

Attachment 2

IN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

_____ day _____, 2014

PRESENT: Supervisors

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION NO. 2014 - _____

RESOLUTION ADOPTING AN APPROVED COUNTY WATER CONSERVATION
PROGRAM FOR NEW IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE IN ORDER TO GRANT OFFSET
CLEARANCES UNDER ORDINANCE NO. 3246

The following resolution is now hereby offered and read:

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 3246 became effective on August 27, 2013, which was extended by Ordinance 3247 through August 26, 2015, and imposed new legal limitations and prohibitions on new irrigated agriculture in rural portions of the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin of the County that were previously not required by County ordinance; and

WHEREAS, in adopting Ordinance 3246, the Board recognized that new irrigated agriculture will increase the demand for groundwater and contribute to the further declines in groundwater levels; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 3246 contains a requirement for new irrigated agriculture to offset its new groundwater demand and receive a ministerial Offset Clearance after the submission of evidence to the Planning Director (the Director) in support of the clearance; and

WHEREAS, an “Agricultural Water Offset Program” (Program), attached hereto as Exhibit A, has been developed for the County by the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (RCD) that will identify new groundwater demand from proposed new irrigated agriculture, will calculate the amount of water needed to offset that new demand, and provide mechanisms for offsetting the new demand; and

WHEREAS, the County will implement the Program and will retain a separate, independent third party to monitor compliance with the Program; and

WHEREAS, the water offset, deed restrictions, monitoring and any landowner agreements identified in the Offset Clearance will remain in place until the Board of Supervisors certifies a Level of Severity I or better for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin pursuant to the Resource Management System (RMS) procedures; and

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WHEREAS, all determinations made to issue or not issue a ministerial Offset Clearance and all interpretations of the Program language are the sole responsibility of the Planning Director.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, in a regular meeting assembled on the _____ day of _____, 2014, that:

1. For purposes of implementing Ordinance 3246, the Approved County Water Conservation Program for new irrigated agriculture shall be the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District's "Agricultural Water Offset Program" dated October 1, 2014, attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference. The program will be implemented by the County for the remaining term of Ordinances 3246 and 3247.

2. Adoption of this resolution is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Class 7 and Class 8 (15307, 15308) because the project is an action by the County as a regulatory agency for the protection of the natural resources, including water resources, of the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin and its surrounding environment.

Upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____, and on the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

The foregoing resolution is hereby adopted.

Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors
of the County of San Luis Obispo,
State of California

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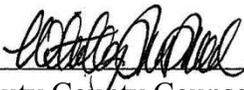
ATTEST

County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk
of the Board of Supervisors,
County of San Luis Obispo,
State of California

[SEAL]

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EFFECT:

RITA L. NEAL
County Counsel

By: 
Deputy County Counsel

Dated: October 16, 2014