised of: Board President Craig Armstrong (serving on the Board since 2012, current term ends 2016), Vice-president Dan A. Gaddis (serving since 2010, current term ends 2018), Ed Eby (served 8 years previously, currently serving since 2014 and term ends 2018), Robert (Bob) Blair (served 10 years previously, currently serving since 2012, term ends 2016), and Dan Woodson (serving since 2014, term ends 2018). Michael S. LeBrun has served as the District's General Manager since 2009.

The District's main services are potable water production, treatment, and distribution, and wastewater collection, treatment, and reclamation. The District also provides solid waste services through a franchise agreement. The District provides lighting, landscape management, and drainage services within limited areas of its services boundary. The District and the entire Nipomo Mesa area rely on the County for fire, planning, roads, development approval and police services.

The District's 2014-2015 Budget includes over \$6 million in approved operating expenditures and over \$13 million in approved capital expenditures. Independent audits of the District's finances have been conducted annually for over twenty years.

### **Nipomo Supplemental Water Project**

During its fifty year history, the District's sole source of water has been wells on the Nipomo mesa. A second source will be added this summer when the supplemental water pipeline to Santa Maria is completed. This new supply represents a long-term solution that will help balance our groundwater basin and secure our long term water resources. The pipeline will initially provide 650 acre feet of water per year. Additional improvements to our water distribution system which will allow deliveries to be increased to 3,000 acre feet per year will be completed as additional funding becomes available.

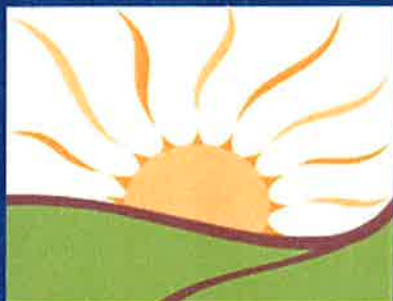
## History of the Project

In 1992, District water customers voted against participating in the State Water project as it was being planned and constructed through the area. In 2004, the District reached an agreement to purchase water (State water and groundwater blend) from the City of Santa Maria. In May 2012, a property tax measure to fund the large-capacity (3000 Acre-foot per year) pipeline project failed. Following the failed water project funding vote, District leaders halted the processing of applications for new water service citing concerns over groundwater supply health and uncertainty of a firm time-line for the delivery of supplemental water to the area. The Board of Directors formed a citizen's committee to review previous District supply studies and all available information regarding options for supplemental water supplies. The Citizen's Committee reported to the Board of Directors in February 2013 and the Board approved a funding plan for a scaled down \$17.8M Project including the sale of up to \$9.5M in municipal bonds.

The District went to bid in March 2013 and in June awarded three project construction contracts. Construction on the Project began July 2013 with the majority of the pipeline successfully crossing under the Santa Maria River bed in November 2013. The Project is within budget and on schedule to begin water deliveries in July 2015.

**Jessica Matson**

**From:** Nipomo Chamber of Commerce <info@nipomochamber.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 02, 2015 10:58 AM  
**To:** Jessica Matson  
**Subject:** Monday News - on Tuesday, June 2, 2015



**Nipomo**  
CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE



Richard Malvarose  
Chamber President  
Nipomo Properties

**Monday News - on Tuesday!**

**June 2, 2015**

*Nipomo Chamber of Commerce*

## *June Mixer*

### *Field to Table Catering & Events*

*Field to Table Catering & Events is the newest Central Coast Boutique Catering Company specializing in weddings, corporate, & winery events. Owned and operated by Tracy Cole Labastida, the name is derived from Tracy's life journey from a farmer turned chef.*

*Thursday, June 11th*  
*146 N. Thompson Rd.*  
*5:00-7:00pm*

*Nipomo Chamber Mixers are always open to the*

#### **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](mailto:info@nipomochamber.org)

#### **For Info Contact:**

Amber Wilson  
Executive Director  
[amber@nipomochamber.org](mailto:amber@nipomochamber.org)

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Nipoma Community Services District

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**Grass guzzles water, 'brown out' your lawn.**



**SEVERE WATER  
SHORTAGE!**

**Brown is the new  
green.**

Learn more at [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov) or



Nipomo Community Services District

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
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	Adobe	
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 Community	1/14/2015	1/14/2015	Tribune	1/16/2015	Adobe	1/20/2015	SM Times	1/20/2015
1/14/2015	Board of Directors Ratifies Committee Assignments for 2015	1/15/2015	1/15/2015	KCOY	1/28/2015	KSBY	1/28/2015	SM Times	2/3/2015
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
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	Adobe	5/22/2015





## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 22, 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](mailto:mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov)



### **Board Declares Stage III Water Shortage Conditions and Moves Forward with Response Plan**

At a Special Meeting of its Board of Directors held on Thursday May 21, the Nipomo Community Services District declared Stage III Water Shortage conditions and directed District staff to implement the response plan.

The Water Shortage Response and Management Plan is based on five escalating stages of drought. In Stages III through V, there are targeted reductions in water use designed to protect long-term groundwater supplies. Stage III represents Severe Water Shortage Conditions and sets a goal of reducing District-wide water use by 30%. District customer and *all users of the local groundwater basin* are encouraged to:

- Turn off all automated irrigation systems. (Take manual and direct control of irrigation)
- Provide minimum necessary irrigation to preserve trees and high-value landscape. (Let turf areas 'brown-out' this summer and recover when winter rains return)
- Do not drain or fill swimming pools or spas.
- Do not use water for dust control or construction.
- Do not use hoses to wash cars or equipment. (Wash vehicles only when necessary for safety or maintenance).
- Turn off and drain ornamental fountains and water features.

Stage III also results in the District suspending acceptance of applications for new water connections. Development projects that are in process will continue to move forward. Should Stage IV conditions be triggered, the District would cease processing all applications.

General Manager Michal LeBrun stated, "Basin health has declined significantly since last year. This is not entirely unexpected as we enter the fourth year of serious drought. Our supplemental water supply is arriving just in time!"

The District's water shortage response plan is designed to manage water supplies during the current drought. The new supplemental water supplies are part of a long-term solution to balance water supply and demand and sustain groundwater basin health.

