



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

# NON-AGENDA

**July 11, 2025**

**Board Policy EL-7 Communication and Support to the Board**  
*The BAOs shall inform and support the Board in its work.*

<b>Page</b>	<b><u>CEO BULLETIN &amp; NEWSLETTERS</u></b>
	CEO Bulletin: None
<b>2</b>	Water Tracker- July
	<b><u>BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS &amp; INFORMATIONAL ITEMS</u></b>
	<b>BMR/IBMR Weekly Reports: None</b>
<b>5</b>	Memo from Darin Taylor, Chief Financial Officer, to the board, dated 07/02/25, providing a response <b>BMR 25-0008</b> from Director Ballard requesting policies that guide how Valley Water determines water rates.
<b>10</b>	Memo from Marta Lugo, Administrative Officer, to Rachael Gibson, Chief of External Affairs, dated 07/02/25, providing a Response to <b>BMR 25-0006</b> , a letter from Chair Estremera to Contra Costa Water District President Ernesto Avila
<b>12</b>	Memo from Rachael Gibson, Chief of External Affairs, to Melanie Richardson, CEO, dated 07/07/25, responding to <b>BMR 25-0007</b> by providing a list of the Safe, Clean Water Grants awarded in FY 2025 for Districts 4 and 7.
	<b><u>INCOMING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE</u></b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Board Correspondence Weekly Report: 07/09/25</b>
<b>16</b>	Email from Kennedy Bartee to the board, dated 07/2/25, regarding data accuracy and outreach for the California 30x30 initiative. C-25-0093
<b>18</b>	Email from Jeffrey Hare to Director Ballard, dated 07/03/25, providing a letter of resignation from the Independent Monitoring Committee. C-25-0094
<b>20</b>	Email from Ernesto Avila, President of Contra Costa Water District, to Chair Estremera, dated 07/08/25, thanking him for his letter and looking forward to collaborating to further enhance long-term regional water supply reliability. C-25-0095
	<b><u>OUTGOING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE</u></b>
<b>22</b>	Email from Chair Estremera to Doug Peterson, dated 07/02/25, responding to their inquiry regarding the Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study.
<b>25</b>	Email from Chair Estremera to Don Harper, dated 07/03/25, acknowledging request and extending the date of response to C-25-0090.

## Outlook as of July 1, 2025

On April 29, 2025, California Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced an increase in State Water Project (SWP) allocation from 40% to 50% of contract amount for 2025. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) increased the Central Valley Project (CVP) Municipal and Industrial (M&I) allocation for the current year from 75% to 80% of historic use and the south-of-delta CVP agricultural allocation from 50% to 55% on May 27, 2025.

### Weather

- Rainfall in San José:
  - » Month of June, City of San José = 0 inches
  - » Rainfall year total = 9.61 inches or 67% of average to date (rainfall year is July 1 to June 30)
- San José average daily high temperature was 76.1 degrees Fahrenheit in June, which is lower than the five-year average for June (80.1 degrees Fahrenheit)

### Local Reservoirs

- Total July 1 storage = 46,803 acre-feet

Reservoir Storage	All Ten Valley Water Reservoirs	All Reservoirs Except Anderson
Storage as % of unrestricted capacity	28%	57%
Storage as % of restricted capacity (1)	75%	73%
Storage as % of the 20-year average for July 1	53%	110%

(1) Per the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's order, the capacity of Anderson Reservoir was restricted to the deadpool storage as of October 1, 2020

- Approximately 120 acre-feet of imported water was delivered into Calero Reservoir during June 2025
- Total estimated releases to streams (local and imported water) during June were 4,720 acre-feet (based on preliminary hydrologic data)

### Treated Water

- Below average demands of 9,327 acre-feet were delivered in June
- This total is 93% of the five-year average for the month of June
- Year-to-date deliveries are 35,797 acre-feet or 89% of the five-year average

### Groundwater

- Groundwater conditions remain healthy throughout the county. Groundwater levels in most of the regional monitoring wells are lower than last month due to normal, seasonal declines. While most of the water levels are lower relative to June 2024, all except one are the same as, or higher than, the prior five-year average for June. The end of 2025 groundwater storage is projected to be in Stage 1 (Normal) of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan

	Santa Clara Subbasin		Llagas Subbasin
	Santa Clara Plain	Coyote Valley	
June 2025 managed recharge estimate	7,100	1,500	1,800
YTD managed recharge estimate	30,400	8,800	10,600
YTD managed recharge as % of five-year average	111%	132%	122%
May 2025 pumping estimate	5,700	1,200	2,900
YTD pumping estimate	25,400	4,800	9,300
YTD pumping as % of five-year average	102%	108%	93%
Current index well groundwater levels compared to June 2024	12 Feet Lower	9 Feet Lower	5 Feet Lower

All volumes are in acre-feet. All data is for 2025 except where noted. YTD = Year-to-date.

