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PV Water Board Adopts Service Charge Report

Watsonville, CA – Following months of careful consideration and opportunity for community input, the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PV Water) Board of Directors has voted to adopt the final Proposition 218 Service Charge Report.

The purpose of the Service Charge Report is to evaluate, explain, and substantiate the Agency's proposed new augmentation and delivered water charges, which are required fund the implementation of critical water supply projects and programs. The need for additional water supply projects has been well documented in the Basin Management Plan Update and the ongoing drought has further heightened the need. These projects are designed to tackle two major threats to the Pajaro Valley; groundwater overdraft and seawater intrusion.

The rate change recommendations are the products of hard work by a community based ad hoc funding committee. This group of growers, land owners, rural residents, the City of Watsonville and water experts spent 18 months looking for the most reasonable way to increase financial resources with the least impact on rate payers.

Proposition 218 requires that existing, new, or increased property-related fees and charges meet certain requirements. This report serves to provide the documentation necessary to meet the Prop 218 and other legal requirements. With this approval, agency staff will conduct public outreach in advance of a majority protest hearing that will be held in the spring. The new rate structure would be timed to go into effect with the beginning of the next fiscal year which is July 1, 2015.

PV Water is a public agency whose mission is to protect and preserve the water resources within the agency's jurisdiction, generally the greater coastal Pajaro Valley.

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