



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT OFFICE

901 P Street, Room 313-B | Sacramento, CA 95814 | P.O. Box 942836 | Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

June 3, 2021

Sierra Ryan
Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency Groundwater Sustainability Agency
5180 Soquel Drive
Soquel, CA 95010

Dear Sierra Ryan,

The Department of Water Resources (Department) has evaluated the groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) submitted for the Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin and has determined the GSP is approved. The approval is based on recommendations from the Staff Report, included as an exhibit to the attached Statement of Findings, which describes that the Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin GSP satisfies the objectives of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and substantially complies with the GSP Regulations. The Staff Report also proposes recommended corrective actions that the Department believes will enhance the GSP and facilitate future evaluation by the Department. The Department strongly encourages the recommended corrective actions be given due consideration and suggests incorporating all resulting changes to the GSP in future updates.

Recognizing SGMA sets a long-term horizon for groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) to achieve their basin sustainability goals, monitoring progress is fundamental for successful implementation. GSAs are required to evaluate their GSPs at least every five years and whenever the Plan is amended, and to provide a written assessment to the Department. Accordingly, the Department will evaluate approved GSPs and issue an assessment at least every five years. The Department will initiate the first five-year review of the Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin GSP no later than January 30, 2025.

Please contact Sustainable Groundwater Management staff by emailing sgmps@water.ca.gov if you have any questions related to the Department's assessment or implementation of your GSP.

Thank You,



Craig Altare, P.G.
Supervising Engineering Geologist
Groundwater Sustainability Plan Review Section Chief

Attachment:

1. [Statement of Findings Regarding the Approval of the Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan](#)

From: [Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency](#)
To: [Becky Steinbruner](#)
Subject: Re: Public Comment re: Consent Agenda Item 4.1 on June 17, 2021 MGA Board Agenda
Date: Thursday, June 17, 2021 7:42:46 AM

Dear Ms. Steinbruner,

Thank you for your email. This is to confirm your email was received. Consistent with the MGA's policy, written communications received after the Board meeting materials packet has been distributed are posted on the [MGA website](#) and Board members are informed of the written communications.

Best,

Tim Carson

On Tue, Jun 15, 2021 at 10:10 PM Becky Steinbruner <ki6tkb@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear MidCounty Groundwater Agency Board,

I request that further language be added to the new Public Correspondence Guidelines in Consent Agenda Item #5.2, page 17 to accurately match what the Board approved on November 19, 2020 and that was included in the staff recommendation at that time:

"A new email address has been created for the submission of written communications to the MGA. Staff generally check MGA email accounts daily. During the week of a regularly scheduled Board of Director's meeting, staff will check for MGA emails at least twice daily. MGA email will also be checked at midday on the day of the Board meeting."

It is important to members of the public to understand when correspondence they submit might be seen by the MGA Board, and also holds Board members accountable to checking for late correspondence before meetings occur.

Current proposed language in Item #5.2:

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Written communications to the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency (MGA) Board may be submitted as follows:

- *Via email: comment@midcountygroundwater.org*
- *Via mail or hand delivery: MGA Board of Directors, c/o Emma Olin, 5180 Soquel Drive, Soquel, CA 95073*

Deadlines for Submittal:

- *Written communications received by 4:00 p.m. on the Tuesday of the week prior to a regularly scheduled (Thursday) Board meeting will be distributed to the Board and made available on the MGA's website at the time the Agenda is posted.*
- *Written communications received after the 4:00 p.m. deadline will be posted on the MGA website and Board members informed of the communications at the earliest opportunity.*

Please note, communications received after 9:00 a.m. the day before the Board Meeting may not have time to reach Board members, nor be read by them prior to consideration of an item.

- *Written communications received at a Board meeting will be distributed to Board members and posted on the MGA website at the earliest opportunity.*

This is not the same as the Public Correspondence Guidelines adopted by the Board at the November 19, 2020 meeting as Consent Agenda Item #4.3 (page 16):

"A new email address has been created for the submission of written communications to the MGA. Staff generally check MGA email accounts daily. During the week of a regularly scheduled Board of Director's meeting, staff will check for MGA emails at least twice daily. MGA email will also be checked at midday on the day of the Board meeting."

GUIDANCE FOR WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND DISABILITY ACCESS WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

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- *Written communications received at a Board meeting will be distributed to Board members and posted on the MGA website at the earliest possibility. "*

<https://www.midcountygroundwater.org/sites/default/files/uploads/meetings/board->

[packet/MGA_Board_Packet_2020-1119.pdf](#)

Please include the highlighted language in the Guidelines for Public Correspondence, as the Board approved it on November 19, 2020, or explain publicly why it must be omitted.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Becky Steinbruner
Customer of Private Well Agency