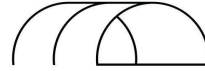


ATTACHMENT 9: WATER USE MEMORANDUM DATED JANUARY 24,
2022



85 W Hwy 246 #233, Buellton CA 93427

TELEPHONE: 818.317.8414
E-MAIL: lindsay@ccagriculture.com

Memo

Date: January 24, 2022

To: Gwen Beyler
County of Santa Barbara
Planning and Development
via email: gvonklan@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

Re: 19LUP-00000-00480 - Central Coast Ag Farming, LLC - Water Usage Memo -
5645 Santa Rosa Rd, Lompoc - APN 083-150-013

This memo serves to describe the historic and current water usage at the subject site in order to provide additional information regarding water resource availability for the proposed project. The project is located at 5645 Santa Rosa Rd in Lompoc (“Property”), and is located within the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin.



Historically, the property has been planted with a variety of crops including organic tomatoes, squash, artichokes, lettuce, peppers, cabbage, carrots, onions, garlic, watermelons, and broccoli. The highest annual water demand for the existing agricultural well was approximately 120 AF to irrigate approximately 60 acres of pumpkins, tomatoes and peppers. Based on historical water usage and annual groundwater production reports with the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, from 2005 to 2015, the Property had an average historical water demand of 36 AFY.

TABLE 1: HISTORICAL PROPERTY WATER USAGE				
Year	Pumped Water (Acre-Feet)	Planted Acres	Acre-Feet per Acre	Crop
2005	51	30	1.70	Tomatoes
2006	36	30	1.20	Squash
2007	77.25	45	1.72	Artichokes, Tomato, Cabbage, Peppers
2008	90	100	0.90	Lettuce, Tomato, Peppers
2009	30	100	0.30	Cover Crop
2010	123	86	1.43	Pumpkin
2011	68.5	55	1.25	Tomato, Pumpkin, Squash
2012	36	30	1.20	Squash
2013	48	40	1.20	Squash
2014	119.2	81	1.47	Tomato, Broccoli, Squash, Carrots
2015	79.3	65	1.22	Asparagus, Cabbage, Fava Beans, Peas, Strawberries, Squash, Cannabis

Based on this historical water demand for the Property, the Property can support the proposed cannabis cultivation water demand. Water usage for the cannabis operation has been tracked and reported to the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District since 2015. The average water demand for the cannabis operation since 2015 is 6.75 AFY which is a 84% decrease in the annual average water demand for the Property. This project does not exceed the County’s Groundwater Thresholds for the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin.

The property is well situated to cultivate the proposed 24 acres of cannabis due to its overlying water rights, which can be substantiated based on historical water usage. Central Coast Agriculture, LLC proposed to cultivate 24 acres of outdoor cannabis. Water demand has been tracked and reported through the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District over the past several years, including when cannabis was being cultivated as a legal nonconforming operation. Therefore the proposed maximum water demand of 15 AFY is a conservative estimate that represents a 60% decrease in historical water demand for the Property.

Several water efficiency measures have been incorporated into the project including drought tolerant landscaping, use of timed drip irrigation, placement of evaporative barriers on exposed soils, irrigation scheduling for leaching fraction and distribution uniformity, soil moisture monitoring, usage of hoop structures to reduce transpiration loss.