DEMOCRACY STARTS AND ENDS WITH OUR RIGHT TO VOTE!

YES ON A

YES ON MEASURE A EQUALS A BINDING VOTE

Last November, you made the effort to go to the polls in order to tell the NCSD what you had decided about State Water. You told the board what you thought and you meant it. Otherwise:
WHY VOTE? WHY VOTE? WHY VOTE? WHY VOTE?

Remember what happened then? Four Board members, without any justification whatsoever, CHANGED THEIR MIND ABOUT A BINDING VOTE! WHAT??? Is this Fantasyland?
They made up excuses, hoping you wouldn't notice or care.
THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR TAKING AWAY A BINDING VOTE! NONE!

Who is running this community? Consider that: NOT ONE MEMBER OF THE CURRENT BOARD HAS BEEN ELECTED. Even so, FOUR of them want tell YOU what you're allowed to think and how you have to vote, and vote, and vote. Board member STEVE SMALL DESERVES TO BE COMMENDED for having the integrity to continuously vote against the other board members, vote for what is RIGHT.

MANY HUNDREDS of Nipomo District residents, just like you, signed the Referendum and said "WAIT A MINUTE!" I voted in a binding election in November, and I intend to have my vote count. COUNT THEN, COUNT NOW , AND COUNT IN THE FUTURE.
MANY HUNDREDS, from all over the District, circulated and signed a Referendum which will GUARANTEE OUR RIGHT TO VOTE. You signed it. It is now Measure A, Vote YES.

There is a group of people attempting to deceive you into thinking that Measure A is a re-vote on State Water. So they are once again dragging out the old lies and scare tactics. Tactics which are getting pretty threadbare, which are getting easy to see right through.

Let's look at some of the dripping faucet distortions and misinformation from the Nipomo State Water Committee:

Distortion #1: 85% of the pumping capacity is in danger of being shut down.
For months we have heard that we are second class citizens. On April 15th NCSD council stated flatly that wells outside the district are not in any danger (A.Shaw). Any well that was drilled outside of the district boundaries was accompanied by IRON CLAD agreements, contracts, and historical precedents to surplus water that have NEVER been challenged in the State (G.Peck-last elected NCSD board member). Each well, with its necessary easements and titles, was installed along rigid State guidelines.

Distortion #2 Nipomo is running out of water.
Nipomo Mesa IS NOT IN OVERDRAFT. Never has been. State water will cost many times more than it costs to intelligently use ground water which Nipomo HAS IN ABUNDANCE. State and County Engineering and Santa Barbara hydrologist Charles Lawrence have found no evidence of overdraft of the huge Nipomo/Santa Maria groundwater basin (estimated at over 1,000,000 acre feet). State Engineer and EIR author Donald Asquith, in a 2-28-92 'Santa Maria Times' story, claimed "...you (Nipomo) can't possibly be in overdraft."

Distortion #3: State Water is cheap.
You may remember the good old days when State Water was going to cost under $500 per acre foot. A March 20 article in the Times Press Recorder, using information from the County and State, project costs to Nipomo in excess of $850 per acre foot (Tom Friesen). The real cost of State Water hasn't been going up, its always been up. Cambria is looking at $1700 per acre foot! The high costs that former County Engineer Van Laurn has been warning us about are finally being seen as true. That's why Paso Robles recently said, No Thanks to State Water.

Distortion #4: State Water is reliable.
The State bases their reliability claims on two weak premises:
1) FACILITIES THAT HAVE NOT BEEN BUILT YET (Carol Mitchell State Department of Water Resources spokesperson). Both the ability of the Department of Water Resources to pump more water, and its chances of constructing any new facilities are seriously in doubt due to EPA requirements, the Endangered Species Act, CEQA requirements, and monetary reality, etc.(David Behar-Director of The Bay Institute). Also, as Northern California restricts capture of its water supplies for its own survival, State Water reliability will be reduced (Van Laurn).

