December 7, 2011

Mr. Harold Snyder
P. O. Box 926
Nipomo, California 93444
kochcal@earthlink.net

Dear Mr. Snyder:

SUBJECT: NOVEMBER 15, 2011 PUBLIC DOCUMENT REQUEST

In responding to the public document request dated and received in the District office on November 15, 2011 (Attached). We have printed a copy of additional comments both by regular and electronic mail between customer/interested persons and staff.

There are 25 pages contained in this file and the fee for copying is $6.30.

Very truly yours,

NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Michael S. LeBrun
General Manager

Enclosure(s):

- 111115 Snyder Request
- Additional comments

Harold Snyder
P.O. Box 926
Nipomo, CA 93444

11115-3

November 15, 2011

Michael LeBrun,
Nipomo Community Services District (NCSD)
148 Wilson Street, P.O. Box 326
Nipomo, CA 93444

(805) 929-1133 Phone
(805) 929-1932 Fax

Dear Michael LeBrun:

In the past I have made requests for copies of the documents from the 8/23/11 and 11/9/11 NCSD Meetings at the High School on the Supplemental Water Project and Alternatives.

Mike Winn indicated at the 11/9/11 meeting that other letters/comments/emails have been received. It is not clear to me if all of those were included in the documents you provided for the specific meeting dates or if some comments came in before or between the meetings.

If there are comment documents in 2011 that have not been sent to me as a result of the 8/23/11 and 11/9/11 requests I am now making a request for a copy of the comment documents NCSD has received on the Supplemental Water Project that have not been provided.

If the NCSD posts any of the above on it's web site I do need a paper copy. If NCSD does not intend to post any of the documents I request a paper copy.

Thank You

Harold Snyder

Mike thanks for looking at my request.

To "Clarify"

Because I made the request at the time of the meeting I knew they documents were not posted yet.

So I was trying to word it so you would have some time to post before we got to the point of paper copies.

If a document is posted on your website I can get a copy there and do not need a paper copy.

John

From: Michael LeBrun [mailto:mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2011 3:17 PM
To: John Snyder
Subject: November 9, 2011 Public Records Request

Mr. Snyder,
Please see the attached public records request you provided the District on November 9, 2011.

Item 1. on your request has been posted to the District Web site (ncsd.ca.gov). We intend to post all question cards no later than Friday November 18 and will inform you directly when that posting is made. There were no handouts provided by the District on November 9.

PLEASE CLARIFY THE SECOND TO LAST SENTENCE ON YOUR REQUEST; If NCSD post the materials on our web site, you do, or do NOT need a paper copy?

Respectfully,

Michael S. LeBrun, P.E.
General Manager

Nipomo Community Services District
P.O. Box 326
Nipomo, CA 93444-0326
(805) 929-1133
(805) 929-1932 fax
mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

telephone or reply email and destroy the original, any attachments and all copies without reading or saving.

From: NCSD_imaging@ncsd.ca.gov [mailto:NCSD_imaging@ncsd.ca.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2011 3:14 PM
To: Michael LeBrun
Subject: Attached Image

[redacted]

1 November 2011

Nipomo Community Service District:

I have recently read an article in The Tribune about the water pipeline that is being proposed to bring water from Santa Maria to Nipomo. This is a very controversial topic in our community and being a Nipomo resident I feel that this pipeline will be a good thing for our community. I have heard a lot about the salt-water intrusion in our aquifer that we use and there is no way to reverse this phenomenon. As a community we have been limited on the amount we can grow by the county because we don't have enough water to support any more growth in Nipomo. So, if we get water from somewhere else this will reduce our use of the aquifer and can let our aquifer refill itself over time. This isn't an easy thing to do but in the long run I believe that it will be very beneficial for our community in a variety of different ways. This will benefit our community in a few ways; first of all it will let us have more water so we can build more housing, which will bring more revenue. Second, it will make it so salt water won't intrude our aquifer. First of all with the more water Nipomo can acquire the more our town can grow. This will bring more money into our town and more money into the local businesses. Brining more money into Nipomo will benefit the whole community. As for salt-water intrusion it is something that can't be reversed. If we do use too much water then the salt-water would go into our aquifer and then it would be tainted forever, but this can be prevented if we install the pipeline. As for the cost of this pipeline, the projections seem like a lot of money but the environmental impact will be far more costly if we don't put this pipeline in. Everyone who is using the Nipomo aquifer should have a slight tax in order to make sure the pipeline is completed. I know some people aren't using the Nipomo service district services but are still using the aquifer think that they shouldn't pay for the pipeline but since they are still using the aquifer they should be paying just as much as people who are using the Nipomo Water Services. All of this being said personally I feel like the proposed water pipeline is a good idea for the future of Nipomo. I believe that the community should take all of these points into serious consideration when thinking about the development of the pipeline. Without it we could be in a lot more trouble than we are now.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted]