The District is working with neighboring water agencies and County agencies to coordinate conservation efforts across the Nipomo Mesa.

For more information about the drought, conservation programs and other water related issues, please contact the Nipomo Community Services District at 929-1133, [info@ncsd.ca.gov](mailto:info@ncsd.ca.gov), or visit [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov).

###

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: June 4, 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



**Transparency Certificate of Excellence Awarded a Second Time to Nipomo Community Services District**

On May 28, 2015, Nipomo Community Services District received news it had once again received the District Transparency Certificate of Excellence by the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF) in recognition of its outstanding efforts to promote transparency and good governance.

“This award is a testament to the Nipomo Community Services District’s commitment to open government,” said Michael LeBrun, General Manager. “District staff and our elected Board of Directors are to be commended for their contributions that empower the public with information and facilitate engagement and oversight.”

In order to receive the award, a special district must demonstrate the completion of eight essential governance transparency requirements, including conducting ethics training for all board members, properly conducting open and public meetings, and filing financial transactions and compensation reports to the State Controller in a timely manner.

The Nipomo Community Services District also fulfilled fifteen website requirements, including providing readily available information to the public, such as board agendas, past minutes, current district budget, and the most recent financial audit.

Finally, the District must demonstrate outreach to its constituents that engages the public in its governance, through a regular newsletter and an annual informational public budget hearing.

The Nipomo Community Services District operates one water system and two sewer systems; one serving the Town Division and one serving the Blacklake Division. They provide the following services to their residents: water, wastewater, solid waste franchise, street lighting in the Blacklake division and drainage to a limited area.

SDLF is an independent, non-profit organization formed to promote good governance and best practices among California’s special districts through certification, accreditation and other recognition programs.

Next Scheduled Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 10, 2015, 9AM, District Jon S. Seitz Board Room, 148 South Wilson, Nipomo.

For more information, please contact the Nipomo Community Services District at 929-1133 or visit [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov).

###

**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.**

## NCSD warns of new water disinfectant

MAY 22, 2015 12:00 AM • STAFF REPORT

In a little more than a month, Nipomo Community Services District expects to begin delivering a blend of groundwater and supplemental water, which will mean a change in the method used to disinfect it.

NCSD wants customers to know in advance that the change will have an impact on certain individuals who should be prepared for the switch.

The district has used chlorine to disinfect its water before delivering it to customers, but the supplemental water is being purchased from the city of Santa Maria, which uses a chloramines system, NCSD General Manager Michael LeBrun said.

So NCSD will switch its system from chlorine to chloramine to be compatible with the city's water.

LeBrun noted chloramine is "a quick, effective and safe method of water disinfection."

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

But people who are on kidney dialysis and those who have aquariums will have to give special consideration to the change.

LeBrun said people on dialysis should contact their physicians for information on what steps they may need to take.

Those who own aquariums will also have to draw the water from the tap and allow it to stand days longer in open containers before filling or adding it to their aquariums, he said.

As an alternative, aquarium owners can use solutions for dissipating chlorine and chloramines that are sold at most pet supply stores.

LeBrun said Santa Maria adds safe and approved amounts of fluoride to its water, adding the Centers for Disease Control has called fluoridation one of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century because the proper amount of fluoride from infancy through old age helps prevent and control tooth decay.

However, he said NCSD will not add fluoride to its water, so what's delivered to customers will contain fluoride levels equal to or less than that found in Santa Maria's water supply.

NCSD plans to hold public information sessions next month to discuss the delivery of supplemental water and the change in disinfection systems. Details of those sessions will be announced in June.



## Nipomo declares severe water shortage

MAY 23, 2015 12:00 AM • BY APRIL CHARLTON

A severe water shortage has been declared for Nipomo, meaning no applications for new water connections in the community will be accepted, although development projects in the planning process will continue to move forward.

At a special meeting Thursday, the Community Services District board declared Stage 3 water shortage conditions and directed district staff to implement a corresponding response plan that includes a goal of reducing districtwide water use by 30 percent.

Nipomo's only source of water is groundwater, which is pumped from the underlying Santa Maria Groundwater Basin. The basin has seen decreasing levels in the last year, triggering the district to make the severe water shortage declaration.

"This is not entirely unexpected as we enter the fourth year of serious drought," NCSD General Manager Michael LeBrun said.

The district's water shortage response plan is designed to manage water supplies during the current drought, as well as the health of the groundwater basin.

If the basin's levels don't improve and the severe water shortage declaration remains in place for a year, Stage 4 conditions – the district would cease processing all applications at that point -- would be triggered, LeBrun said.

The district is working with neighboring water agencies, as well as various county agencies, to coordinate conservation efforts across the Nipomo Mesa.

NCSD customers and all users of the basin are being asked to voluntarily help with those efforts by turning off and draining all ornamental fountains and water features, not using hoses to wash cars or equipment, not using water for dust control, not filling pools or spas and turning off all automated irrigation systems.

"We have a Mesa-wide issue here," LeBrun said. "We all need to do what we can to decrease the demand on the basin."

Supplemental water is expected to be on tap in Nipomo by early July, which will help improve the health of the groundwater basin for the immediate future and provide a long-term solution for supplies in the community.

The district has contracted with Santa Maria for the water – 645 acre-feet a year.

"For every gallon that we bring in, that's one less gallon that we have to pump," LeBrun said.

# Santa Maria Sun / News

The following articles were printed from Santa Maria Sun [santamariasun.com] - Volume 16, Issue 12  
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## Nipomo declares Stage III water shortage conditions

BY DAVID MINSKY

In the face of the ever-continuing drought, the Nipomo Community Services District issued a Stage III water shortage declaration on May 21.

According to NCS D Public Information Director Jessica Matson, the declaration is based on a report known as the Key Wells Index—which measures the level of water in eight wells scattered across the Nipomo Mesa. The report is issued by the Nipomo Mesa Management Area and is supposed to be representative of the overall groundwater level.

The declaration followed a special meeting with the NCS D Board of Directors, which directed the staff to implement a response plan.

Stage III represents severe water shortage conditions and sets the goal to reduce water by 30 percent district-wide. Water-saving measures also extend to other users of the groundwater basin.

