



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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July 13, 2016

Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission
105 East Anapumu Street, Room 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Subject: County of San Luis Obispo Letter of Support for the Proposed Cuyama Basin Water District Formation

Dear Commissioners:

On July 12, 2016, the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors authorized providing this letter of support for the proposed Cuyama Basin Water District now pending before your Commission.

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) took effect on January 1, 2015. SGMA provides new authorities to local agencies and requires various actions be taken in order to achieve sustainable groundwater management in high and medium priority groundwater basins, including the Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin. The proposed California Water District would represent landowners overlying a large portion of the Cuyama Basin. The water district would be eligible to participate in a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (as required by SGMA), in collaboration with the New Cuyama Community Water District and the four eligible counties: San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Kern and Ventura. The water district formation will help Cuyama Basin stakeholders to move forward with SGMA compliance in a timely manner and progress towards bringing the basin into a sustainable condition.

We urge your commission's timely consideration of this application as the outcome has implications on our ability to comply with SGMA's rapidly approaching deadlines. If you have any questions or need more information from us, please contact Catherine Martin, Water Resources Engineer, at (805) 781-5275.

Sincerely,

WADE HORTON
Director of Public Works

cc: Mark Hutchinson, County Public Works Deputy Director (via email only)
Tom Fayram, Santa Barbara County Water Resources Agency (via email only)
Tully Clifford, County of Ventura (via email only)
Alan Christensen, Kern County (via email only)
Ernest Conant, Young Wooldridge, LLP (via email only)

File: CF 900.100.01 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)