## Imported Water

- In June (through June 30th), the SWP operated Banks pumping plant with an average daily export of 3,446 acre-feet, resulting in a total export of 103,376 acre-feet from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for the month
- In June (through June 30th), the CVP operated Jones pumping plant with an average daily export of 6,214 acre-feet, resulting in a total export of 186,405 acre-feet from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for the month
- Delta flow and water quality requirements were controlling the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta export facilities this past month. Project facilities, including delta exports, were operated to maintain the Projects' respective flow requirements and water quality standards in the delta for the month of June

WY 2025 Imported Water Allocations	Allocation	Allocation (acre-feet)	Details
SWP	50%	50,000	Allocation increased on 4/29/25
CVP	55% Ag 80% M&I	Approximately 116,000	Allocation announced 5/27/25
State-wide Reservoir Storage	Capacity	Current Storage (acre-feet)	Percent of Average for Date (as of 6/30/25)
Shasta Reservoir	83%	3,788,087	107%
Oroville Reservoir	94%	3,232,243	120%
San Luis Reservoir	48%	972,567	88%
Semitropic Groundwater Bank	Capacity	Current Storage (acre-feet)	Date of Data
	87%	304,084	6/30/25
Estimated SFPUC Deliveries	May 2025 (acre-feet)	2025 Total to Date (acre-feet)	Five-Year Annual Average (acre-feet)
	4,263	16,929	46,000

## Conserved Water

- Saved 85,204 acre-feet in FY24 through Valley Water's long-term conservation program (baseline year is 1992)
- Long-term program goal is to save nearly 100,000 acre-feet by 2030, 110,000 acre-feet by 2040, and 126,000 acre-feet by 2050
- On June 13, 2023, the Board of Directors adopted a resolution to support water conservation as a way of life in Santa Clara County and an ordinance with a set of permanent water waste prohibitions

## Recycled Water

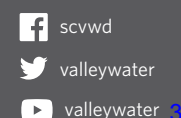
- Estimated June 2025 production = 1,829 acre-feet
- Estimated year-to-date through June = 6,664 acre-feet or 95% of the five-year average
- Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center produced an estimated 1.6 billion gallons (4,950 acre-feet) of purified water in 2024. Since the beginning of 2025, about 1,841 acre-feet of purified water has been produced. The purified water is blended with existing tertiary recycled water for South Bay Water Recycling Program customers

## CONTACT US

To find out the latest information on Valley Water projects or to submit questions or comments, email [info@valleywater.org](mailto:info@valleywater.org) or use our **Access Valley Water** customer request system at <https://deliver.com/2yukx>.



### FOLLOW US



# **BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS and Informational Items**

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Darin Taylor

**SUBJECT:** Response to BMR 25-0008 from Director Ballard requesting policies that guide how Valley Water determines water rates

**DATE:** July 2, 2025

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At the 6/24/25 board meeting, Director Ballard requested to see policies that help guide Valley Water's overall process to determine rates. Attached to this memo is Resolution 99-21 (otherwise known as the Water Utility Taxing and Pricing Policy), which is the key Board policy document that guides Valley Water's water rate structure. Key provisions of the Pricing Policy include:

- 1) The general approach is to charge recipients for the benefits received;
- 2) Implementation of the pooling concept, which means that water sources and water facilities contribute common benefit to users within a zone regardless of cost;
- 3) Implementation of the water resources management concept, which means that a key objective of taxing and pricing structures is to achieve effective utilization of water resources;
- 4) Ability to create new zones of benefit or superimpose a new zone over existing zones;
- 5) Ability to implement specific charges for specific benefits;
- 6) Ability to implement incentives/subsidies to optimize available resources;
- 7) The Agricultural Charge is limited to 10% of the M&I charge in a given zone.