The measures include turning off all automated irrigation systems, providing the minimum necessary irrigation to preserve trees and “high-value” landscapes, not draining or filling swimming pools or spas, not using water for dust control or construction, not using hoses to wash cars, and turning off and draining ornamental fountains.

With the declaration, the district suspended applications for new water connections, but current development projects will continue to move forward. However, the district will stop processing all development applications if the shortage conditions are upgraded to Stage IV.

For NCS D General Manager Michael LeBrun, the declaration isn’t cause for alarm because the Nipomo Supplement Water Project pipeline will be finished in June.

“This is not entirely unexpected as we enter the fourth year of serious drought,” LeBrun said. “Our supplemental water supply is arriving just in time.”

When operational testing is complete, LeBrun said the \$17.5-million dollar pipeline will carry anywhere between 650 and 800 acre-feet of water (with one acre-foot equaling 325,900 gallons) per year to the Mesa.

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### NIPOMO'S SAVIOR

*The water pipeline running through the Santa Maria Riverbed to carry water from Santa Maria to Nipomo should be ready to deliver supplies in June. NCS D General Manger Michael LeBrun said the district's recent Stage III water shortage declaration wasn't expected and isn't cause for alarm because more water is on the way.*

FILE PHOTO BY STEVE E. MILLER

## Nipomo declares severe water shortage

MAY 26, 2015 12:30 PM • APRIL CHARLTON ACHARLTON@LEECENTRALCOASTNEWS.COM

A severe water shortage has been declared for Nipomo, meaning no applications for new water connections in the community will be accepted, although development projects in the planning process will continue to move forward.

At a special meeting Thursday, May 21, the Nipomo Community Services District board of directors declared a Stage 3 water shortage and directed district staff to implement a corresponding response plan with a goal of reducing districtwide water use by 30 percent.

Nipomo's only source of water is groundwater, which is pumped from the underlying Santa Maria Valley Groundwater Basin.

The level in the Nipomo Mesa Management Area of the basin has decreased in the last year, triggering the district to declare the severe water shortage.

"This is not entirely unexpected as we enter the fourth year of serious drought," NCSD General Manager Michael LeBrun said.

The district's water shortage response plan is designed to manage water supplies during the current drought as well as the ongoing health of the groundwater basin.

If the basin's levels don't improve and the severe water shortage declaration remains in place for a year, a Stage 4 condition would be triggered, and the district would cease processing all applications, LeBrun said.

The district is working with neighboring water agencies, as well as various county agencies, to coordinate conservation efforts across the Nipomo Mesa.

NCSD customers and all private users of the basin are being asked to voluntarily help those efforts by not using hoses to wash cars or equipment and not using water for dust control.

Residents are also being asked to turn off all automated irrigation systems, turn off and drain all ornamental fountains and water features and not fill pools and spas.

"We have a Mesawide issue here," LeBrun said. "We all need to do what we can to decrease the demand on the basin."

Supplemental water is expected to be on tap in Nipomo by early July, which will help improve the health of the groundwater basin for the immediate future and provide a long-term solution for supplies in the community, he said.

The district has contracted with Santa Maria to purchase the water – 645 acre-feet a year, initially – that will be a blend of groundwater and state water.



Posted: May 28, 2015 4:20 PM PDT  
Updated: May 28, 2015 6:27 PM PDT

# Central Coast cities implement stricter water restrictions

By Amanda Starrantino **CONNECT**

The water supply in California continues to dwindle, with the drought not showing any signs of giving up anytime soon. Cities across the Central Coast are adding tougher restrictions as they get a better look at what they are facing.

The ongoing severe drought conditions and low reservoir levels prompted Governor Jerry Brown to release guidelines for water usage per city based on their recent consumption. Most of the cuts on the Central Coast are for 25%.

Cities across the region are declaring themselves in various stages of water shortage emergencies.

On Wednesday, Arroyo Grande declared a Stage 1 Emergency. The City Council is requiring residential customers to reduce their water usage anywhere from 10-30% depending on their previous water consumption. Residents who do not cut back could face up to a \$200 fine.

In Nipomo, a Stage 3 Emergency is declared. The Community Services District Board of Directors set a goal of 30% reduction. Guidelines provided to residents include turning off automated irrigation systems, only watering landscapes if necessary, and not filling pools. Although there are no enforcement policies, water rates will jump by 30% beginning in July.

Recently in Santa Maria, the city council discussed modifying Stage 1 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plan. These modifications prohibit residents from watering lawns within 48 hours of rainfall and using potable water for irrigation.

Click on the city listed for information on water restrictions and guidelines:

[Cambria](#)

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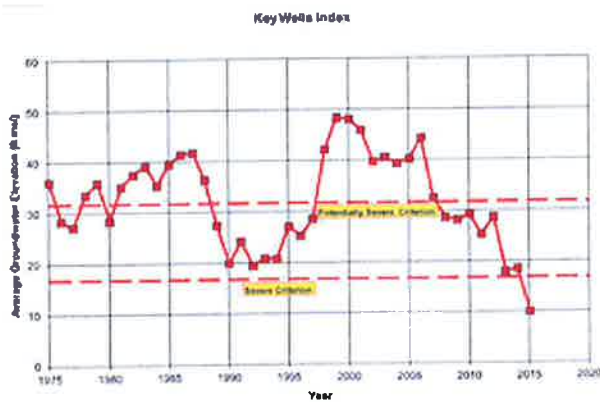
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## Key Wells Index hits lowest level



10 HOURS AGO • MIKE HODGSON  
[MHODGSON@LEECENTRALCOASTNEWS.COM](mailto:MHODGSON@LEECENTRALCOASTNEWS.COM)

The severe water shortage declared last week by Nipomo Community Services District was triggered by a Nipomo Mesa Management Area Technical Group report showing a dramatic plunge in the groundwater level this spring.

Measurements in eight key wells show the groundwater level dropped 46 percent from a year ago, falling to about 10 feet above mean sea level — well below the trigger point for a

severe water shortage set by the Technical Group at roughly 17 feet.