Your opinions are important!

"Send us your comments, suggestions and questions. We'll keep you informed on this important issue."

— Michael S. LeBrun, *General Manager*
Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

N/A

☐ I want to know more. Please send me information.

☐ I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors. Do not call me with scare tactics, thank you.

☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

From:

NAME

ADDRESS AG Mesa

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE Resident &

EMAIL Neighbors.

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

I am voting "No" to the NCSD water project. It is too expensive. We want time to find more cost effective solutions. Go away & stop spending tax payers dollars on this loser!

Your opinions are important!

"Send us your comments, suggestions and questions. We'll keep you informed on this important issue."

— Michael S. LeBrun, *General Manager*
Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

- ☐ I want to know more. Please send me information.
- ☐ I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors.
- ☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

[redacted]
NAME
[redacted]
ADDRESS
[redacted]
CITY [redacted] STATE [redacted] ZIP
[redacted]
PHONE
[redacted]
EMAIL

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

Until we have another supply in place, we must impose a moritorium on Building Permits.

Your opinions are important!

"Send us your comments, suggestions and questions. We'll keep you informed on this important issue."

— Michael S. LeBrun, *General Manager*
Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

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☐ I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors.

☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

[redacted]
NAME

[redacted]
ADDRESS

[redacted] STATE [redacted]
CITY ZIP

[redacted]
PHONE

[redacted]
EMAIL

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

You make me so angry! I have lived here for over 33 years. We have heard there is not enough water yet we see building after building going up. Both homes and businesses. You want me to cut back or worse yet you can sell it to someone else. Now you want to charge on a scale. No way, we should all be paying the same rate. Size and use does not justify the means! Thank you Ed Eby for being the voice of reason.

2

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— Michael S. LeBrun, *General Manager*
Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

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☐ I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors.

☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

WHY WAS THE STATE WATER LINE TURN-OUT OPTION NOT TAKEN WHEN IT WAS OFFERED?

1

Your opinions are important!

"Send us your comments, suggestions and questions. We'll keep you informed on this important issue."

— Michael S. LeBrun, *General Manager*
Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

- [x] I want to know more. Please send me information.
- [ ] I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors.
- [x] Show me how to save money on my water bill.

NAME [redacted]

ADDRESS [redacted]

CITY [redacted] STATE [redacted] ZIP [redacted]

PHONE [redacted]

EMAIL [redacted]

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

3

Your opinions are important!

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Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

- [x] I want to know more. Please send me information.
- [ ] I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors.
- [ ] Show me how to save money on my water bill.

NAME [redacted]

ADDRESS [redacted]

CITY [redacted] STATE [redacted] ZIP [redacted]

PHONE [redacted]

EMAIL [redacted]

Here are my ~~ideas/suggestions~~/questions:

HOW MANY ACRE FEET OF WATER ARE THE LOCAL FARMERS & RANCHERS PUMPING FROM THE GROUND WATER SUPPLY?

4

Your opinions are important!

"Send us your comments, suggestions and questions. We'll keep you informed on this important issue."

