

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PURE WATER SOQUEL GROUNDWATER REPLENISHMENT REUSE PROJECT

The public is invited to attend a public hearing on the Pure Water Soquel (PWS) Project. The hearing is being held in accordance with Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 3, Article 5.2, §60320.202 of the California Code of Regulations (Title 22).

Background: Soquel Creek Water District (SqCWD) is a public water agency that relies solely on groundwater for its water supply. The Santa Cruz Mid County Groundwater Basin (Basin), the primary source of water for SqCWD, is in a state of critical overdraft; groundwater has been extracted at a rate that has caused seawater intrusion. Seawater intrusion has been detected as high chloride concentrations in some of the coastal monitoring wells in the Basin, which has been confirmed by geophysical mapping. Despite significant conservation efforts in the region, the groundwater basin remains critically overdrafted and an additional water supply is required to supplement the natural recharge of the Basin and combat the seawater intrusion. Planning for a reliable, high-quality and affordable water supply that protects groundwater resources is a top priority for SqCWD. To that end, SqCWD is implementing the PWS Project.

Project: The PWS Project is a new groundwater replenishment reuse project (GRRP) using highly purified recycled water proposed by SqCWD. The primary goal of the PWS Project is to produce up to 1,500-acre feet per year (afy) of purified water for groundwater replenishment intended to prevent further seawater intrusion and improve the Basin's reliability as a water supply. The sustainable water supply will allow for a reliable, drought-resistant supplemental water source for SqCWD's customers and others who rely on the basin.

The Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Facility (SC WWTF) will provide secondary effluent (referred to as source water) that will undergo water purification treatment to produce purified water for the PWS Seawater Intrusion Prevention (SWIP) wells. The source water conveyed to the advanced water purification facility (AWPF) at Chanticleer Avenue will be treated via ozonation, membrane filtration (MF), reverse osmosis (RO), ultraviolet disinfection with hydrogen peroxide, and conditioning via post treatment stabilization prior to being pumped to the SWIP wells for groundwater recharge. The PWS Project will produce purified water that will comply with the California Code of Regulations Title 22, Article 5.2 for a Groundwater Replenishment Reuse Project and meet all federal and state drinking water regulations.

Available Information: A copy of the Pure Water Soquel Engineering Report is available for public review at www.soquelcreekwater.org/GRRP. Any questions regarding this project may be directed to PureWaterSoquel@soquelcreekwater.org.

Public Hearing: The State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water and Soquel Creek Water District will conduct an on-line public hearing as part of the Title 22 approval process. The public hearing will begin with a brief presentation about the project, followed by an opportunity for public comments and questions.

Title 22 Pure Water Soquel Engineering Report Public Hearing
Thursday, December 1, 2022 at 5:30 pm, PST
Online Zoom Meeting: <https://bit.ly/3CBSvYh>
Meeting ID: 878 6849 8787
Passcode: 676862
Phone only: 1-669-900-6833

Public Comments: All public comments on the Pure Water Soquel Engineering Report can be made as written or as an oral comment at the public hearing. Written comments must be submitted and received no later than 5:00 pm on December 8, 2022 via mail or email:

Email to:

PureWaterSoquel@soquelcreekwater.org
Subject Line: PWS Title 22 Engineering Report

Mail to:

Soquel Creek Water District
ATTN: Pure Water Soquel Project Title 22 Engineering Report
PO BOX 1550
Capitola CA 95010