The groundwater basin is now at its lowest level since the county and other local agencies started keeping track of its rises and falls in 1975.

The previous record low point was in 2013 when it fell to just above the severe water shortage trigger point.

What local water officials find most troubling is that the level has fallen so low in the spring, when the levels are usually highest following the rainy season.

The drop in the eight wells' average level, known as the Key Well Index, is the realization of local officials' fears that the groundwater basin was in trouble from overpumping, as more water was pulled out each year than Mother Nature could replace.

Others scoffed at the idea, pointing to records from the last 40 years showing the level in the aquifer meandering above and below the potentially severe shortage level — roughly 32 feet above mean sea level — and even peaking at nearly 50 feet around 2000.

They said indicated the most recent downward trend that started in 2006 was just part of a normal cycle.

Perhaps it is, but it's likely a gradual increase in pumping has been magnified by the ongoing drought.

Regardless of whether it's merely an extreme swing in an otherwise normal cycle or an indication of a worsening trend, water purveyors and individual well owners are now faced with a more urgent need to conserve.

The 2005 settlement in a lawsuit over groundwater rights set up the NMMA Technical Group and directed it to develop not only the trigger points but also criteria for stepping up to Stage 4

and 5 water shortages.

Under the Stage 3 declaration, NCSD and the area's other major water purveyors are required to cut pumping by 30 percent, which means their customers have to cut their water use through additional conservation measures.

The district will not accept new applications for water service, although existing applications will be processed, and the supplemental water NCSD is buying from Santa Maria will be allocated to new connections.

If necessary, NCSD could institute drought rates that would push the cost per unit of water even higher as customers' use climbs up through the tiers, persuading customers to cut back by hitting them where it hurts — in the wallet.

The specter lurking in the shadows, however, is the potential for the drought to drag on or, worse, intensify.

Even with supplemental water offsetting some of the current pumping, a total lack of rain in the coming "wet" season could hold the level of the groundwater basin below the severe water shortage trigger point for a year, which would push the shortage to Stage 4.

That would force a 50-percent reduction in groundwater pumping on water purveyors.

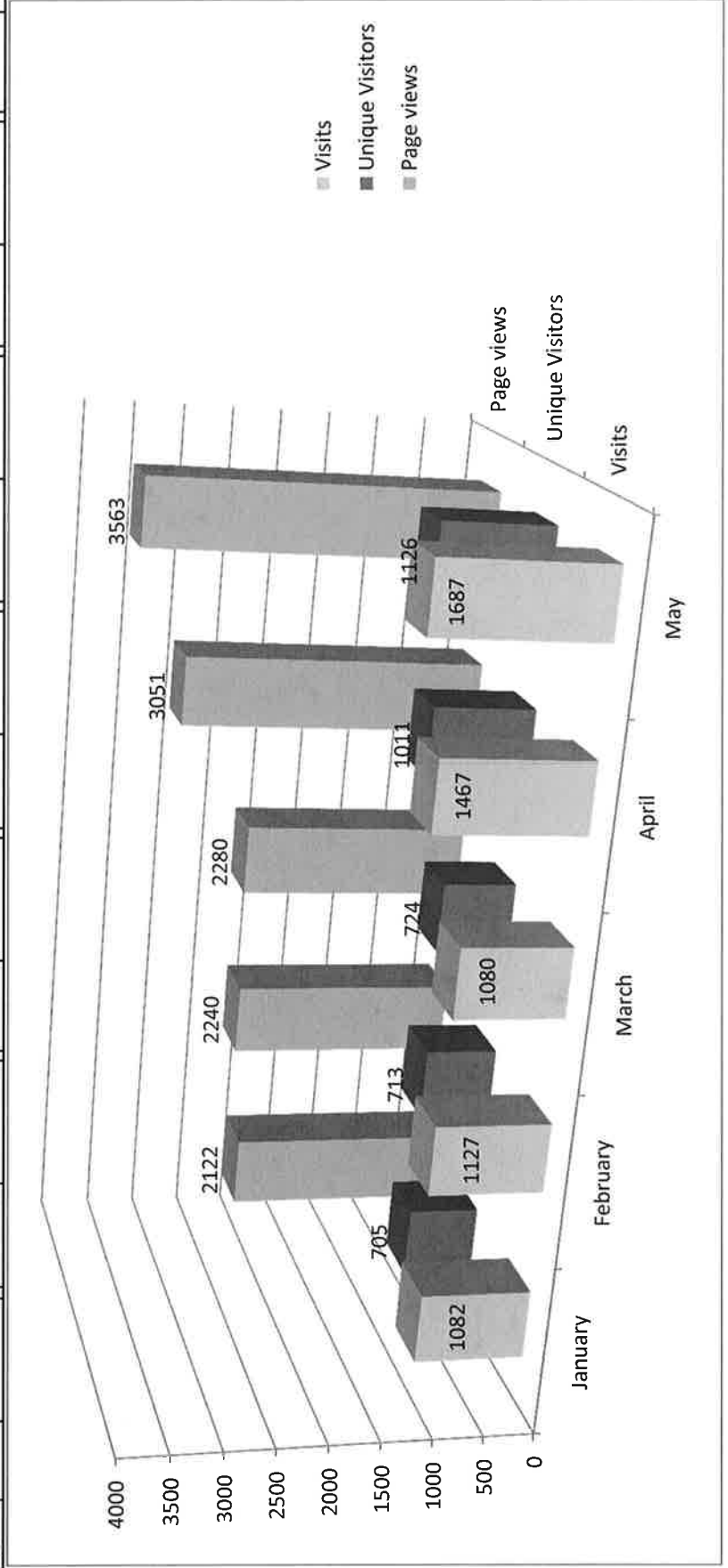
And in addition to previous conservation measures, customers would not be allowed to use district water for irrigation or any other outdoor use.

