



The voice of our community

November 7, 2016

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Negotiations with the Central Coast Water Authority

Dear Supervisors:

We wish to weigh on Santa Barbara County's negotiations with the Central Coast Water Authority over the reacquisition of the 12,214 acre-feet of suspended Table A State Water Project (SWP) water as we believe this may have an impact on our community. We understand that Carpinteria, Guadalupe, Santa Maria, Solvang and the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation Improvement District No. 1 are interested in this water and are willing to pay the relevant fees and interest to do so. We appreciate that water is a critical resource in short supply and that cities must do what they can to protect their citizen's interests; however, we are concerned about our county's liability should there be a payment default. We would like to see an agreement that indemnifies the county and hope you can insist upon this.

The State Water Project has been an expensive endeavor. Although we appreciate the infrastructure and pipeline to transport water it has afforded us, we have been vastly over-promised water deliveries historically due to the statewide nature of our droughts. It is critical our county move away from reliance upon SWP deliveries in the management of our water supply.

Sincerely,

Aaron Budgor, President

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
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