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Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

- ☐ I want to know more. Please send me information.
- ☐ I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors.
- ☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

(6)

NAME [redacted]

ADDRESS [redacted]

CITY [redacted] STATE [redacted] ZIP [redacted]

PHONE

EMAIL [redacted]

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

Idea! Why NOT go to the State for STATEWATER? This would take a Hot Tap & Short Connections. What about Desalination Plant for All Coastal Areas?. Maybe the County should help and STOP issuing building Permits until this issue is solved?. We all Try To Conserve Water. Retired People have NO $ for This Solution WHAT is the COST TO PUT OUT this BROCHURE? and This Cost for auto Meter Readers, that don't work

Your opinions are important!

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- ☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

NAME [redacted]

ADDR [redacted]

CITY [redacted] STATE [redacted] ZIP [redacted]

PHONE [redacted]

EMAIL [redacted]

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

Stop Building Tract Homes. Only allow 1 New home per acre.

To inspire Conservation, Promise Us in Writing that you will Not Raise Water Rates as City of SLO just did. People Conserved so well, their revenues dropped, So they increased Rates 20%! That's Obscene!!

(5)

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Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

- ☐ I want to know more. Please send me information.
- ☐ I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors.
- ☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

NAME [redacted]

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

1. STOP DEVELOPMENT!
2. Desalination
3. Stop subsidizing Wineries

8

Your opinions are important!

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Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

- ☑ I want to know more. Please send me information.
- ☐ I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors.
- ☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

NAME [redacted]

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

Don't we need a building moratorium until new sources of water are available to the existing population - existing business and residential population? Shouldn't current zoning be amended to limit future growth in population to this area?

7

Your opinions are important!

"Send us your comments, suggestions and questions. We'll keep you informed on this important issue."

— **Michael S. LeBrun,** ***General Manager***
Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

☒ I want to know more. Please send me information.

☐ I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors.

☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

NAME D [redacted]

ADDRESS [redacted]

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE [redacted]

EMAIL [redacted]

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

A letter to editor about 10 years ago essentially said — why should I

Your opinions are important!

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—Michael S. LeBrun, *General Manager*
Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

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☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

NAME D [redacted]

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE [redacted]

EMAIL [redacted]

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

A letter to editor about 10 years ago essentially said — why should I conserve water so more people can move here?

What we need is a cap (1%) on growth.

[redacted] 9

6

SCANNED

RECEIVED
AUG - 8 2011
NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Nipomo Community Services District
148 South Wilson Street
Nipomo, CA 93444-5320

[redacted]

SANTA BARBARA CA 931 1 T
04 AUG 2011 PM

Your opinions are important!

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— Michael S. LeBrun, *General Manager*
Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

☐ I want to know more. Please send me information.

☐ I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors.

☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill

(1)

NAME [redacted]

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

WHY ARE WE NOT TYING INTO STATE WATER AS SUPPLEMENTAL WATER? IF WE ARE CLOSE TO OVERDRAFT HOW COME SANTA MARIA ISN'T IF WE ARE TAPPING THE SAME AQUIFER? I'M NOT CONVINCED BUYING WATER FROM SANTA MARIA IS THE MOST COST EFFECTIVE WAY OF TACKLING THIS PROBLEM.

Your opinions are important!

"Send us your comments, suggestions and questions. We'll keep you informed on this important issue."

— Michael S. LeBrun, *General Manager*
Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

☒ This pipeline doesn't make sense!!

☐ I want to know more. Please send me information.

☐ I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors.

☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill

(2)

NAME [redacted]

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

I have Golden State H2O, But it makes absolutely No Sense to buy Santa Maria's "extra" Water. We will be pulling Water from the existing aquafer— no help there for salt Water intrusion. Santa Maria is moving quickly toward "would not" so they won't have "extra Water" long enough to pay off the pipeline. Buy into State H2O, it's the way.

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Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

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☑ Show me how to save money on my water bill

3

[redacted]

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

Why was a contractor allowed to water 7 days a week - 24 hours a day - just past the strip mall - across from the post office for at least two weeks a couple of years ago. There still is no building there.

When my daughter called to see why this was allowed - during a water shortage - they told her "He pays his bill" !!!