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	56.77%	50.17%	Mon 1/5	
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%	58.90%	Mon 3/16	
3/23/15 - 3/29/15	250	190	666	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	366	294	762	2.08	0:01:34	61.20%	58.47%	Tue 4/14	
4/20/15 - 4/26/15	335	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	
5/18/15 - 5/24/15	460	325	955	2.08	0:02:20	58.48%	49.35%	Wed 5/20	Special Meeting announcement
5/25/15 - 5/31/15	384	299	776	2.02	0:02:00	52.08%	57.29%	Tue 5/26	

Website Traffic Summary

2014	Visits	Chg from Prev Mo	Unique Visitors	Chg from Prev Mo	Page views	Chg from Prev Mo	Pages/ Visit	Chg from Prev Mo	Avg. Visit Duration	Chg from Prev Mo	Bounce Rate	Chg from Prev Mo	% New Visits	Chg from Prev Mo
January	1082		705		2122		1.96		0:01:35		54.34%		52.77%	
February	1127	4.16%	713	1.13%	2240	5.56%	1.99	1.53%	0:01:35	0.00%	55.37%	1.90%	49.42%	-6.35%
March	1080	-4.17%	724	1.54%	2280	1.79%	2.11	6.03%	0:01:37	2.11%	54.35%	-1.84%	54.63%	10.54%
April	1467	35.83%	1011	39.64%	3051	33.82%	2.08	-1.42%	0:01:41	4.12%	55.96%	2.96%	58.01%	6.19%
May	1687	15.00%	1126	11.37%	3563	16.78%	2.11	1.44%	0:02:06	24.75%	53.11%	-5.09%	55.25%	-4.76%
June														
July														
August														
September														
October														
November														
December														



2015 Social Media Summary

FACEBOOK

Week	New Users	Comment Likes	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	6	0	0	NA	Funny video, serious issue. What are your water priorities? #CADrought #savewater #everydropcounts (157 views)
4/3/15 - 4/16/15	4	2	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)
5/22/15 - 6/4/15	3	1	0	3	180	Brown out' this summer. Our water supply depends on it. #Nipomo #savewater #brownisthenewgreen (43 views)

\*data will be available after 30 users

TWITTER

Week	New Followers	Re-tweets (shared)	Mentions/Favorites (comments)	Link Visits (visits to links)	Content Views (Impressions)	Most Popular Post
2014	30					

**2015 Social Media Summary**

<b>Week</b>	<b>New Users</b>	<b>Comment Likes</b>	<b>Comment Shares</b>	<b>User Posts</b>	<b>*Content Views</b>	<b>Most Popular Post</b>
12/5/14 - 1/8/15 (28 day period)	7	4	0	8	1,100	Options for disposing of your tree... <a href="http://fb.me/1o4KKY5dO">http://fb.me/1o4KKY5dO</a> (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)
1/9/15 - 2/5/15 (28 day period)	5	5	6	6	980	Your Monday tip has to do with MULCH! #savewatersavemoney #everydropcounts (68 views) A lot of works goes into making sure your water is safe. Here's a fun video of people drinking sewage water for... <a href="http://fb.me/7m0RQqiUd">http://fb.me/7m0RQqiUd</a> (148 views)
2/6/15 - 2/19/15 (14 day period)						We'll take the rain but the storms did not provide us enough to ease drought symptoms. In January, District... <a href="http://fb.me/3ADhXucdM">http://fb.me/3ADhXucdM</a> (35 views)
2/20/15 - 3/5/15 (14 day period)	3	0	0	5	699	Ever wondered who your District's staff are? The friendly faces of NCSD (picture of staff) (31 views)
3/6/15 - 3/19/15 (14 day period)	3	0	0	4	555	Fix A Leak Week: Videos on how to check your home for leaks! #FixaLeak #everydropcounts #savewatersavemoney <a href="http://fb.me/6uttTDQnC">http://fb.me/6uttTDQnC</a> (82 views)
3/20/15 - 4/2/15 (14 day period)	2	1	3	4	708	Defensible space tips from CAL FIRE. #calfire #springcleaning <a href="http://fb.me/3gZitywPR">http://fb.me/3gZitywPR</a> (99 views)
4/3/15 - 4/16/15 (14 day period)	9	2	2	5	705	Saving water is increasingly important. Share what you are doing to conserve. #CADrought #EveryDropCounts #savewater <a href="http://fb.me/3YFdOISCJ">http://fb.me/3YFdOISCJ</a> (182 views)

**2015 Social Media Summary**

<b>Week</b>	<b>New Users</b>	<b>Comment Likes</b>	<b>Comment Shares</b>	<b>User Posts</b>	<b>*Content Views</b>	<b>Most Popular Post</b>
4/17/15 - 5/7/15 (21 day period)	6	2	6	11	1,200	"We need to stop pretending we have lots of water." A humorous look at our serious drought. #CADrought #savewater <a href="http://fb.me/3esmPdh59">http://fb.me/3esmPdh59</a> (88 views) It's South County Sanitary's clean-up week. Check out the flyer for more information. #cleanupweek #nipomo... <a href="http://fb.me/3icMkQjPS">http://fb.me/3icMkQjPS</a> (82 views)
5/8/15 - 5/21/15 (14 day period)	6	6	7	9	1,100	Remember, State regulations prohibit watering 2 days following rain. Turn off those sprinklers! #savewater #Cadrought (270 views) <a href="#">New</a> Press Release: Technical Group Releases Spring 2015 Index; Groundwater in Severe Shortage Condition; Meeting Thur <a href="http://ncsd.ca.gov">http://ncsd.ca.gov</a> (109 views)
5/22/15 - 6/4/15 (14 days)	4	3	1	4	1,600	New NCSD Press Release: Board Declares Stage III Water Shortage Conditions and Moves Forward with Response Plan... <a href="http://fb.me/4qYkvlgw">http://fb.me/4qYkvlgw</a> (172 views)

June 10, 2015

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ATTACHMENT C





**California Special  
Districts Association**

**CSDA**

*Districts Stronger Together*

May 21, 2015

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Drought Water System Consolidation Budget Trailer Bill 825 – COMMENTS**

Governor Brown:

We appreciate the opportunity to have met with your staff on May 20 regarding your proposed drought water system consolidation budget trailer bill 825, which was posted May 18. We thank your staff for taking the time to hear from a delegation of CSDA members who have extensive first-hand experience in consolidations of water systems. Due to the imminent June 15 deadline associated with this proposal, we have placed our initial feedback in writing for further consideration by you and your staff. We are continuing to vet this proposal with our membership and would like to continue our dialogue with your staff as the legislative process moves forward.

