

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
 EXECUTIVE OFFICE
 105 EAST ANAPAMU STREET, ROOM 406
 SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101
 805-568-3400
 FAX: 805-568-3414

2011 MAY 16 PM 1:30

DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	FROM:
Ms. Jane Farwell Division of Water Rights	Chandra Wallar
COMPANY:	DATE:
State Water Resources Control Board	5/16/11
FAX NUMBER:	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
916-341-5400	5

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Ms. Farwell,

Attached please find the County's comment regarding the 2nd Revision Draft EIR for the Cachuma Lake Project. You will also receive a hard copy in the mail.

Thank you.

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

Chandra L. Wallar
County Executive Officer



105 East Anapamu Street, Suite 406
Santa Barbara, California 93101
805/568-3400 • Fax 805/568-3414
cwallar@countyofsb.org
www.countyofsb.org

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

May 16, 2011

Ms. Jane Farwell
Division of Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Fax: 916-341-5400

Re: Cachuma Project 2nd Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

Dear Ms. Farwell:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 2nd Revised Draft EIR for potential modifications to Bureau of Reclamation water right permits for the Cachuma Project. At this time, the County is submitting comments from the Planning and Development Department, Fire Department, and Parks Department.

The County looks forward to continued dialogue on future projects. If you should have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office directly or Jeff Hunt, Director of Long Range Planning Division, at (805) 568-2072.

Sincerely,

Chandra L. Wallar
County Executive Officer

cc: Glenn Russell, Director, Planning and Development Department
Richard Todd, Division Chief/Fire Marshal, Fire Department
Brian Roney, Interim Director of Parks Department

Enclosures:

- Planning and Development Department letter, May 12, 2011
- Fire Department letter, April 22, 2011
- Parks Department letter, May 13, 2011

Terri Maus-Nisich
Assistant County Executive Officer
tmaus@countyofsb.org

Jason Stilwell
Assistant County Executive Officer
jstil@countyofsb.org

Sharon Friedrichsen
Assistant to the County Executive Officer
sfried@countyofsb.org

2011 MAY 16 PM 1:29
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development

Glenn S. Russell, Ph.D., Director
Dianne Black, Director of Development Services
Jeff Hunt, Director of Long Range Planning

May 12, 2011

Ms. Jane Farwell
Division of Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Re: Cachuma Project 2nd Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

Dear Ms. Farwell:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 2nd Revised Draft EIR for potential modifications to Bureau of Reclamation water right permits for the Cachuma Project. The Planning and Development Department offers the following comments for your consideration:

Section 6.0 Comparison of Alternatives

Table 6-1 *Summary of Impacts of Different Alternatives* presents Class I (short-term/temporary) and Class II (long-term) impacts for oak trees for all Alternatives analyzed in the Draft EIR (3B, 3C, 4B, 5B and 5C). The County commends the State Water Resources Control Board for their commitment and efforts to develop an oak tree replacement program to mitigate for the loss of oak trees under the various Alternatives.

The County has made similar commitments to the conservation and regeneration of oak woodlands through the adoption of policies in the County Comprehensive General Plan and guidelines which govern deciduous and live oak removals under Chapter 14 of the Grading Code. The Conservation Element, Oak Tree Protection in the Inland Rural Areas of Santa Barbara County, Supplement to the Mapped Areas and Communities contains policies and actions which promote oak tree protection in County inland rural areas. The oak tree protection goal for this document states,

Santa Barbara County shall promote the conservation and regeneration of oak woodlands in the County over the long term, and, where feasible, shall work to increase the native oak population and extent of woodland acreage. The highest priority for conservation, protection and regeneration shall be for valley oak trees, valley oak woodlands and valley oak savanna.¹

Additionally, the goal of Appendix A. Grading Ordinance Guidelines for Native Oak Tree Removal is to "...sustain and, where possible, enhance the native oak resources of Santa Barbara County. Specifically, the program seeks to ensure that there is no net loss of native oak trees and

¹ County of Santa Barbara Conservation Element, Oak Tree Protection in the Inland Rural Areas of Santa Barbara County, Supplement to the Mapped Areas and Communities Section, adopted April 15, 2003.

