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CALIFORNIA'S NATURAL RESOURCES

Assembly California Legislature



MARK STONE
CHAIR, JUDICIARY
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TWENTY-NINTH DISTRICT

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0029
(916) 319-2029
FAX (916) 319-2129

DISTRICT OFFICES
701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 318B
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(831) 425-1503
FAX (831) 425-2570

99 PACIFIC STREET, SUITE 575G
MONTEREY, CA 93940
(831) 649-2832
FAX (831) 649-2935

November 8, 2016

Felicia Marcus, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
PO Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

Dear Chair Marcus:

I am writing to express my support for the Soquel Creek Water District's application for \$2.5 million from the Proposition 1 Groundwater Quality Funding Program for their Pure Water Soquel project.

Groundwater is the sole source of water in the Mid-Santa Cruz County region and relied upon by Soquel Creek Water (District), other municipal water purveyors, small mutual well owners, and over a thousand other private well pumpers. The Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater basin is critically overdrafted with seawater intrusion and contamination occurring at the coastline. Due to the overdraft condition and water quality impacts of seawater intrusion occurring within the basin, the District declared a groundwater emergency in 2014 and the Department of Water Resources identified Basin 3-1 Soquel Valley as critically overdrafted.

To meet the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act's long-term sustainability of the basin by 2040, the District developed its Community Water Plan in 2015 which includes the Pure Water Soquel Project. Pure Water Soquel would take municipal wastewater and use advanced water treatment methods to produce 1,500 acre-feet annually of purified water. This purified water would then be injected into the ground to replenish the groundwater basin.

The Pure Water Soquel project will aid in replenishing the groundwater basin, provide a barrier against seawater contamination, and provide a safe, high-quality, reliable, and sustainable water supply to support current and future generations in the Mid-Santa Cruz County region. Thank you for considering the Soquel Creek Water District's request for Proposition 1 Groundwater Quality Funding Program funds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Stone".

Mark Stone
Assemblymember
29th District