On a related note, on July 13, 2021, staff proposed and the Board approved implementation of a Low-income Residential Water Rate Assistance Program that would provide \$1 million per year in funding, in response to the Board's earlier direction to research potential options in which Valley Water could assist low-income residential households in Santa Clara County negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with paying their water bill. The staff proposal included working with a non-profit organization to develop and implement a Low-income Residential Water Rate Assistance Program (WRAP). The WRAP focused on low-income households, with criteria for income eligibility developed by the non-profit organization in consultation with Valley Water. Valley Water partnered with Sacred Heart Community Service (SHCS) to administer the WRAP, which was in place until 12/31/2024, when the contract expired. However, with increasing water rates and continued inflation, there is still a community need for financial assistance to assist residents of Santa Clara County with paying their water bills. Consequently, as part of the FY 26 budget process, the Board approved funding so that staff can continue to administer the WRAP program with approximately \$1 million per year for community relief funding, and up to \$333,333 per year for program development, implementation, and administration costs.

Please let me know if there are any further questions.

**Darin Taylor** Digitally signed by Darin Taylor  
Date: 2025.07.02 15:19:58 -07'00'

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Darin Taylor  
Chief Financial Officer  
Office of the Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Melanie Richardson, Aaron Baker, Rita Chan, Rachael Gibson, Carmen Narayanan

RESOLUTION NO. 99- 21

ADOPTING "WATER UTILITY TAXING AND PRICING POLICY" AND  
RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 96-82

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) adopted a District mission, goals and objectives on February 19, 1985, in order to conduct a sound water management program that serves the community; and

WHEREAS, the District Act authorizes the District to enter into water sales contracts and to levy and collect taxes and assessments on property within the District and in the respective zones of the District and sets forth requirements for groundwater charges and rates between agricultural and nonagricultural water; and

WHEREAS, several Board resolutions, as identified in Exhibit "A," are related to the management of water resources and the implementation of this water taxing and pricing policy; and

WHEREAS, several changes which affect revenue sources and benefit distribution have occurred since adoption of Resolution No. 96-82. These changes include: (1) passage of Resolution Nos. 98-44 and 98-45 setting agricultural charges for groundwater and surface water at 10 percent of the nonagricultural charges; (2) revisions to the policy governing sale of noncontract water in 1998; (3) pending completion of an agreement to act as the wholesaler to deliver recycled water in South County.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the District as follows:

1. **The policy of the District in the areas of taxation and water pricing for water utility revenues shall be and is hereby adopted:**

**Policy Statement**

The intent of this water utility taxing and pricing policy is to provide revenue for the management of water resources and operation of the water utility enterprise. This policy establishes a framework for establishing a system of water charges as permitted by the District Act to meet revenue requirements and to allocate costs amongst the beneficiaries. The general approach is to charge the recipients of the various benefits for the benefits received from the District's comprehensive water utility program.

The consumptive and nonconsumptive benefits provided by District water supply facilities and operations are listed and described below:

- Provision of a water supply and effective management of water resources available to the community from a variety of sources of supply, transmission, and water treatment facilities operated by the District.
- Protection of water quality through the purification and treatment of water and the protection of water supplies.
- Stewardship of watersheds and riparian corridor.
- Administration of related programs and projects such as recycled water and water conservation administered solely by the District or in partnership with another organization.



Resolution Adopting "Water Utility Taxing and Pricing Policy" and Rescinding Resolution No. 96-82

- Ancillary flood protection.
- Recreation, such as fishing, boating, picnicking, hiking, and other related recreation activities.
- Support for the economic well being of the community.
- Protection of the community infrastructure from subsidence.

**2. Policy Implementation**

The following water taxing and pricing concepts and framework shall be implemented in order to provide for revenue in order to continue providing direct and ancillary benefits to the customers of the District and the community of Santa Clara County.

**Water Taxing and Pricing Concepts**

- ***Water Pooling:*** Water is considered to be a single commodity irrespective of the water's source or cost. It is a single commodity whether it is from water provided locally, imported, or recycled, and all users benefit from the availability of multiple sources of water.
- ***Water Facilities Cost Pooling:*** All water supply facilities contribute to the common benefit of effective water resources management. In general, the water charges and property taxes are based on the common benefits of the capital and operations outlays, rather than reference to named facilities, with the exception of the liability for bonded indebtedness which is applied to each zone of benefit.
- ***Water Resources Management:*** Water supplies are managed, through taxing and pricing, to obtain the effective utilization of the water resources of the District to the advantage of the present and future populations of the County. This concept provides for development of taxing and pricing structures that will achieve the effective use of available resources and conserve supplies for potential drought conditions.
- ***Revenue Pooling:*** For the most part, water utility revenues are collected in a common fund and not designated for a specific cost. Such revenues are available for the general capital and operating outlays of the water utility enterprise. Some revenues such as certain property taxes are specifically designated for debt service and the fixed costs of the State Water Project, and are not available to the common fund. Water charges are established to provide the revenues that are required in the common fund for general capital and operating outlays and that are over and above revenues from ad valorem taxes, interest, and miscellaneous sources. This provides flexibility in managing continuing operations and funding capital outlays.

