

de la Guerra, Sheila

Public Comment

From: Nick Kunstek <nkunstek@montecitogsa.com>
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 1:39 PM
To: sbcob
Cc: Nicholas Turner; Johnston, Jason; Young, Matthew; mcgolpin@countyifsb.org; lseifert@sbcphc.org; Brian Goebel
Subject: Comment Letter - Urgency Ordinance for Well Permitting
Attachments: BOS Meeting Item 22-00457 - Montecito GSA Comment Letter.pdf



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Hello,

On behalf of Brian Goebel, the Montecito Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board President, please find attached a comment letter concerning Item 22-00457 (Urgency Ordinance for Well Permitting) included on tomorrow's Board of Supervisors meeting agenda.

Thanks,

Nick Kunstek
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and Board Secretary:**
Nick Turner

May 23, 2022

Hon. Joan Hartmann, Chair and
Members of the Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Urgency Ordinance for Well Permitting
May 24, 2022 = Agenda Item 22-00457

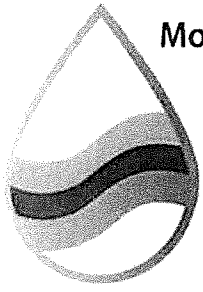
Dear Chair Hartmann and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

This letter is a request by the Montecito Groundwater Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("GSA") to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to consider modifications to the above-referenced urgency ordinance. The GSA requests that the BOS include a requirement in the urgency ordinance that well permit applicants provide data and calculations to support the anticipated yield and production capacity of a well prior to issuance of a well permit.

The GSA is organized in accordance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"). The mission of the GSA is to ensure a reliable and sustainable groundwater supply for the community through effective management of the Montecito Groundwater Basin ("Basin"). The GSA is currently undertaking the process of developing its Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("GSP") and is focused on considering the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater in the Basin.

Sections 34A-25 (new wells or alteration of existing wells), 34A-26 (individual domestic and public water supply wells), and 34A-27 (replacement wells) of the urgency ordinance all require permit applicants to state "Anticipated yield and production capacity of the well". However, neither the urgency ordinance, nor non-urgency well permitting requirements, set forth information or data required by an applicant to substantiate the anticipated yield or production capacity. Detailed information concerning anticipated yield and production capacity will assist the GSA in correctly classifying and regulating groundwater extractors in the Basin, consistent with the intent of the urgency ordinance.

The GSA hereby requests that the BOS modify the urgency ordinance to require applicants to provide data and calculations in support of the stated anticipated yield and production capacity of a well



Montecito Groundwater Basin

**Groundwater
Sustainability
Agency**

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for any well permit application. The information provided will assist with quantifying and tracking anticipated water extractions from the Basin, and will assist the GSA in its role in effectively managing the Basin to achieve long term sustainability. The GSA is willing to assist the County in evaluating the data and calculations, and provide additional support in implementation of the urgency Ordinance, for proposed wells overlying the Basin.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Brian Goebel, President

Montecito Groundwater Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

CC Scott McGolpin, Santa Barbara County Director of Public Works
Lars Seifert, Santa Barbara County Director Environmental Health Services
Matthew Young, Santa Barbara County Water Agency Manager
Jason Johnston, Santa Barbara County Supervising Environmental Health Specialist
Nick Turner, Montecito GSA