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Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

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☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill

4

[redacted]

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

Place building moratorium on SM, Nipomo, & five cities. No new construction AT ALL!! Consult w/ Trilogy / Monarch to reduce H_2O consumption on golf courses. Build ~~Place~~ a desal plant for their consumption. Stop all outsource of our H_2O. Keep it here. We can't continue to help others while inturn it hurts US. We need to solve our problems before we can do for others.

Thks Nipomo Resident

Your opinions are important!

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— Michael S. LeBrun, *General Manager*
Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

☒ I want to know more. Please send me information.

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☒ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

NAME [redacted]

ADDRESS [redacted]

CITY [redacted] STATE [redacted] ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

1

Your opinions are important!

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Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

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☒ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

NAME [redacted]

ADDRESS [redacted]

CITY [redacted] STATE [redacted] ZIP

PHONE [redacted]

EMAIL

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

2

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Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

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☐ I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors.

☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

NAME [redacted]

CITY [redacted] STATE ZIP

PHONE [redacted]

EMAIL

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

① Encourage residents to remove lawns – we are removing our front lawn
② Host free gardening seminar on water use plantings
③ Send out list of top 10 ways to conserve
④ offer rebates or discounts to residents who reduce usage on consistent basis

4

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— Michael S. LeBrun, *General Manager*
Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

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☐ I will host a house meeting to help educate my neighbors.

☒ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

NA [redacted]

AD

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE [redacted]

EMAIL [redacted]

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

I LIMIT SHOWERS TIME, IN EACH BATHROOM I HAVE A SIGN: "IF IT'S YELLOW, LET IT MELLOW; IF IT'S BROWN FLUSH IT DOWN; IF IT OFFENDS, GIVE IT THE BENDS"
MY SPRINKLER SYSTEM IS ON TIMERS SET FOR EARLY A.M., WE ONLY RUN THE DISHWASHER WHEN IT IS FULL, SAME WITH LAUNDRY.

3

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— Michael S. LeBrun, *General Manager*
Nipomo Community Services District
Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

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- ☐ Show me how to save money on my water bill.

[redacted]
NAME

[redacted]
ADDRESS

[redacted]
CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

Here are my ideas/suggestions/questions:

BASE SEWER USAGE ON WINTER MONTHS WHEN OUTDOOR WATER USAGE IS NEXT TO ZERO INSTEAD OF CHARGING EVERYONE THE SAME RATE.
AS A 1 PERSON HOUSEHOLD WHO RUNS THE DISHWASHER ONCE A WEEK, WHY AM I PAYING THE SAME AS THE NEIGHBORS WITH 2 TEENAGERS & 3 ADULTS? MAYBE THEY'LL CONSERVE.
I'VE POSED THIS QUESTION FOR YEARS....

RECEIVED
AUG - 8 2011
NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Nipomo Community Services District
148 South Wilson Street
Nipomo, CA 93444-5320

SANTA CLARITA CA 913
08 AUG 2011 PM

93444+5320

Michael LeBrun

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2011 9:57 PM
To: Michael LeBrun
Subject: August 23 meeting

Mr. LeBrun,

I attended the meeting at Nipomo High School tonight. I would like to thank you and your board for all your hard work preparing a professional well run meeting. I found it very informative.

I am sorry that so many people in the audience are not supporting your efforts. I was embarrassed by the comments made by the uninformed and rude statements made by the audience.

You have my support in your effort to build and finance the proposed Santa Maria pipeline. I only fear that the ignorant will vote down this good cause.

[redacted]

Michael LeBrun

From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2011 5:14 PM
To: Michael LeBrun
Subject: How votes will be allocated

Mr. LeBrun,

My name is [redacted]. I live at [redacted], Nipomo. My account # is [redacted]. This comment is in regards to statements made by you as part of your presentation at the forum held by the district on November 9th.

The parcel my home sits on is approximately 1 acre. Not to bore you with details, but when we moved into the home in 1992, we made a deliberate effort to plant only 2/3 of the property and leave the last 1/3 to nature. We did plant three trees in that portion. They are mature and and the rest of that portion receive no irrigation ever. Our front yard consists of only plants native to the environment if not the area. Our back yard with the exception of a 75' x 30' lawn is the same type of plantings. I have had the district check my usage in the past, but you are welcome to look at it again. You will note that for the size of my property my water usage is very low. The district's scheme for voting and for assessment puts me in the same category as users of more water than I use. I would rather surrender my voting power to get my assessment more in line with my usage. I realize that an equitable method of voting and assessment for this project is going to be difficult. Nevertheless, I would hate to think that my effort to be a good neighbor, economize and to conserve would go unrewarded.