*Process*

In this letter, we have outlined both policy principles regarding local agency consolidation and our initial feedback as to the specific language used for the trailer bill. However, prior to that discussion, we must share our strong concerns with regard to the avenue through which this policy is currently proposed. Consolidation of essential local services, such as water systems, is a highly complex endeavor with a multitude of long-lasting health, fiscal and legal consequences. Ill-conceived alterations to this area of law could lead to years of legal wrangling that could exacerbate the plight of communities already struggling with a lack of resources.

Existing law in this area, under Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg, has taken decades to develop. The most appropriate place for considering changes to such policy is through the deliberative legislative policy process, not the truncated budget process. To the extent it requires urgent action, the legislature has the authority to enact the policy through urgency, rather than budget language.

*Principles*

In approaching this challenge, CSDA encourages the administration to consider the following principles:

1. **Key Distinction**—In terms of both democratic accountability and performance, public water systems managed by public agencies, like special districts, are distinct from those managed by private agencies, like mutual water companies. This distinction is borne out in terms of the number of systems identified as failing to provide potable water as well as the transparency and accountability provisions required under current law.

**California Special Districts Association**

1112 I Street, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
toll-free: 877.924.2732  
t: 916.442.7887  
f: 916.442.7889  
www.csdanet

*A proud California Special Districts Alliance partner*

Special District Risk Management Authority  
1112 I Street, Suite 300  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
toll-free: 800.537.7790  
f: 916.231.4111

CSDA Finance Corporation  
1112 I Street, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
toll-free: 877.924.2732  
f: 916.442.7889

We encourage the administration to recognize this distinction in how it approaches the consolidation of water systems. Consolidations affecting public agencies should recognize and allow for a local democratic process.

2. **A Local Process**—No two water systems, no two consolidations and no two communities are the same. Only a local process at the local level will adequately assess the unique, case-by-case nature of these circumstances. Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCOs) include the representation to provide a local process.
3. **Stakeholder Involvement**—Any consideration of reorganization or process for facilitating reorganization should be balanced and include consultation with representatives of all affected agencies. LAFCOs provide the forum to facilitate stakeholder involvement.
4. **Objective Analysis**—Reorganizations involve complex managerial, legal and engineering feats. Bigger is not always better, and combining a failing system with a non-failing system may not achieve savings. It may even exacerbate challenges. An objective analysis and feasibility study is important to provide guidance to decision-makers and transparency to the process. LAFCOs possess the experience and expertise in conducting and contracting for such analyses.
5. **Voter Rights**—Ultimately, the residents receiving a local service and paying for the service should choose the service. CSDA respects and values the role of the public in self-determining the local government entities that deliver its services. LAFCOs allow for public protest and vote on actions related to public agency consolidations.

### *Proposal*

While CSDA is still in the process of vetting the proposal with our membership, we wanted to enumerate the initial concerns we shared in our meeting with your staff due to the approaching deadline:

1. **Sunset Date**—As stated above, this proposal seeks to urgently address a highly complex area of law. Therefore, we encourage the administration consider adding a sunset date to allow for an evaluation as to the consequences and potentially unintended consequences of the new policy. Consolidations in the process at the time of the sunset should be permitted to continue under the proposal.
2. **Backstop**—We appreciate the administration's intent this proposal serve as a backstop to existing processes for the consolidation of water systems. We encourage the addition of language to make it clear the exercise of this proposal would serve as a last resort. Before authorizing the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) to consolidate water systems, it should require the local LAFCO to conduct an objective analysis and attempt to address the failed system through its recommended course of action using the LAFCO process. This LAFCO action may occur through an enhanced Government Code Section 56133 process, as discussed in the next section of this letter.
3. **Definition of "Public Water System"**—This term should be cross-referenced with the appropriate code sections to facilitate clarification and understanding of the proposed process.
4. **Definitions of "Fails" and "Adequate Supply"** —These definitions are critical as they trigger the new powers afforded the Water Board. How would the failure be measured? What is considered an adequate supply? How long and/or how many and how severe must the failures be? Would there be opportunity for prior notification or warning?

5. **Consultation of All Stakeholders**—Subsection (a) of the proposal requires consultation with the LAFCO. We encourage this consultation requirement be expanded to all affected stakeholders, including the receiving agency, the subsumed agency and the Public Utilities Commission where appropriate.
6. **Definition of “Feasible”**—The proposed paragraph (1) of subsection (c) requires a finding that consolidation is “feasible.” We encourage the administration define feasibility in a manner that encompasses economic and technical feasibility. We further suggest the proposal require use of the existing LAFCO process for conducting a feasibility study.
7. **Standard for “Best Means Available”**—The proposed paragraph (2) of subsection (c) requires a finding that consolidation is the best means of water provision. We encourage the inclusion of standards for this determination.
8. **Adequate and Affordable Financial Assistance**—We appreciate the inclusion of language in subsection (d) to provide the receiving agency with adequate and affordable financial assistance for the infrastructure needed to complete the consolidation. However, the proposal is unclear as to who will make this determination and what standard will be used in that determination. We encourage the amount of assistance be determined by the receiving agency and the feasibility study conducted by the LAFCO.
9. **Fair Market Value**—We appreciate the inclusion of language in proposed subsection (e) to provide state funding to pay privately held companies fair market value when their failed water systems are subsumed. We encourage the administration to clarify the funding source within the proposal. Furthermore it is important that liabilities, outstanding fees and penalties and the degraded state of the system are all factored into the assessed valuation.

### *Existing Solutions*

In addressing the challenges facing failing water systems, CSDA encourages the administration to first and foremost work within the framework of existing solutions:

1. **Government Code Section 56133**—This is an existing remedy to circumstances where there exists a threat to public health and safety. To the extent this remedy is inadequate or underutilized, we encourage the administration to enhance this section or incentivize its use to address the concern as effectively as possible through the existing framework. This would be preferable to creating an entirely new process through the Water Board.
2. **Integrated Regional Water Management**—The IRWM process provides an ideal framework for identifying and addressing failing water systems. The North Coast IRWM is an example of a successful plan making real progress. We encourage the administration build off of existing successful models, such as this, and work within an existing framework.
3. **Joint Powers Agreements**—The establishment of a JPA may be preferable to a direct consolidation as it would allow for the region to share technical support and spread financial risk.
4. **Functional Consolidations**—Authorizing for the management of a system and the sharing of resources, while maintaining local control and fiscal autonomy can sometimes mitigate drawbacks of standard consolidations while improving results.