**Water Taxing and Pricing Framework**

The following procedures are intended as a general framework to guide staff in the development of a water rate structure implementing this policy:

- ***Zones of Benefit:*** Zones of benefit are to be identified and established in accordance with the District Act. Groundwater charges and property taxes are levied for the benefits received by the water users and property owners benefitting from that zone. For each zone, a basic

Resolution Adopting “Water Utility Taxing and Pricing Policy” and Rescinding Resolution No. 96-82

water user charge is determined for current groundwater and raw surface water users to be applied to the quantities of water used or consumed.

- **Basic Water Charge Zones:** The objective of establishing various water charge zones is to recover costs for the benefits resulting from conservation, import, and recharge of water which occur only within that zone. Water charges are levied for water producing operations, such as groundwater pumping and raw surface water diversion. In addition, users may be subject to specific charges that meet special needs of a group of users, such as water master charges for surface water deliveries, a capital charge for equipment or facilities, and power costs for pumping.
- **Treated Water Surcharge:** A treated water surcharge shall be added to the basic water charge for the price of treated surface water delivered by the District. The charge is to be established at an amount that would promote the effective use of available water resources. The charge may differ between treatment plants to better manage regional variations in groundwater conditions.
- **Costs for Specific Benefits:** Whenever costs associated with specific benefits are clearly and easily measurable, those costs shall be charged to the beneficiaries, in accordance with their specific zones of benefit. Where there is a question as to the identity of the beneficiary or the method of measuring the benefit, the allocation of costs should remain flexible and be determined in accordance with accepted practices and sound judgements based on the four water pricing concepts. The District recognizes and supports the State Legislature’s limitation imposed on the District that rates for agricultural water shall not exceed one-fourth of the rate for all water other than agricultural water. In order to encourage the continuance of agricultural use of land in the County, to encourage the preservation of open space, to defer intensification of users and to further support the limitation imposed by the State Legislature, it is the District’s policy that rates for agricultural water shall not exceed one-tenth the rate for all water other than agricultural water.

Both water charges and property taxes are used to recover costs incurred for the benefit of current water users. The costs for future supply sources can be recovered using current revenues or through project specific long-term financing.

- **Balancing Costs:** The District recognizes that there may be imbalances between revenues and costs within a zone of benefit from year to year. The District will strive to achieve balance over the long-term in accordance with the District Act and to properly charge recipients for the benefits received.
- **Incentives:** Incentives in the form of subsidies may be provided in order to reduce the price of specific sources of water in order to optimize use of available or future water resources.
- **Recycled Water:** From time to time, the District may enter into agreements to provide wholesale delivery or other services related to recycled water. The District will strive to recover the costs of these facilities consistent with the pooling concepts outlined above, while adhering to the specifics of any agreement.



Resolution Adopting "Water Utility Taxing and Pricing Policy" and Rescinding Resolution No. 96-82

**3. Executive and Staff Limitations**

District staff are authorized to develop a water rate structure which meets the objectives set forth herein, in accordance with the District Act, and using the concepts set forth above. The District's rate structure is implemented only by resolutions approved by the Board of Directors.

Staff is authorized to recommend water charges for consideration by the Board in accordance with the District Act. Water charges, if any, shall be recommended by staff each year be at fixed and uniform rates for agricultural water and for all water other than agricultural water, respectively, except that each such rate for agricultural water shall be one-tenth of the rate for all water other than agricultural water. The Board has determined that agricultural use of lands is of value to the County and the state, and that agricultural lands provide an open space benefit. The Board's limiting staff to a recommendation of agricultural water rates below the maximum allowed by the District Act will benefit water users Countywide, and is necessary to carry out the policies of the State Legislature and the District Board of Directors.

Staff is authorized to prepare, for the Board's consideration, resolutions for the collection of property taxes as needed and authorized under applicable laws.