*State Water Resources Control Board Cachuma Project 2nd Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report
Page 2*

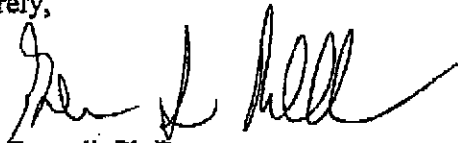
that, if possible and with the help of incentives, the number and extent of remaining valley, blue, and live oak trees grow greater."² These guidelines govern deciduous and live oak removals, replacing the County of Santa Barbara Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual as a standard in Chapter 14 for addressing significant environmental damage and significant environmental impact associated with native oak tree removal of protected and unprotected size, as defined in the Appendix, for agricultural and non-agricultural practices not requiring a discretionary permit.

Recommendation

The County encourages the State Water Resources Control Board to consider the native oak tree removal guidelines which require oak tree *replanting* ratios of 10:1 for coast live oaks and 15:1 for deciduous oaks for all Alternatives analyzed in the Draft EIR.

The County looks forward to continued dialogue on the Cachuma Project. If you should have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office directly, or Jeff Hunt, Director of Long Range Planning Division, at (805) 568-2072.

Sincerely,



Glenn Russell, Ph.D.
Director of Planning and Development

² County of Santa Barbara, Chapter 14 Grading Code, Appendix A. Grading Ordinance Guidelines for Native Oak Tree Removal (Preamble).



Fire Department
"Serving the community since 1926"

Michael W. Dyer
Fire Chief
County Fire Warden

Christian J. Hahn
Deputy Fire Chief

HEADQUARTERS

4410 Cathedral Oaks Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93110-1042
(805) 681-5500 FAX: (805) 681-5563

April 22, 2010

Ms. Jane Farwell
Division of Water Rights
Santa Water Resources Control Board
PO Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Dear Ms. Farwell:


SUBJECT: State Water Board NOA-Cachuma Project 2nd Revised DEIR

Fire Department staff has reviewed the above referenced project and has no comments on the project as presented at this time.

Please notify the Fire Prevention Division of any changes to the project proposal. Further intensification of use or change in the project description may require additional review.

As always, if you have any questions or require further information, please call 805-681-5523 or 805-681-5500.

In the interest of life and fire safety,


Richard Todd
Division Chief/Fire Marshal

RJ: mkb



Brian Roney
Interim Director of Parks
(805) 568-2461

Nicole Koon
Fiscal Officer, Business Manager
(805) 568-2477

Juan Beltranena, AIA, AICP
Capital Projects Manager
(805) 568-2470

Park Administration
610 Mission Canyon Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93105
Tel: (805) 568-2461
Fax: (805) 568-2459

**North County
Park Operations**
300 Goodwin Road
Santa Maria, CA 93455
Tel: (805) 934-6123
Fax: (805) 934-6213

**South County
Park Operations**
4568 Calle Real, Building E
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
Tel: (805) 681-5650
Fax: (805) 681-5657

**Cachuma Lake
Recreation Area**
2225 Hwy 154
Santa Barbara, CA 93105
Tel: (805) 686-5055
Fax: (805) 686-5075

Reservations
South County: (805) 568-2465
North County: (805) 934-6211
Cachuma: (805) 686-5050
Jalama: (805) 934-6211

www.sbparcs.org
sbparcs@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

Equal Opportunity Employer

May 13, 2011

Ms. Jane Farwell
Division of Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RE: Cachuma Project 2nd Revised Draft EIR

Dear Ms. Farwell:

County Parks would like to provide the following comment on the Revised Draft EIR for your consideration:

County Parks has previously provided comments on the development of this environmental document in 2003 and 2007. The following general comment can be added and that is the continued consideration of the protection of recreation facilities and park operations at Cachuma when weighing the project and alternatives. The original creation of the Cachuma Recreation Area that surrounds the lake, as part of the Cachuma Project, remains an important resource for the residents of the County and the regional area. County policies with regard to Cachuma Lake include three critical areas: ensuring water quality and supply, protection of resources and the provision of recreational amenities and opportunities. We believe that working collaboratively all can be achieved.

County Parks, therefore, recommends that the consideration of project alternatives and the appurtenant impact and mitigation analysis consider the importance of on going cooperation between the agencies, i.e. County of Santa Barbara, Cachuma Operations Maintenance Board (COMB) and the Bureau of Reclamation. Through this cooperation much progress has already been achieved in securing the recreational resources at Cachuma for present and future users as the lake is surcharged. We anticipate that this on going cooperation can achieve the desired goals of all the agencies.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and we look forward to continued dialogue on the project.

Sincerely,

Brian Roney
Interim Director of Parks