5. **Simple Fixes**—There are times when simple fixes, such as funding wellhead treatment for small agencies will resolve circumstances threatening public health and safety. Funding and technical support for these simple fixes may be the most effective emergency solution.

*Additional Critical Considerations*

Before forcing consolidations, the State could reduce the existing barriers to consolidation. Without eliminating these barriers, forced consolidations may lead to unintended consequences. Among the considerations CSDA members have identified:

1. **Liability and Indemnification**—The liability a receiving agency—both retail and wholesale—must assume. We encourage the inclusion of language similar to what was provided for in SB 1130 of 2014 in order to protect agencies associated with the receiving of a failed water system.
2. **Litigation**—The litigation public agencies may face when taking on a failed system. The administration may want to consider avenues for providing legal support to receiving local agencies or LAFCOs. There may also need to be reforms to the legal process.
3. **Grant Funding Caps**—Consolidations under emergency circumstances typically require the receiving public agency to make significant infrastructure investments to bring the failing system into compliance and incorporate them into the public system. Examples of cost could include the establishment of a “lifeline” system, engineering and design, final system construction, well abandonment and closure, as well as annexation of the failed system into the public agency sphere of influence. The funding caps on existing grant opportunities can make these projects infeasible for the assuming agency. Providing state agencies with the flexibility to assess the needs of the system and make the appropriate funding award based on the demand for system improvements and water quality concerns would better facilitate the process.
4. **Receivership**—Consolidations can be a lengthy process and are rarely linear in nature, as negotiations may take a number of avenues. The receivership process is an available resource that can assist with resolving complicated issues and facilitating the transfer of the failing system to the assuming agency. As a result, reforms to streamline access to the court system in a timely manner may be appropriate.
5. **Operations and Maintenance Funding**—Operations and maintenance costs in disadvantaged communities. Most grant programs and revolving fund programs cover only design and construction costs. Two appropriate funding sources might include:
  - a. Restore local property tax revenues, diverted away from these communities since 1992 under the Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF), to a public agency that takes on a failing water system. This would provide a sustainable funding source for operations and maintenance.
  - b. Dedicate a portion of the Cap and Trade Expenditure Plan to public agencies that take on a failing water system for purposes of assisting with the associated ongoing operations and maintenance costs.

Once again, CSDA is thankful for the opportunity to share the experience of our membership with your administration as you continue your efforts to address the challenge of failing water systems. We look forward to ongoing dialogue and wish to continue serving as a resource to you and the Legislature.

Sincerely,



Kyle Packham

Advocacy & Public Affairs Director

CC: The Honorable Mark Leno, Chair Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee  
The Honorable Shirley Weber, Chair Assembly Budget Committee  
Martha Guzman-Aceves, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Brown  
Liz Haven, Deputy Director Division of Financial Assistance, State Water Resources Control Board  
Debbie Franco, Community and Rural Affairs Advisor, Office of Planning and Research  
Chris Calfee, Senior Counsel, Office of Planning and Research  
Cindy Forbes, Deputy Director, Division of Drinking Water, State Water Resources Control Board  
Mark Ibele, Staff Director, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee  
Catherine Freeman, Consultant, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee  
Rocel Bettencourt, Senate Republican Consultant  
Christian Griffith, Chief Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee  
Gabrielle Meindl, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee  
Chris Holtz, Consultant, Assembly Republican Consultant

June 10, 2015

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ATTACHMENT D



# AGENDA

## Planning Commissioners

Jim Irving, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Ken Topping, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Eric Meyer, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Jim Harrison, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Don Campbell, 5<sup>th</sup> District

**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, June 04, 2015

### **MEETING LOCATION AND SCHEDULE**

Regular Planning Commission meetings are held in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, County Government Center, 1055 Monterey Street, Room D170, San Luis Obispo, on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. Regular Adjourned Meetings are held when deemed necessary. The Regular Meeting schedule is as follows:

Meeting Begins	.	9:00 a.m.
Morning Recess	10:30 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
Noon Recess	12:00 p.m.	1:30 p.m.
Afternoon Recess	3:15 p.m.	3:30 p.m.

*ALL HEARINGS ARE ADVERTISED FOR 9:00 A.M. HEARINGS GENERALLY PROCEED IN THE ORDER LISTED, UNLESS CHANGED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION AT THE MEETING.*

### **ROLL CALL**

### **FLAG SALUTE**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

1. Members of the public wishing to address the Commission on matters other than scheduled items may do so at this time, when recognized by the Chairman. Presentations are limited to three minutes per individual.

### **PLANNING STAFF UPDATES**

2. This is the time set for Planning Staff updates.

### **HEARINGS: (Advertised for 9:00 a.m.)**

3. Continued hearing to consider a request by the **COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO** for amendments to the Agricultural Element and the Conservation and Open Space Element of the General Plan; and amendments to Title 8 (Health and Sanitation Code), Title 19 (Building and Construction Ordinance), and Title 22 (Land Use Ordinance) of the County Code in order to implement the Water Neutral New Development and the Water Waste Prevention components of the proposed Countywide Water Conservation Program. The proposed Countywide Water Conservation Program and associated amendments would affect water use in both new and existing development, including all urban and rural land uses within the unincorporated areas of the county as well as agricultural operations. The requested amendments would specifically modify: 1) the Agricultural Element of the County General Plan, Agricultural Goal – AG1 (Support County Agricultural Production), Agricultural Policies – AGP10 (Water Conservation) and AGP11 (Agricultural Water Supplies); 2) the Conservation and Open Space Element of the County General Plan, Water Resource Policy – WR 1.7 (Agricultural operations), Water Resource Implementation Strategy - WR 1.7.1 (Protect agricultural water supplies), and Water Resource

