

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A-4—Thursday December 13, 1990 Santa Maria Times

State water won't solve area's problems; de-sal will

To the Editor:

Santa Maria Valley people do not want to get involved, so here is what they have.

1. A supervisor who seems to believe that the present overdraft of 17,000 acre-feet of water is solved now because they might get 11,300 acre-feet of state rain water with first delivery in 1996!

2. A City Council that is so arithmetically illiterate that they

think a blend of state water and local water will be potable!

3. A Chamber of Commerce that has not read page 11 of the Joint Water Committee White Paper!

4. A state water board that refuses to stop ten thousand water softeners from dumping 60 thousand tons of pure salt into the groundwater in the next five years!

5. Santa Maria Times, Aug. 22,

article quotes, "Santa Maria has an aquifer estimated to contain more than two million acre-feet but the current overdraft will soon place North County in the same boat as South County. When 27,000 acre-feet are taken from a basin with a safe yield of 10,000 acre-feet, something has to give!"

A 17,000 acre-feet overdraft would take over 50 years to remove only one million of the

two million acre-feet and longer if Twitchell Reservoir filled a few times in the 50 years.

There is no shortage of water, only poor quality! To quote from my letter of May 16, 1990: "My research tells me that de-sal is the only solution to the problem and the cheapest." So, who cares?

Glenn E. Peck
Nipomo