



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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October 3, 2013

Felicia Marcus, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

(VIA EMAIL TO commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov)

Subject: 10/8/13 Board Meeting – Agenda Item 5, Consideration Of A Proposed Resolution To Add The San Luis Obispo County (County) Los Osos Wastewater Project (Project) To The Water Recycling Funding Program's (WRF) Construction Grant Competitive Project List And To Authorize The WRF To Provide A Preliminary Funding Commitment (PFC) From The Construction Grant Program; WRF Project No. 3314-030

Dear Chair Marcus:

Thank you for your Board's consideration of the water recycling grant in the amount of \$4 million. These grant funds will promote water recycling and reuse in the community of Los Osos and help address the substantial affordability challenges faced by the community in paying for the Los Osos Wastewater Project. We have been working closely with your staff on this project for many years and very much appreciate their efforts to see this project to completion.

Project cost impacts to residents in Los Osos have been reduced from the original estimates of \$200 per month, thanks in large part to financial assistance previously approved by your Board. However, the current estimate of project costs for a typical single family home remains at almost \$150 per month. We hope that your Board will approve the recommended water recycling grant, as every dollar is helpful in reducing the cost impacts to the community. It is also our hope that you will consider the costs already incurred on the collection system construction as eligible matching funds for the water recycling grant since we have been in discussions on this item for the last couple years and the scope of work has already been reviewed by your staff and is eligible for SRF loan funding. This eligibility determination will increase the likelihood that the project will be able to utilize the full \$4 million in grant funds that are available.

In conclusion, I would like to take the opportunity to provide a quick update on the project. The collection system contracts, which are the largest portion of the project, are approximately 50% complete. In fact, over 30 miles of pipelines have already been installed. The plans for the water recycling facility are complete and the project is scheduled to be released for bidding on October 8, 2013, the same day as the hearing for this water recycling grant. Overall, the project is proceeding well and should begin accepting wastewater flows in early 2016.

Thank you, again, for your consideration of the grant recommendation. We are looking forward to completing the Los Osos project and resolving one of your Board's longest outstanding water quality issues.

Sincerely,



PAAVO OGREN
Director of Public Works

c: Dan Newton, State Water Board Staff

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