

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

In the Matter of Application 24216 )  
CITY OF LOMPOC )  
Applicant )  
U. S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, ET AL. )  
Protestants )

Order : WR 79-4

Sources: Salsipuedes and  
El Jaro Creeks

County : Santa Barbara

ORDER GRANTING EXTENSION OF TIME TO DEVELOP A  
FINANCIALLY FEASIBLE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND PROJECT

BY THE BOARD:

The City of Lompoc (City) having filed Application 24216 for a permit to appropriate unappropriated water; the time for submission of an environmental review time schedule for the proposed project as directed by Order WR 77-2 having expired; the City having requested further extension of time to develop a financially feasible and environmentally sound project on Salsipuedes Creek; the Board, having considered all the evidence relevant to said request, finds as follows:

1. On October 24, 1972, the City of Lompoc filed Application 24216 to appropriate 20 cubic feet per second (cfs) by direct diversion and 36,000 acre-feet per annum (afa) by storage, for municipal and industrial purposes. The applicant proposes to construct a 36,000 acre-feet (af) capacity reservoir, called Salsipuedes Reservoir, at the junction of Salsipuedes and El Jaro Creeks. Water would be released directly for use and for percolation from the natural channel of Santa Ynez River to groundwater storage in Lompoc Basin. This basin is generally located between Lompoc Narrows and Thirteenth Street, in or near the City of Lompoc, and has an estimated storage capacity of 135,000 af. Water would be pumped

from the basin from existing and future wells of the City of Lompoc for use within the City and adjacent areas. Resulting sewage would be treated in the new regional wastewater treatment plant, and would then be discharged to the Santa Ynez River. No pollution is anticipated from such discharge.

2. On April 21, 1977, the Board issued Order WR 77-2 extending the time for submitting a time schedule for the preparation of environmental documents for Application '24216 to January 1, 1979. This extension of time was granted in light of Santa Barbara County Water Agency's scheduled November 1978 bond election to determine if State Project Water would be purchased.

3. The bond election was postponed until March 6, 1979, and on February 9, 1979, the City requested additional time until the results of the election were known. The applicant stated that it would provide the Board with an environmental review time schedule for the Salsipuedes Creek project promptly if the bond election failed,

4. The Santa Barbara County Water Agency held the bond election on March 6, 1979, and it failed.

5. By letter of March 23, 1979, the City requests a two year extension of time to qualify the proposed project as an element of the State Water Project (SWP).

6. The State Department of Water Resources in February 1979 adopted "Guidelines on Funding Local Water Supply Projects for Inclusion in the State Water Project" (Guidelines). Local projects designated as units of the SWP would be eligible for financing by sale of Central Valley Project revenue bonds. Financing the Salsipuedes Creek Project in this manner might result in savings to the City such that the project would become financially feasible.

7. The Guidelines require that construction of any eligible local project be covered by a contract between the Department of Water Resources and a SWP contractor. In Santa Barbara County, the present contractor for SWP water is the Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District).

8. On March 23, 1979, the City initiated action to qualify the project as a unit of the SWP by formally requesting the District to consider inclusion of Salsipuedes Creek Project in the SWP.

9. The City has taken substantial steps, after failure of the recent bond election, to develop a viable project and should be allowed a reasonable time to obtain financing and to prepare an Environmental Impact Report.

It is concluded from the foregoing findings that further extension of time is justified.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, THAT:

1. Time within which to submit evidence that a financially and environmentally viable project can be developed under Application 24216 is extended in accordance with the following schedule:

(a) On or before November 30, 1979, applicant shall submit to the Board evidence that the District has formally requested the Department of Water Resources to include the project in the SWP, in accordance with Section III A of the Guidelines.

(b) On or before May 31, 1980, applicant shall submit evidence that the Department of Water Resources intends to undertake a detailed feasibility study in accordance with Section III A of the Guidelines.

(c) On or before May 31, 1982, applicant shall submit evidence that a project to be developed pursuant to Application 24216 will be included in the SWP.

2. Application 24216 shall be canceled without further consideration by the Board if any of the requirements of 1 above are not met.

3. In the event that a feasible project developed in accordance with the schedule set forth in 1 above differs from the project proposed in Application 24216, the application shall be amended as appropriate. The amended application shall be noticed in accordance with the law.

Dated: April 19, 1979

/s/ W. Don Maughan - - I - - - -  
W. Don Maughan, Acting Chairman

/s/ William J. Miller - - - -  
William J. Miller, Board Member

/s/ L. L. Mitchell - -  
L. L. Mitchell, Board Member