

**Fw: Diablo Desalination, Say "No, not now!"**

**Dan Buckshi** to: cr\_board\_clerk Clerk Recorder, Annette Ramirez

03/21/2016 08:19 AM

----- Forwarded by Dan Buckshi/Admin/COSLO on 03/21/2016 08:19 AM -----

From: San Luis Obispo Chair <chair@slo.surfrider.org>  
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Cc: Niel Dilworth <nieldilworth@gmail.com>, Patrick Patten <ppatten@toobs.com>, Leslie Jones <leslieellen7@gmail.com>  
Date: 03/21/2016 06:13 AM  
Subject: Diablo Desalination, Say "No, not now!"

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Good morning,

Please find Surfrider SLO's Know your H2O comments on tomorrow's agenda item 182/2016... attached.

See you tomorrow!

Brad Snook

Program Coordinator, Know your H2O

Surfrider Foundation, San Luis Obispo

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PG&E Desal March, 2016.docx



To: Dan Buckshi, SLO County Administrator  
DT: 03/20/16

Cc: SLO County Supervisors

Agenda Item: 182/2016, March 22, 2016

Re: Just say "No, not now" to DCPD Desal, DCPD Open-Ocean Desalination Project Proposal

Surfrider Foundation is dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's ocean, waves and beaches through a powerful activist network. The San Luis Obispo chapter of Surfrider and our volunteers coordinate and operate programs in support of Ocean Friendly Gardens, Blue Water Task Force, the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary, Rise above Plastics, and Know Your H2O. All of these programs seek improvements in community education, activism, and governmental policy in compliance with the Surfrider mission. After all, our community values and shares coastal resources and Surfrider SLO appreciates their support.

As you probably know, water resources in South County have been mismanaged for many years. The Santa Maria Groundwater Basin has been adjudicated for that reason. Though steps have been taken to conserve water and Conservation efforts continue, a long-term supply deficit will exist because the region does not recycle water. Recycling water has multiple benefits, and multiple studies for Pismo Beach and South SLO County Sanitation District have shown that Reclamation is the most cost-effective method for rebuilding measurable water supply. The analysis and conclusions of these studies are not surprising. After all, the resource has already been collected, measured, and sanitized to mandated water quality standards. With some additional process and distribution investments, 3 to 4 million gallons per day of wasted water may be re-used to offset the impacts to our the Northern Cities Management Area groundwater basin and to Lopez Lake.

On the other hand, Open-Ocean Desalination represents an additional impact to our county's marine environment and it is an extremely energy and waste-intensive process. For every 2 gallons of open-ocean intake, 1 gallon is waste. After 2024, NO ONE is sure where the brine waste from DCPD's

Desalination plant will go or how much the project's waste disposal will cost. There are significant financial, regulatory, and environmental costs for discharging waste to the ocean. Why would Five Cities residents choose that uncertainty, when the costs to meet their obligations through Conservation and Reclamation are more certain, cost-effective, manageable, well-documented, and environmentally friendly? Additionally, why should all of SLO County's citizens bear the costs and financial risks of meddling in the actions of an adjudicated groundwater basin while the County is advocating for a clearly disadvantaged Desalination project? If meddling is warranted, a better investment is for the County to assist the Five Cities area with the financing of a Regional Wastewater Reclamation Center and distribution system. Potentially, this distribution system could offset > 50% of the basin's daily water consumption. Combined with continued Conservation efforts, our valuable coastal and financial resources would be better protected, county-wide. Please say, "No, not now" to DCPD Desal.

Kind regards,

Brad Snook

Program Coordinator, Know Your H2O

Surfrider Foundation, San Luis Obispo

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