

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 1, 2017  
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### **Board Approves Agreement for Development of Energy Services Report District Seeks to Reduce Costs**

At its October 25<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting the District's Board of Directors approved a sole-source Agreement with OpTerra Energy Services, Inc. in the amount of \$29,853 for professional services to complete a Development Program Report. OpTerra provides energy conservation, engineering and project development services.

At its September 13<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting, the Board heard a presentation from OpTerra Energy Services regarding opportunities to reduce energy costs across its water and wastewater facilities.

The District operates and maintains water and wastewater facilities that consume approximately 2,500,000 kWhs of electricity at a cost in excess of \$500,000 per year. The cost of electricity is the highest variable cost element in the District's annual budget. District staff continually explore opportunities to reduce operations and maintenance costs and the Program Development Agreement with OpTerra is the first step.

OpTerra will be completing a thorough evaluation of the District's power consumption to obtain information for development of an energy conservation and cost reduction action plan. This will be specific to the District's power demand profile.

California Government Code allows a public agency to enter into sole-sourced energy conservation contract to develop, acquire, and finance equipment and services to reduce energy use or to make for a more efficient use of energy, after making certain findings at a noticed public hearing.

Other agencies such as the Lucia Mar Unified School District and the City of Pismo Beach have contracted with OpTerra Energy Services for similar services.

General Manager, Mario Iglesias, stated "Alternative energy sources are more compelling when they lower the cost of energy. The cost of migrating to these cleaner sources of energy must be balanced with economic realities in the community. If the time is right, OpTerra Energy Services will provide the District with insight to make an intelligent, strategic move towards this technology."

The plan and program information will be shared with the public on the District's website as they become available.

For more information 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).

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