

You Can Participate in a Variety of Ways:

- Attend the public scoping meeting and submit a written or oral comment.
- Provide oral comments to the court reporter during the open house.
- Mail written comments to:
Attn: Melanie Mow Schumacher
Associate Manager – Special Projects
Soquel Creek Water District
P.O. Box 1550, Capitola, CA 95010
- Email comments to: purewatersoquel@soquelcreekwater.org

How to Comment Effectively

Before you comment:

- **Prepare yourself.** Learn more about the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Pure Water Soquel: Groundwater Replenishment and Seawater Intrusion Prevention. Project documents and other information are posted at Soquelcreekwater.org/purewatersoquel.
- **Ask questions.** At the scoping meeting, ask us what sort of input would be helpful to the analysis.
- **Get involved early and stay involved.** Stay involved in the development of the project by signing up to receive emails with periodic updates on the project's evaluation and notification of the release of the draft EIR.

Draft your comment:

- **Get organized.** Clearly organize and format your language so it is easy to understand and key points are highlighted.
- **Be specific.** Support your points with examples, information and reasons.
- **Keep it simple.** Organize your ideas around the topical areas (also known as resource areas) as listed on page 2 of this program, such as biological resources, water quality, etc.

All comments must be postmarked or received by
July 22, 2017 for consideration in the Draft EIR.

Pure Water Soquel: Groundwater Replenishment and Seawater Intrusion Prevention Project

Environmental Impact Report Public Scoping Meeting

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

6 pm - 8 pm

Twin Lakes Church
2701 Cabrillo College Dr., Monschke Hall
Aptos, CA 95003

Today's Meeting

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| 6:00 | Open house begins* |
| 6:15 | Presentation including Frequently Asked Questions |
| 6:45 | Open house continues with oral and written comments taken |
| 8:00 | Meeting concludes |

*Open house format: Please visit each station for more information about the project.

Project Description

The Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Basin is in a state of critical overdraft. To help address this challenge while also increasing the sustainability of its groundwater supply, Soquel Creek Water District (District) is considering the Pure Water Soquel: Groundwater Replenishment and Seawater Intrusion Prevention Project. The Project would involve development of an advanced water purification system; pipelines for conveyance of source water, brine concentrate, and purified water; and groundwater recharge and monitoring wells.

The District is preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The purpose of the EIR is to identify and evaluate the potential significant effects of the Project on the environment, to identify alternatives to the Project, and to indicate how and whether the significant effects can be mitigated or avoided. This will ensure that the governing bodies and permitting agencies consider the potential environmental impacts when deciding whether to approve the Project.

The District circulated a Notice of Preparation (NOP) in November 2016. **The Project description has since been revised to include consideration of additional advanced water purification facility sites and to exclude treatment of raw wastewater.** The District has published a Revised NOP and is accepting comments during a 30-day public scoping period from **June 22 to July 22, 2017.**

Resource Areas that the EIR will evaluate include:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation and Traffic
- Tribal and Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Energy

Key Terms

- **Advanced water purification system:** The multi-stage treatment technology/system that removes undesirable chemicals, biological contaminants, suspended solids and gases from wastewater. The goal is to produce high quality purified water that meets the regulatory standards for groundwater replenishment.
- **Brine concentrate:** Water containing concentrated salts, sediments, and impurities that are filtered out, or rejected, during the advanced water purification process and backwash filtrate.
- **Conveyance pipelines:** Dedicated pipelines for the conveyance of source water for advanced purification, brine concentrate for disposal, and advanced purified water for injection.
- **Overdraft:** Condition whereby more water is extracted from a groundwater basin than is naturally recharged by rainfall.
- **Groundwater basin:** An area below the ground surface capable of providing a supply of groundwater for storage and extraction. Groundwater basins are typically comprised of one or more aquifers, or layers of rock, sand, or gravel that can hold or absorb water.
- **Groundwater replenishment:** Returning water to the groundwater basin faster than the natural rate of recharge, so as to help restore groundwater elevations and protect against seawater intrusion.
- **Monitoring well(s):** A facility designed and installed within the groundwater basin to measure and monitor groundwater characteristics, including elevations and quality.
- **Recharge well(s):** A facility that is used to return water directly to the groundwater basin faster than its natural rate of inflow or percolation.
- **Seawater intrusion:** When groundwater elevations begin to drop, seawater moves inland and mixes with the fresh groundwater. As seawater moves inland, wells that once drew fresh drinking water begin to draw water that may be too salty for drinking or irrigation.
- **Source water:** Secondary treated effluent from the Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Facility that is used as a supply stream for advanced water purification.