The presentation by the district at the forum was well done. Unfortunately, we missed the first presentation. I don't believe the board of directors, you or your staff have anything to gain financially if the voters approve this measure. So, I will accept the facts of overdraft and shortage as described by all the presenters. Nevertheless, from comments I heard at the break, you are going to have some problems securing the majority you need to proceed. The issues raised are similar to those raised by the residents of Los Osos regarding the proposed sewer for that region. A certain number of people will say that no matter what, they cannot afford the assessment. Another group are not convinced that the facts as laid out by the district as regards condition of the aquifer are true. Sometime in the early 1990's the voters were asked to approve a turnout and the taking of state water. The voters then in their infinite wisdom said no. They said it twice. Now as Mike Winn has stated most of the voters who will vote this time were not here for those previous votes. They may or may not be more amenable to this project. If you in the district are truly convinced of the necessity of this project, it is important that you keep at your information. I wish you well.

[redacted]

Michael LeBrun

From: Michael LeBrun
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2011 9:05 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: How votes will be allocated
Attachments: E1-E4.pdf

[redacted]

Thank you for your email.

The District is making every effort to spread the cost of the supplemental water project in the most equitable manner possible. That said, there is no one formula that will result in absolute equity for all parcels over all time.

There are capital costs associated with construction of the pipeline, which are onetime fixed costs. There are also costs associated with purchasing water from the City of Santa Maria that will be ongoing costs which will vary over time.

This Wednesday (11/16), my Board of Director will further consider how each of these basic cost categories will be funded. I have attached a copy of the information the Board will considering (See item E-2 in the attached document).

The numbers presented last Wednesday (11/9) were based on the Board's current position of including 69% of the cost of water in the property financing (property tax measure) component. This approach minimizing the impact of the project to customer rates, but also means the portion fixed to properties (which is based not on the actual use but instead the potential use of water - since it is projecting out 30 years) is maximized.

Should the Board elect to move toward an option that puts more of the projects cost in rates, then a customers actual use of the water becomes more of a factor in what is paid by that customer in the years ahead.

I hope this helps some. This is a very complex matter to be sure. I appreciate your comments and insights.

Our meeting this Wednesday begins at 9am. I expect we will be discussing Item E-2 around 10am.

Respectfully,

Michael S. LeBrun, P.E.
General Manager

Nipomo Community Services District
P.O. Box 326
Nipomo, CA 93444-0326
(805) 929-1133
(805) 929-1932 fax
mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email and any documents, files or previous email messages attached to it may contain information that is confidential or legally privileged and is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s). If you are not the intended recipient, do not read, print, or save this email. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution of this email, its contents or the attachments, is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by telephone or reply email and destroy the original, any attachments and all copies without reading or saving.

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2011 5:14 PM
To: Michael LeBrun
Subject: How votes will be allocated

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My name is [redacted]. I live at [redacted]. My account # is [redacted] This comment is in regards to statements made by you as part of your presentation at the forum held by the district on November 9th.

The parcel my home sits on is approximately 1 acre. Not to bore you with details, but when we moved into the home in 1992, we made a deliberate effort to plant only 2/3 of the property and leave the last 1/3 to nature. We did plant three trees in that portion. They are mature and and the rest of that portion receive no irrigation ever. Our front yard consists of only plants native to the environment if not the area. Our back yard with the exception of a 75' x 30' lawn is the same type of plantings. I have had the district check my usage in the past, but you are welcome to look at it again. You will note that for the size of my property my water usage is very low. The district's scheme for voting and for assessment puts me in the same category as users of more water than I use. I would rather surrender my voting power to get my assessment more in line with my usage. I realize that an equitable method of voting and assessment for this project is going to be difficult. Nevertheless, I would hate to think that my effort to be a good neighbor, economize and to conserve would go unrewarded.

