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TODAY'S LETTERS

Get the facts on water plan

To the Editor:

Recent statements by opponents of the proposed pipeline from Santa Maria to Nipomo are contradicted by reports issued by the technical experts monitoring the aquifer for the court.

Those reports indicate net usage from the aquifer has been exceeding the “dependable yield” of the aquifer by more than 2,500 acre-feet per year. The most recent report states “direct measurements indicate that outflow exceeds the ability of the supply to replace the water pumped from the aquifers.”

It would seem prudent to address this supply/demand imbalance now before the situation deteriorates and restrictions on water use are mandated.

The water from Santa Maria will be “new” water not currently available on the Mesa. At least 50 percent of the water will be from the State Water Project. The balance will be from wells in south Santa Maria. Water contour maps indicate the groundwater in that area flows west toward the ocean, not north to replenish the Nipomo aquifer.

If you haven't done so, please review the various reports that document the water situation on the Mesa. Don't rely on unsubstantiated generalities and statements.

Craig Armstrong

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