Policy - WR 1.14 (Avoid net increase in water use); 3) Title 8 (Health and Sanitation Ordinance) of the County Code for the addition of a new Chapter 8.69 – Urban and Rural Development Water Conservation Requirements; 4) Title 19 (Building and Construction Ordinance) of the County Code, Chapter 7 – Plumbing Code, Section 19.07.42 – Water Conservation Provisions; and 5) Title 22 (Land Use Ordinance) of the County Code, Chapter 22.06 – Allowable Land Uses and Permit Requirements by Land Use Category, Section 22.06.030 - Table 2-2, Section 22.06.040 – Exemptions from Land Use Permit Requirements, Chapter 22.30 – Standards for Specific Land Uses for the addition of a new Section 22.30.204 – New or Expanded Crop Production Overlying the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin, Section 22.30.310 – Nursery Specialties, Chapter 22.62 – Permit Approval or Disapproval, Section 22.62.030 – Zoning Clearance, and Chapter 22.80 – Definitions/Glossary, Section 22.80.030 – Definitions of Land Uses, and Specialized Terms and Phrases. This project affects all of the unincorporated portions of the County. Also for consideration is the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (DSEIR) was prepared (pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq., and CA Code of Regulations Section 15000 et seq. (“CEQA”)) for this project. The DSEIR was prepared as a Supplemental EIR to the previously certified Environmental Impact Report for the Conservation and Open Space Element (COSE) of the County General Plan, which analyzed the potential impacts associated with the adoption and subsequent implementation of the COSE Consolidation and Update. The DSEIR addresses potential impacts on: Agricultural Resources and Land Use. Mitigation measures are proposed to address these impacts and have been incorporated into the proposed Countywide Water Conservation Program. Prior to completion of the Planning Commission hearings, a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (FSEIR) will be completed (pursuant to CEQA) for this project and will be provided to the Planning Commission for consideration and potential certification recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. CONTINUED FROM 5/29/15.

**County File Number: LRP2013-00012**  
Supervisory District: All  
**Project Manager: Xzandrea Fowler**

Assessor Parcel Number : All  
Date Accepted: N/A  
Recommendation: Review and provide comments

## **ADJOURNMENT**

ESTIMATED TIME OF ADJOURNMENT: 5:00 pm

RAMONA HEDGES, SECRETARY  
COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION



## **PUBLIC RECORDS ACT**

Supplemental correspondence and other materials for open session agenda items that are distributed to the Planning Commission within 72 hours preceding the Planning Commission meeting are available for public viewing in the Planning and Building Department located at 976 Osos Street, Room 200. With respect to documents submitted by members of the public to the Planning Commission during a meeting, the law requires only that those documents be copied by the Clerk after the meeting for members of the public who desire copies. However, as a courtesy to others, it is requested that members of the public bring at least 12 extra copies of documents that they intend to submit to the Planning Commission during a meeting so that those extra copies can be immediately distributed to all members of the Planning Commission, County staff, and other members of the public who desire copies.

## **RULES FOR PRESENTING TESTIMONY**

Planning Commission hearings often involve highly emotional issues. It is important that all participants conduct themselves with courtesy, dignity and respect. All persons who wish to present testimony must observe the following rules:

1. When you come to the podium, first identify yourself and please state your area of residence. Commission meetings are tape recorded and this information is needed for the record.
2. Address your testimony to the Chair. Conversation or debate between a speaker at the podium and a member of the audience is not permitted.
3. Keep your testimony brief and to the point. Talk about the proposal and not about individuals involved. On occasion, the Chair may be required to place time limits on testimony; in those cases proposal description/clarification will be limited to 12 - 15 minutes, individual testimony to 3 minutes, and speakers representing organized groups to 5 minutes. Focus testimony on the most important parts of the proposal; do not repeat points made by others. And, please, no applauding during testimony.
4. Written testimony is acceptable. Letters are most effective when presented at least a week in advance of the hearing. Mail should be directed to the Planning Department, attention: Planning Commission Secretary. However, email correspondence is most effective when sent up to 24 hours in advance of the hearing. Email should be directed to [RHedges@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:RHedges@co.slo.ca.us). Do not include personal information such as address and telephone numbers.

## **APPEALS**

If you are dissatisfied with any aspect of an approval or denial of a project, you have the right to appeal this decision to the Board of Supervisors up to 14 days after the date of action, in writing, to the Planning Department. If legitimate coastal resource issues related to our local Coastal Program are raised in the appeal, there will be no fee. If an appeal is filed for an inland project, or for a coastal project with no legitimate coastal issues, there will be a fee set by the current fee schedule. If a fee is required, it must accompany the appeal form. The appeal will not be considered complete if a fee is required but not paid. There must be an original form and original signature, a FAX is not accepted.

Planning Commission decisions may also be appealable to the California Coastal Commission pursuant to Coastal Act Section 30603 and the County Coastal Zone Land Use Ordinance 23.01.043. Exhaustion of appeals at the county is required prior to appealing the matter to the California Coastal Commission. The appeal to the Board of Supervisors must be made to the Planning Commission Secretary, Department of Planning and Building, and the appeal to the California Coastal Commission must be made directly to the California Coastal Commission Office. These regulations contain specific time limits to appeal, criteria, and procedures that must be followed to appeal this action. The regulations provide the California Coastal Commission 10 working days following the expiration of the County appeal period to appeal the decision. This means that no construction permits can be issued until both the County appeal period and the additional Coastal Commission appeal period have expired without an appeal being filed.

Contact the Coastal Commission's Santa Cruz Office at (831) 427-4863 for further information on appeal procedures.

**HEARING IMPAIRED:** There are devices for the hearing impaired available upon request.

**COPIES OF VIDEO, CD:** You may obtain copies of the Video Recording through AGP Video at 805-772-2715, for a fee. Copies of the CD of the proceedings are available at the Department of Planning and Building, for a fee.

## **ON THE INTERNET**

This agenda and associated staff reports may be found on the internet at: <http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning.htm> under Quicklinks, Meeting Agendas. For further information, please call (805) 781-5612.