The presentation by the district at the forum was well done. Unfortunately, we missed the first presentation. I don't believe the board of directors, you or your staff have anything to gain financially if the voters approve this measure. So, I will accept the facts of overdraft and shortage as described by all the presenters. Nevertheless, from comments I heard at the break, you are going to have some problems securing the majority you need to proceed. The issues raised are similar to those raised by the residents of Los Osos regarding the proposed sewer for that region. A certain number of people will say that no matter what, they cannot afford the assessment. Another group are not convinced that the facts as laid out by the district as regards condition of the aquifer are true. Sometime in the early 1990's the voters were asked to approve a turnout and the taking of state water. The voters then in their infinite wisdom said no. They said it twice. Now as Mike Winn has stated most of the voters who will vote this time were not here for those previous votes. They may or may not be more amenable to this project. If you in the district are truly convinced of the necessity of this project, it is important that you keep at your information. I wish you well.

[redacted]

Michael LeBrun

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, November 09, 2011 3:29 PM
To: Michael LeBrun
Subject: Now A Second Pipeline and More Expensive Water?

Michael,

I can't get my head wrapped around this. Obviously the entities that bought into the State Water those years back and have been paying for the State water pipeline all those same years aren't about to forget those costs, especially since they own the infrastructure and control access. That door's closed. Now the option is to build a separate pipeline and buy the State water from Santa Maria that Nipomo could have had as a supplemental source all those years back had we joined in on the State Water Project at prices much more attractive than what we're currently faced with. If that option was deemed "off the table" in 91/92 than any population growth in Nipomo should have concurrently been deemed "off the table", a most ridiculous situation. Population growth was and is inevitable.

Now that the past mistake is quite clear, a question remains as to whether or not the Santa Maria pipeline is a stopgap measure or a true reliable source of additional water. Also, I had been told by a long time resident plumber that the state water pipeline goes past Nipomo and already has valves for us to tap into, if that were allowed. Is there no way to pay Santa Maria for part of their allocation and tap into the pipeline directly and avoid the cost of building a separate pipeline to Santa Maria?

Hope tonight's meeting shows some wisdom and productivity.

Sincerely,
[redacted]

From: Michael LeBrun [mailto:mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2011 4:51 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Why No Vote For 20 Years?

[redacted],
Thank you for your email. This is a good question and if posed the night of the 9th – would NOT constitute anything but a good use of time.

The answer is difficult for a number of reasons, not the least of which is that no staff that were employed by the District back then are still here today. I can say that the topic was very divisive across the community and the series of two votes that were conducted in 91/92 convinced the Board of Directors that option was 'off the table'.

Subsequently, the State Water Project pressed ahead and all the participant shared a higher portion of cost than they otherwise would have if Nipomo and other areas would have participated. Now those participants own the infrastructure and control access (set the price). If we were talking about a handful of folks we could sit down with and negotiate a deal, that would be one thing. The owners are the hundreds of thousands of people who participated and they are represented by a half dozen or so elected Boards that are charged with decision making and fiduciary responsibility. While some of those folks might be willing sellers, ALL of them would have to agree to sale of water from the line and, based on the prices they have quoted, there is no real interest in doing so. Less anything but strong interest across all participant agencies (municipalities across Santa Barbara County), there is no likelihood of lining up all the approvals necessary to achieve a deal.

To help understand this, imagine if we had participated in the State Water Project 20 years ago and today some neighboring city that didn't want on to the project. Imagine your water rates had been 20-40% higher than that neighboring city for all that time – would you be willing to allow them to join on to the project? At what cost?

Public project development is something that takes years. Our current project is a very good example. We studied alternatives for supplemental water back in 1994 then again in 2004. A pipeline to Santa Maria was selected back then. We first negotiated an agreement with the City to sell the water (no point in building a pipeline if there is no water to purchase). This agreement for purchase was entered into by NCSD and City in late 2004. Pipeline design commenced in 2005. By 2006, a preliminary design and cost estimate showed project costs approaching $20M. The District paused the project and commission a third and final review of alternatives (2007 Alternatives Study) to make sure this was the communities best alternative. The project was affirmed as best alternative and our efforts to complete design and environmental review (EIR/CEQA) were restarted. By fall 2009 the project design had advance to 90% complete and project cost estimates were approaching $25M. In January 2010 a final water sales agreement was negotiated with the City (SM) and analysis for financing the project were well underway.

