

**From:** Nichols, Nick x5386  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 18, 2016 5:49 PM  
**To:** [sanlucaswater@redshift.com](mailto:sanlucaswater@redshift.com); Salinas, Simón 755-5033; Chiulos, Nick x5145; N. Isakson; [jromans@missionranches.com](mailto:jromans@missionranches.com); [brianv@pmz.com](mailto:brianv@pmz.com)  
**Cc:** Lopez, Christopher M. x5729; Holm, Carl P. x5103; Guertin, John P. x6654; Beretti, Melanie x5285; Girard, Leslie J. x5365; Ramirez, John x4539; Sandoval, Cheryl L. x4552; Hierling, Paul x5462; [psilkwood@horanlegal.com](mailto:psilkwood@horanlegal.com); [kharrigfeld@herumcrabtree.com](mailto:kharrigfeld@herumcrabtree.com)  
**Subject:** FW: San Lucas Water District Planning Project No. 2701676-007P

Dear all,

This just came in. SWRCB is ordering the County/Water District to stop work on the design of the San Lucas to King City water delivery pipeline project.

I immediately called and spoke with Ms. Chase, and she said she would discuss with her superiors the scheduling of a telephone conference call with the San Lucas Water District and other project participants in the next few days to discuss their reasoning and intentions regarding the long term water supply for the community.

I further spoke with Supervisor Salinas' Principal Aide Chris Lopez, who asked me to distribute the e-mail to you all.

Respectfully,

*G.H 'Nick' Nichols, P.E.*  
Special Projects Engineer  
Land Use and Community Development Division  
Monterey County Resource Management Agency

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Chase, Bridget@Waterboards [Bridget.Chase@waterboards.ca.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 18, 2016 4:15 PM  
**To:** Nichols, Nick x5386; [sanlucaswater@redshift.com](mailto:sanlucaswater@redshift.com)  
**Cc:** Orellana, Lucio@Waterboards; Sweigert, Jan@Waterboards; Sandoval, Cheryl L. x4552  
**Subject:** San Lucas Water District Planning Project No. 2701676-007P

Nick,

My name is Bridget Chase and I am the Senior over the small systems drinking water unit at the State Water Board that Lucio Orellana is a part of. The Feasibility Study prepared for the San Lucas Water District Planning Project (2701676-007P), dated March 2015, considered five alternatives: 1) Treatment of existing source, 2) New groundwater source (Mission Ranches Well), 3) New GWUI source, 4) Water importation from King City, and 5) Consolidation with King City. Based on the comparison of alternatives, Alternative 2 (new groundwater source) was determined to be the most feasible alternative. This alternative would transition the interim groundwater source established by Mission Ranches to a permanent source that would require treatment, however, to a lesser degree than the existing well. The interim well is located approximately 1200 feet west of the existing supply well on land owned by Naraghi and rented by Mission Ranches. The submitted Feasibility Study also points out that this alternative would likely have the following challenges:

- Naraghi/Mission Ranches have legally stated that this source is not intended to be a permanent source (per License Agreement between Naraghi and San Lucas County Water District)
- Eminent domain proceedings are anticipated.
- Possibility of TDS treatment required in the future, which would increase capital and O&M costs.

Because eminent domain is not eligible for funding through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program, the decision was made to eliminate alternatives 1-3 and move forward with alternative 5 that would consist of approximately 7.8 miles of pipeline to consolidate with King City. While the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) supports and encourages consolidation, the cost per connection for this alternative is significantly higher than our approved proportional share of \$30,000/connection.

On March 22, 2013, the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) issued Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R3-2013-0031 naming Naraghi/Mission Ranches as responsible parties and requiring them to provide uninterrupted interim and long-term replacement water service to the community of San Lucas due to nitrate levels above the maximum contaminant level (MCL). Naraghi/Mission Ranches caused or permitted nitrate-containing wastes to be discharged to the groundwater. Section 13304 of the Water Code gives the State Water Board the legal authority to require payment for uninterrupted replacement water to each affected public water supplier. Therefore, if Naraghi/Mission Ranches will not grant an easement for you to access, operate and maintain the new groundwater well (or give fee title), the State Water Board's Office of Enforcement can help negotiate access. Alternatively, Office of Enforcement may be able to assist the County in negotiating an alternative location for a new well with Naraghi/Mission Ranches.

At this time, we would like you to halt the remaining planning and design work for the consolidation alternative (alternative 5) and pursue the original preferred alternative of a new groundwater source (alternative 3). If you have questions/concerns, Lucio can set up a conference call to discuss further.

*Bridget Chase, P.E.*

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