

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

John Peschong Chairperson, District One Supervisor
Bruce Gibson District Two Supervisor
Adam Hill District Three Supervisor
Lynn Compton District Four Supervisor
Debbie Arnold Vice-Chairperson, District Five Supervisor

October 16, 2018

Trevor Joseph, SGM Section Chief California Department of Water Resources P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

City Council, City of San Luis Obispo 990 Palm Street San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Bruce DeBerry, Program Manager California Public Utilities Commission Water Division, RM. 3106 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102-3298

SUBJECT:

NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO INITIATE DEVELOPMENT OF GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR THE SAN LUIS OBISPO VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN

To Whom It May Concern:

In accordance with California Water Code Section 10727.8 and the Title 23, Section 353.6 of the California Code of Regulations, the County of San Luis Obispo, acting as the San Luis Obispo Valley Basin – County of San Luis Obispo Groundwater Sustainability Agency, hereby gives notice that it intends to initiate development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) in collaboration with the City of San Luis Obispo Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin (3-009, SLO Basin).

Two local agencies, the County of San Luis Obispo (County) and the City of San Luis Obispo (City), formed Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs), resulting in full coverage of the SLO Basin.

While GSAs were formed by the two local public agencies, SGMA provides that other entities are eligible to participate in GSAs. Various eligible entities within the SLO Basin, including the Golden State Water Company (GSWC), Edna Ranch Mutual Water Company (ERMWC), Varian Ranch Mutual Water Company (VRMWC), and Edna Valley Growers Mutual Water Company (EVGMWC) (collectively, Participating Parties), have been engaged in developing the SLO Basin's governance structure and outreaching to local stakeholders since 2015. The City, County and the Participating Parties entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the purpose of establishing how the City and the County, with input from the Participating Parties, will coordinate to develop a single GSP. The MOA also established the Groundwater Sustainability Commission (Commission) composed of five (5) members representing the City, County, and the Participating Parties (ERMWC and VRMWC are collectively represented by one member), which will serve as an advisory committee to both GSAs in connection with the preparation of a single GSP.

Once developed, the GSP will then be considered for adoption by each GSA and subsequently submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for approval.

Interested parties are encouraged to participate in the GSP development. It is anticipated that the GSP consultant, once retained by the County (anticipated in late 2018), will develop a stakeholder outreach and engagement plan in coordination with the GSAs and Commission. The MOA allows that the GSAs may decide to jointly establish one or more advisory committee(s) to the Commission in order to consider the interests of beneficial uses and users not already represented. These stakeholder engagement decisions will be made during the early stages of the GSP development, once the County retains a GSP consultant. In the meantime, interested parties can participate in the GSP development by attending the Commission meetings and/or related public workshops. All meetings of the Commission will be conducted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code §§ 54950 et seq.). The Commission meeting dates and locations will be posted by each GSA and noticed through the interested stakeholder e-mail list and press releases.

Interested parties can visit the County's SGMA webpage at: www.slocountywater.org/sgma to get additional information, view the MOA, sign up for the interested stakeholder e-mail list, and to see materials for past or upcoming meetings related to the GSP development.

The County, the City and the Commission look forward to working with the DWR and SLO Basin stakeholders towards sustainable groundwater management planning and implementation. Please do not hesitate to contact Dick Tzou, Water Resources Engineer, at (805) 781-4473 if you have questions or comments.

Sincerely,

OHN PESCHONG

Chair, District 1 Supervisor

Attachment:

Vicinity Map

c: Dane Mathis, Department of Water Resources

Matthew Owens, Department of Water Resources

Adam Hill, County of San Luis Obispo

Carrie Mattingly, City of San Luis Obispo

Bob Schiebelhut, Edna Valley Growers Mutual Water Company

Mark Zimmer, Golden State Water Company

Andy Mangano, Edna Ranch Mutual Water Company

James Lokey, Varian Ranch Mutual Water Company

File:

CF 340.300.01 SGMA

ATTEST:

Tommy Gong, County Clerk-Recorder and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By, Sondy Clerk