Of course, in the meantime the world was turning and the economy was tanking and pocket books were contracting....

Today, design is near 100% and the cost estimate is approaching $26M (We will have final numbers by end of November – not certain we are going to hit $26M, but want to be prepared if we do) and we are preparing to bring a funding vote to our customers by early 2012, some 8+ years later. We are doing everything we can to educate our community on the importance of the project and enormity of the opportunity. If the community turns this down, I cannot guess when the next opportunity for obtaining supplemental water will come. I think we can all guess what the cost might look like compared to today's project (Much higher).

I will end by saying I think it is very important to have a diversified source of water supply – especially as a relatively small community in a semi arid region where population is expected to continue to grow and water supply is finite.

I hope this helps and is not overly wordy. I welcome your questions and encourage you to attend on the 9th.

Respectfully,

Michael S. LeBrun, P.E.
General Manager

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mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2011 2:02 PM
To: Michael LeBrun
Subject: Why No Vote For 20 Years?

Michael,

Don't want to take up precious time at the 11/9 meeting, but I am frustrated for an answer to this question. Why not have waited maybe 2-3 years for a second election on tapping into the State Water Pipeline to secure a supplemental fresh water source? Maybe people would have come to their senses and seen the future reality of needed additional water. In any case, why was there not a later election, BEFORE the option of tapping into the State Water Pipeline allotment ran out?

Thank you, [redacted]

Michael LeBrun

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2011 2:16 PM
To: Michael LeBrun
Subject: Intertie advertizing

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Mike,

In our last e-mail communication, several weeks back now, you suggested "Let's keep the dialog open" (thank you!) and "what else the District can do?". I have waited and watched for a while before attempting an answer to that question because I felt I had already answered it. Yesterday at a local meeting held by Adam Hill I had occasion to speak with both Larry Vierheilig and Ed Eby (separately) and will pass along the essence of those conversations. Before commenting, I once again wish to emphasize I am not opposed to the need for a second source of water in addition to rainfall that happens to land on the Mesa and purchasing from Santa Maria is both the most reliable and legal option. As stated before, my disillusionment with the District has centered on the *extremely* high proposed water/sewer charges for a low-water-use, State-requested workforce housing project. If verbal agreements mean anything, I believe that problem has been put to rest and we can move forward with a more open and positive approach. So, my commentary is as follows: Statements by the District both through specific advertizing and the local media of the *potential* for saltwater intrusion, the *potential* for running out of water and the *solution* being purchase of State water via Santa Maria do more towards raising questions and endless discussion than leading folks to definite, understandable and quick action. Any sentence that begins with the word "potential" opens a discussion, particularly with people who can afford a million-dollar house. All fresh water on planet Earth is replenished by rainfall or snowfall, reducing the question of reliability to the size of the watershed and it's storage capacity. State water, by comparison, is politically controlled and as such is our least reliable source of supply. Nipomo Mesa has the unusual problem of a random mixture of commercial and individual residential uses scattered throughout the area, with public water purveyors attempting to "skim" water off the surface (so to speak) without infringing on anyone's overlying rights. Our most positive, provable and understandable need for an outside source of water stems from legal requirements, as was aptly stated by Jacquie Fredericks at the recent "anti-pipeline" meeting. This fact, not lack of water, should be a primary point of advertizing. Our most positive, provable and understandable source of water is the Santa Maria city wells, essentially shut down when State water became operational in 1997. They are capable of pumping 12,750 AFY and are backed up by the vast Cuyama watershed extending nearly as far as I-5 freeway as well as existing valley storage of appx. 2.7 million acre feet of water. This fact should be the second primary point of advertizing. As to saltwater intrusion? Forget it. It's too much of a hot potato and winning on the first two counts would solve the third anyway. An added bonus: letting local farmers and nursery operators know we are attempting to solve their potential water problems by bringing outside water into the area would bring in the support of a lot of local business. Though they may have the overlying right to the water, businessmen do not relish the idea of having to file suit to maintain that right..

