

ORDINANCE 98-2

AN ORDINANCE APPROVED BY A VOTE OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY DISTRICT REQUIRING: POSTPONEMENT OF PIPELINE; MORATORIUM ON PURCHASE OF SUPPLEMENTAL WATER; LIMITATION OF GROUNDWATER AUGMENTATION CHARGES

The people of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency District do ordain as follows:

FINDINGS

There are acknowledged water supply problems in the Pajaro Valley that have developed over many years and that will take many years to solve. The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency ("Agency") has primary responsibility to develop a long-term plan to balance water demands with water supplies in the Pajaro basin. As part of that plan, the Agency has proposed constructing a pipeline to import supplemental water from the Central Valley Project, to be financed from groundwater augmentation charges levied by the agency.

The Agency should give priority to local solutions to alleviate long-term groundwater overdraft conditions in the Pajaro basin that would be less costly than the proposed pipeline project. To minimize the severe economic loss and hardship that might result from immediate reduction in long-term overdraft, any decision to construct the proposed pipeline should be delayed until these other less costly alternatives can be pursued.

ORDINANCE

1. The Agency shall implement viable conservation measures and construct affordable local water projects within the Agency's boundaries in order to efficiently and economically manage local water resources toward the avoidance and eventual prevention of conditions of long-term overdraft, land subsidence, and water quality degradation.
2. The Agency shall postpone for a period of not less than ten (10) years, and until the results of local solutions have been monitored and analyzed, any decision for the design and construction of any pipeline to import supplemental water from the Central Valley Project.
3. The Agency shall finalize its acquisition of the San Felipe entitlement and shall contract with the Central Valley Project for this purpose.
4. The Agency shall immediately impose a 10-year moratorium on all new purchases of supplemental water from outside the boundaries of the Agency, and shall immediately prohibit new exports of water outside the boundaries of the Agency.
5. The groundwater augmentation charges authorized by Section 1003 of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency Act shall not exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per acre-foot until modified by a vote of the people.

**PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY
PROPOSED ORDINANCE/INITIATIVE
MEASURE D**

**POSTPONEMENT OF PIPELINE
MORATORIUM ON PURCHASE OF SUPPLEMENTAL WATER
LIMITATION OF GROUNDWATER AUGMENTATION CHARGES**

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FINDINGS

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The Agency should give priority to local solutions to alleviate long-term groundwater overdraft conditions in the Pajaro basin that would be less costly than the proposed pipeline project. To minimize the severe economic loss and hardship that might result from immediate reduction in long-term overdraft, any decision to construct the proposed pipeline should be delayed until these other less costly alternatives can be pursued.

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The Agency shall implement viable conservation measures and construct affordable local water projects within the Agency's boundaries in order to efficiently and economically manage local water resources toward the avoidance and eventual prevention of conditions of long-term overdraft, land subsidence, and water quality degradation.

The Agency shall postpone for a period of not less than ten (10) years, and until the results of local solutions have been monitored and analyzed, any decision for the design and construction of any pipeline to import supplemental water from the Central Valley Project.

The Agency shall finalize its acquisition of the San Felipe entitlement and shall contract with the Central Valley Project for this purpose.

The Agency shall immediately impose a 10-year moratorium on all new purchases of supplemental water from outside the boundaries of the Agency, and shall immediately prohibit new exports of water outside the boundaries of the Agency.

The groundwater augmentation charges authorized by Section 1003 of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency Act shall not exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per acre-foot until modified by a vote of the people.

**JOINT IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY COUNTY COUNSEL
MEASURE D**

The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency is established by California law for the purpose of managing water resources within Agency boundaries. Among the objectives set for the Agency by the Legislature is the management of local groundwater resources toward the avoidance and prevention of long term overdraft.

If approved by a majority of those voting, this measure will become an Agency ordinance governing certain future actions by the Board of Directors of the Agency as follows:

1. The ordinance would provide that the Agency postpone for at least ten (10) years any decision to construct a pipeline to import water from the Central Valley Project as part of the Agency's long-term plan to balance water demands with water supplies, and instead the Agency should give priority to and first pursue local solutions less costly than the pipeline project to alleviate groundwater overdraft conditions. Toward that end it would require the Agency to carry out the activities stated in the ordinance, which is printed in this ballot pamphlet. Because the actions required are nonspecific, the Agency Board would need to determine what conservation measures and local solutions to the groundwater overdraft conditions are viable and affordable.

2. The ordinance would require the Agency to finalize its acquisition of entitlement to San Felipe water and contract with the Central Valley Project for this purpose.

3. The ordinance would impose a ten-year moratorium on all new purchases of supplemental water from outside the Agency boundaries, and prohibit new exports of water outside the Agency boundaries.

4. The ordinance would also limit the maximum groundwater augmentation charges within the Agency to \$50 per acre-foot unless modified by a vote of the people.

All of the foregoing provisions, if enacted, will continue effective unless they are changed by further ordinance of the Agency.

A "yes" vote is to approve the ordinance.

A "no" vote is against approving the ordinance.

Dated: March 6, 1998

DWIGHT L. HERR, SANTA CRUZ COUNTY COUNSEL
s/ Jane M. Scott
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DOUGLAS C. HOLLAND, MONTEREY COUNTY COUNSEL
s/ Douglas C. Holland

STEVEN R. SANDERS, SAN BENITO COUNTY COUNSEL
s/ Steven R. Sanders