



November 30, 2018

TO: LOCSD Board of Directors
FROM: Chuck Cesena, Chairperson, LOCSD Utility Advisory Committee
SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 12D – 12/6/2018 Board Meeting**
Potential Response to August 27, 2018 Cleath-Harris Geologists, Inc. (CHG) Report on Los Osos Basin Plan Metric Trends Review and Infrastructure Program C Evaluation

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BACKGROUND

The Los Osos Basin Plan (LOBP) is the court approved "road map" to a sustainable groundwater supply for the community of Los Osos. The LOBP contains specific infrastructure improvement programs detailing a variety of actions to be taken by each of the community water purveyors to achieve and maximize the basin's sustainable water yield. In March of 2018, the Basin Management Committee (BMC) retained CHG to prepare a study evaluating Basin Infrastructure Program C in the context of current water demand and basin metrics. Your Utility Advisory Committee has reviewed the CHG report and has prepared the attached letter as a potential response to that report.

RECOMMENDATION

Motion: I move that the Board direct staff to send the attached letter, as amended, to the Basin Management Committee as the District's response to the above referenced CHG report.

Attachment

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TO: Rob Miller, Interim Executive Director, LO Groundwater Basin Management Committee
FROM: Chuck Cesena, Chairperson, Utilities Advisory Committee
DATE: November 28, 2018
SUBJECT: Draft Los Osos Basin Plan Metric Trends Review Report

The LOCSD Utilities Advisory Committee offers the following comments and suggestions regarding the above referenced August 17, 2018 Draft Technical Memorandum (revised as of 8-27-18):

1. Near the bottom of Page 1 the memo states "Groundwater production from the Central Area generally results in less seawater intrusion than the same amount of production from the Western Area, which increases the sustainable yield of the Basin." This is the rationale behind the Basin Management Plan's (BMP) Program C Expansion Well program. As you know, the next step in that program is the LOCSD's current search for a new well location east of South Bay Boulevard, over the Central Area of the Basin.
2. Recent public input indicates that increasing the Basin's sustainable yield through an adaptable pumping program that would include an additional well in the Central Area of the basin will be controversial.
 - a. Perhaps this is understandable given that under the Program C Evaluation discussion on Page 6, the memo states that "Basin Model results indicate that no additional Expansion Wells would be required under the existing population scenario to achieve both a Basin Yield Metric targeted value of 80 (BYM 80) and a stationary seawater intrusion front." Granted there are references to other factors which support construction of an additional Program C Expansion Well, the most important of which may be the Page 6 assumption that long-term precipitation averages 17.5 inches per year in the future.
 - b. We wonder if the discussion of the other factors supporting the additional Expansion Well (water system flexibility-reliability and the efficient use of recycled water) could be enhanced? The key to this understanding seems to be found in the third paragraph of Page 4's discussion of the Basin Yield Metric and Chloride Metric, where it is stated that "...the same annual volume of groundwater may be pumped from different aquifers in different locations and would result in the same Basin Metric Yield value for that year, but would not necessarily be equally sustainable."
3. The memo refers to Tables 46 and 32 of the Basin Plan on pages 6 and 7 of the memo.
 - a. The document did not include the Tables in an Attachment.

4. The Recycled Water Distribution discussion on Page 7 should include the mitigation factors for each of the 6 reuse strategies.

We understand that this a very technical discussion, yet it is paramount that the community be able to understand the benefits to construction of the additional well in the Central Area of the basin and particularly how the adaptive pumping allowed by the varied pumping locations will help maximize the Basin's sustainable yield.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments,

Chuck Cesena, Chairperson
Utilities Advisory Committee