2) They also quote historical reliability figures. The State has sold contracts for 4.2 million acre feet per year (San Luis Obispo County is part of this entitlement). But the system presently can only pump and deliver 2.4 million acre feet per year. In the past, 2.4 million was adequate to supply the requests. But TWO YEARS AGO, THE STATE WATER SYSTEM'S CONTRACTUAL REQUESTS EXCEEDED THE PRESENT FACILITY'S FIRM YIELD (Dorothy Green-Board of Directors, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power). So historical reliability is meaningless.

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Small contributions to Nipomo Citizens for Democracy will help our effort to present the Truth

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Yes A Yes A Yes A

THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS ARE BEING SPENT TO CONVINCE YOU THAT YOU SHOULD GIVE UP YOUR RIGHT TO HAVE A VOICE

Distortion #5: Seawater desalination is too expensive.

We are being told that State Water is our only choice, our cheapest choice. This is a double lie! There are other choices which are not only cheaper, they are MUCH cleaner, would be locally owned and controlled, and could be built when we need them, as we need them.

Dr.Safwat Moustafa, Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Cal Poly has designed and supervised DOZENS of desalting facilities all around the world. He champions Multistage DISTILLATION, a proven technology which provides 97% of the purified sea water in the world. These plants are inexpensive to operate, and are be built to use industrial waste heat or solar heat. They provide pure distilled water for around $500 per acre foot depending on size of plant.

Congress recently approved a proposal by Leon E. Panetta, as part of the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act, to provide technical assistance to state and local water desalinization projects.

DESALTING SEA WATER IS THE FUTURE. STATE WATER IS THE PAST.

Distortion #6:

San Luis Obispo residents have already paid $9,900,000 for its share of State Water. So what? Construction costs just to build the coastal spur will be approximately $300,000,000. Nipomo's share ALONE of this cost could easily rival what the entire county has paid since 1957 EVEN BEFORE THE CONSTRUCTION IS FINISHED. Multiply 3500 acre feet times $850 per acre foot (conservative) times how many years you think construction will take. (The first year or two of construction will not be billed at 100%)

Distortion #7:

The Pipe is going right through town anyway, so we ought to get some. If its such a good neighbor, why did Arroyo Grande, Grover City, San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles, Lompoc, etc turn down State Water? Why is Oceano scaling back its request? State Water costs will hit like a hammer and continue for decades, along with restrictions on ground water use, funding other more reliable, unpolluted alternatives.

After the election, NCSD said they would only request 2500 AF, then it was 2000, the last guess was 1500 acre feet. Doesn't this make you wonder?

IF STATE WATER IS SO CHEAP, RELIABLE, AND PURE, WHY DON'T THEY DEMAND THEIR FULL ENTITLEMENT? WHY ARE THEY ASKING FOR LESS?

Could it be that the more they learn about State Water the worse it looks? Or are they saying they would ask for less to make it easier to convince you to go along. If you allow Measure A to be defeated, the NCSD COULD ask for their full entitlement of 3500. Do you have any reason to trust them? You compare:

1500 AF x $850/AF for 1850 rate payers = $57 extra per month

3500 AF x $850/AF for 1850 rate payers = over $134 extra per month

Over the past decade, property values have increased all over the County, but nowhere more dramatically than in Nipomo, TEN times higher in some cases. On top of that, THE "NIPOMO" AREA HAS SEEN A POPULATION INCREASE OF SIXTY PERCENT OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS (South County Area Plan Update-Appendix). This rate of growth makes some people very rich.

As you read the pro-State Water propaganda, read between the lines. What these people are really saying is, "We landowners and our non elected NCSD board have had a real cozy arrangement in sleepy little Nipomo for years. We are really upset with Nipomo Citizens for Democracy for bringing out the truth about who benefits (we do) and who pays (you do)." "We profit from your ignorance."

What about Nipomo Citizens for Democracy, the hundreds of people who circulated and signed the Referendum? Each and every one of us lives in the district. We don't need the huge burdens and bills which will accompany 3500 acre feet of State Water and 21,000 new residents almost overnight . Reasonable growth with planned and equitably financed schools, streets, and other services will be better.

You can help this effort by sending a small donation to cover the cost of postage and copying, in the range of $5. Send a donation to
Nipomo Citizens for Democracy, P O Box 973, Nipomo CA 93444.

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