

Woodlands project gets nod of approval from board of supes

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SAN LUIS OBISPO — The county's largest multi-use development got the green light when the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors certified a 20-year water supply for the Woodlands project on the Nipomo Mesa.

The project is expected to use 830 acre-feet of water per year.

In a 4-1 vote, with supervisor Shirley Bianchi dissenting, the board Tuesday upheld an appeal filed by the Woodlands developer after the County Planning Commission refused to verify that the project had a 20-year water supply.

The project, which includes two golf courses, is expected to use 830 acre-feet of water per year. An acre-foot is equal to about 326,000 gallons, or enough to meet the average yearly needs of two families.

Supervisors not only certified the water supply but also approved the tentative vesting tact map, which will allow the first phase of the project to proceed.

The first phase will complete the infrastructure for the village center, the business park, the

wastewater treatment plant, multifamily residences and butterfly habitats in small pocket parks around the development.

Fourth District Supervisor Katcho Achadjian said the board's decision was based partly on an agreement the developer reached with Nipomo Community Services District to provide supplemental water, partly on the state Department of Housing and Community Development's mandate that Nipomo provide its share of housing for the county and partly on a supplemental environmental impact report and a state Department of Water Resources report that both indicated the groundwater basin is not in overdraft and could supply water for the Nipomo Mesa until 2020.

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