I hope the above is received as a useful suggestion. At a time when every good idea seems to devolve into endless and needless discussion, we need a change. Comments? [redacted]

[redacted]

Michael LeBrun

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, August 03, 2011 6:19 PM
To: Michael LeBrun
Subject: Re: Nipomo water: desalination is the only long-term solution

Thank you for your thoughtful and informative response.

With respect to the Santa Maria pipeline option, I would like more information about our priority for receiving water through this pipeline:

-Does NCSD plan to routinely use this water as a way to limit aquifer drawdowns?

-What happens in extreme drought conditions? What would Nipomo's priority be for receipt of water? My concern here is a situation where water is not available at any cost. I do not object to paying more for water; I just do not want to be in a situation where the farmers and other politically active groups get to pay less per unit of water than I do.

Respectfully,

[redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: Michael LeBrun <mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov>
To: [redacted]
Sent: Wed, Aug 3, 2011 2:16 pm
Subject: RE: Nipomo water: desalination is the only long-term solution

Mr[redacted]
Thank you for your email.

The District has a long range vision which includes desalination. We have done some preliminary analyses and cost studies. A component of the buy in charge we levy on new development is dedicated to advancing desalination sources. We closely watch some of the large entities north (Santa Cruz, Monterey) and south (Long Beach and Orange County) who are working hard to define, permit, and finance desalination projects. The costs continue to escalate as concerns for the natural environment and growth are expressed. We see the horizon for desalination to be on the order of 20 years and expect the effort and associated cost will require coordination on a regional level. The boundaries of the Santa Maria Ground Water basin we rely on presently would make a natural regional boundary for defining partnership agencies to work with.

Currently there are a number of Cities and large water companies operating in this 'region'. These include, among others,; Cities of; Guadalupe, Santa Maria, Arroyo Grande, Pismo/Shell Beach, and Grover Beach; Communities of Oceano, Nipomo; and private water companies, Woodlands Mutual Water Company, Rural Water Company and Goldenstate Water Company Orcutt and Nipomo divisions.

All of these water supplier EXCEPT the ones operating on the Nipomo Mesa (Nipomo Community Services, Woodlands Mutual, Goldenstate Nipomo Division, and Rural Water Company) have already establish supplemental sources of water that provide options for managing the groundwater. While we expect to partner with these regional agencies on desalination efforts, we need to first get ourselves on an equal playing field by participating in the current supplemental water projects which are available in our region.

Our Agreement for purchase of water from Santa Maria would put us on an equal standing with all Santa Maria customers. The water would come directly from the City's distribution system and therefore be of the same quality as delivered to their other customers. Our rate would be set at their Tier I level. The City currently delivers a mix of water that is overwhelmingly (> 90%) 'state water' and some groundwater.

We welcome your input, thoughts and questions. The Community has a challenge water resources road ahead. Through education and communication the right path will be followed and our needs will be met.

I hope we count on your support on this first step of diversifying our water supply and our continued efforts to insure our communities waste resources future.

Michael S. LeBrun, P.E.
General Manager

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From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, August 03, 2011 11:48 AM
To: Michael LeBrun
Subject: Nipomo water: desalination is the only long-term solution

The most important goal we Nipomo residents must embrace is water availability even in times of extreme drought. We must not accept a potential situation where water might not be available at any cost. "Water insurance" is just as important as homeowners and auto insurance. Insofar as Santa Maria water would always be subject to diversion to users with more political clout, spending money on a pipeline to Santa Maria is foolish. The only way to guarantee a water supply is to embrace seawater desalination. The sooner we start down this path, the sooner we can protect our aquifer and our landscaping. All of the coastal cities on the Central Coast will eventually face the seawater intrusion issue and hence should cooperatively pursue desalination solutions.

Thank you.

[redacted]