

1. Why is there a moratorium in CSA 18 and what does it prohibit?

The moratorium halts new connections to the CSA 18 wastewater collection and treatment system to protect public health and safety and preserve environmental resources. A new permit is being issued for the wastewater treatment facility, which sets the maximum monthly average flows to 100,000 gallons per day. Recently, the new flow limit has been exceeded, indicating that the wastewater treatment facility is at its capacity, and any new connections could violate the new permit requirements.

2. What areas of CSA 18 are impacted by the moratorium?

The moratorium applies to all properties within the CSA 18 boundary and specifically affects requests for new notices of intent to serve (also known as “will serve letters”). Properties with existing connections and new projects with an active permit or will serve letter issued prior to the effective date of the moratorium are not affected.

www.slocounty.ca.gov/departments/public-works/forms-documents/committees-programs/county-service-areas/csa-18-slo-country-club/csa-18-boundary-map

3. When will the moratorium end?

The moratorium, established under County of San Luis Obispo Ordinance No. 3525, will remain in effect until March 27, 2030. It may be lifted if the CSA 18 wastewater treatment facility can operate under a different permit issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board that allows for additional connections; however, under the current new permit with the current facility infrastructure, the moratorium may be extended beyond the initial five-year term as needed until the capacity issues are resolved.

www.slocounty.ca.gov/departments/public-works/forms-documents/committees-programs/county-service-areas/csa-18-slo-country-club/csa-18-moratorium-ordinance-3525

4. What are the steps the County is taking to address this situation?

The County has begun a master planning effort to identify and evaluate options that address the requirements of the new permit being issued, including repairs and upgrades of infrastructure for increased compliance monitoring and automation.

After completing the necessary repairs and upgrades to maintain the level of service for current connections, the County’s next step will be to prepare a feasibility study to evaluate what options would be available to increase the CSA 18 wastewater treatment capacity while maintaining permit compliance, protecting public health and safety, and preserving environmental resources.

5. What does the moratorium prohibit?

The moratorium halts the issuance of new notices of intent to serve for wastewater collection services that would increase wastewater flows, including, but not limited to, new or additional connections for construction on parcels within CSA 18 including accessory dwelling units (“ADUs”), parcels seeking to join CSA 18, and connections on residential parcels with abandoned septic systems.

6. What is not impacted by the moratorium?

Exemption from the moratorium may be granted, depending on the relevant circumstances, for the following situations:

- a. Issuance of a notice of intent to serve letter or the provision of sanitary sewer services to a property if required by law;
- b. Provision of sanitary sewer service to a property consistent with a pre-existing, unexpired permit or pre-existing, unexpired notice of intent to serve letter; or
- c. Provision of a notice of intent to serve letter to a property currently receiving sanitary sewer service if necessary for remodels or other minor alterations to pre-existing structures on said property.

Note: Construction of residential accessory structures, remodels, or other minor alterations that do not increase sewer flows may be exempt from the moratorium. See San Luis Obispo County Code, Title 22, Section 22.30.410 for details on residential accessory uses.

7. Is there a waitlist?

The Department of Public Works does not maintain a waitlist for new notices of intent to serve under this moratorium. Please contact the Planning and Building Department for questions about the permitting process at planning@co.slo.ca.us or (805) 781-5600.