

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Agenda Number:
Prepared on:
Department Name: Water Agency/Public Works
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Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Directors
Santa Barbara County Water Agency

FROM: Phillip M. Demery, Public Works Director

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Rory Lang, PW Program Specialist, (Ext. 3545)

SUBJECT: Concur with the proposed application for participation in the Rinse and Save Pre-Rinse Spray Nozzle Retrofit Program by the Santa Barbara County Water Agency

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Directors:

Concur with the Water Agency's proposed application for participation in the Rinse and Save Pre-Rinse Spray Nozzle Retrofit Program (Attachment A) to replace high water use pre-rinse spray valves with more efficient models at food service facilities: restaurants, cafeterias, institutional kitchens and food preparation companies.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendations align with Goal No. 5: Maintain and Enhance the Quality of Life for all Residents.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

As a member of the California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC), the Santa Barbara County Water Agency is eligible to participate in the Rinse and Save Pre-Rinse Spray Nozzle Program coordinated by the CUWCC. The CUWCC received funding for this program through the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) Public Goods Program and provides overall program management, technical support, and measurement and verification. The CUWCC has contracted with Honeywell DMC Services Inc. to perform the marketing, outreach, product procurement and installation of the spray valves. The only commitment required from interested water agencies is a contribution to overall program costs and some staff time to provide a list of local restaurants to the consultant. The total program costs are \$181.19 per valve and local water agencies are required to pay \$50 per valve, while the remainder of these costs (\$131.19) is funded through the grant from the CPUC. The program is open to restaurants, cafeterias, and other food service providers and will save these customers an average of 200 gallons of water and 2 therms of gas **per day** (See table below for more savings information). The Water Agency plans to coordinate with local water purveyors to share the \$50 local costs and will focus the program in the service areas of those purveyors who cosponsor the program.

Restaurant Size	Water Savings (gpd)	Wastewater Savings (gpd)	Gas Savings (therms per day)	Lifetime Water Savings (acre-feet)	Water Agency Avoided Costs* (per acre-ft)
Very Small (uses valve 2 hrs/day)	100	100	0.7	.56	\$89/af
Small (uses valve 4 hrs/day)	200	200	1.3	1.1	\$45/af
Medium (uses valve 6 hrs/day)	300	300	2.0	1.7	\$29/af

Due to the below normal rainfall and near drought conditions in Southern California, it is important for local water districts to begin preparations for a possible drought. In Santa Barbara County, rainfall totals are near or below 50% and Lake Cachuma is at its lowest point since January 1992. Therefore, the Rinse and Save Program is a cost-effective way for local water districts to begin reducing water use in the commercial sector, much as ultra-low flow toilet rebates were used to reduce residential water use in the last drought.

Other drought-planning activities planned by the Water Agency include assistance with water shortage contingency planning efforts for local water districts, a regional drought plan based on district plans, a media campaign, a brochure describing methods of efficient water use for residents, and rebate programs for conductivity controllers for cooling towers.

Mandates and Service Levels:

Only a small amount of staff time will be required to implement this program locally. Staff participation in this project meets objectives of the Regional Water Efficiency work plan. It also helps the County and local Bureau contractors meet USBR water efficiency requirements and conduct drought-planning efforts.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Drought planning and drought rebate programs are included in the Proposed 2004/05 Budget and are allocated in the Water Agency Cost Center under the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department. Costs associated with this rebate program will be paid from Dept: 054, Acct: 7650, Fund: 3050, Program: 3010. This program could provide for up to 600 spray valves to be used in local restaurants, cafeterias, and other food service providers. The local share for 600 spray valves is \$30,000, assuming all 600 valves are installed. A portion of this cost may be paid for by local water purveyors. Some County Facilities may be eligible to receive spray nozzles as part of this program reducing water and gas utility costs.