**4. Previous Policy Rescinded**

The "Water Taxing and Pricing Policy," adopted by Resolution No. 96-82, is hereby rescinded.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Santa Clara Valley Water District on  
March 16, 1999 by the following vote:


AYES: Directors Gross, Zlotnick, Judge, Kamei, Sanchez, Estremera, Wilson

NOES: Directors None

ABSENT: Directors None

SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

By:

  
Chair/Board of Directors

ATTEST: LAUREN L. KELLER

  
Clerk/Board of Directors

**TO:** Rachael Gibson, Chief of External Affairs**FROM:** Marta Lugo, Deputy  
Administrative Officer**SUBJECT:** Letter from Chair Tony Estremera to Contra  
Costa Water District President Ernesto Avila**DATE:** July 2, 2025

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Attached to this memorandum is a letter from Chair Tony Estremera to Contra Costa Water District President Ernesto Avila dated July 2, 2025, regarding the potential partnership on water storage opportunities.

The letter was sent out via email and postal mail on July 2, 2025.



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Marta Lugo, Deputy Administrative Officer  
Offices of Government Relations and REDI

July 2, 2025

The Honorable Ernesto A. Avila  
Contra Costa Water District  
1331 Concord Avenue  
Concord, CA 94520

Dear President Avila,

Valley Water greatly values our longstanding partnership with Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) and remains committed to working together to strengthen regional relationships and enhance water supply reliability across the region.

We sincerely appreciate our ongoing collaboration with CCWD to date, including our joint efforts through the Bay Area Regional Reliability (BARR) partnership, past regional water transfer initiatives, the Refinery Recycled Water Exchange (RRWE), and the Los Vaqueros Reservoir/Transfer-Bethany Pipeline projects. These efforts exemplify the strength of regional coordination in addressing complex and evolving water management challenges, as well as demonstrate how shared vision, collective expertise, and coordinated action can drive innovative, resilient solutions that benefit the broader region. We value this strong foundation of partnership and look forward to building on it to meet future water reliability and sustainability goals.

As Valley Water continues to develop our Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP), we recognize that evolving climate, regulatory shifts, and affordability pressures will continue to test the resilience of our water systems. In light of these challenges, we see great value in building on the strong foundation of our past work and exploring new opportunities for collaboration to further enhance long-term regional water reliability.

To that end, Valley Water staff will be reaching out to your team in the near future to begin a dialogue around potential future efforts, including possible storage partnership opportunities.

We look forward to continuing this important collaboration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Estremera". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tony" being more prominent than the last name "Estremera".

Tony Estremera  
Chair, Board of Directors

cc: Board of Directors (7), M. Richardson, R. Murphy  
az:sg  
0702a-l



# MEMORANDUM

FC 14 (03-11-25)  
Page 1 of 2

**TO:** Melanie Richardson, P.E.

**FROM:** Rachael Gibson

**SUBJECT:** Safe, Clean Water Grants and Partnerships Program – FY 2025 Grant Awards for Districts 4 and 7 – Responding to BMR No. R-25-0007

**DATE:** July 7, 2025

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the June 24, 2025, meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board of Directors, Director Beall (District 4) and Director Eisenberg (District 7) requested a list of the Safe, Clean Water grants that were awarded in FY 2025 to projects in their respective district areas. This request was made during Item 9.1, after the Board approved 13 standard grant projects as part of the FY 2025 Safe Clean Water Standard Grant Cycle.

## DISTRICT 4 GRANTS

In FY 2025, the following grants were awarded to grantees and projects located in District 4:

- FY 2025 Refill Station Grant: Central Christian Church – Central Christian Church (\$5,000)
- FY 2025 Refill Station Grant: Oak Grove School District – Santa Teresa Elementary School (\$5,000)
- FY 2025 Refill Station Grant: Oak Grove School District – Del Roble Elementary School (\$5,000)

## DISTRICT 7 GRANTS

In FY 2025, the following grants were awarded to grantees and projects located in District 7:

- FY 2025 Standard Grant: Canopy – From Canopy to Creek Project (\$149,994.67)
- FY 2025 Standard Grant: Our City, Inc. – Community Eco Adventure Day Project (\$150,000)
- FY 2025 Mini Grant: Bay Area Ridge Council – Ridge Trail Service Day Project (\$10,000)
- FY 2025 Mini Grant: Bay Area Ridge Trail Council – Ridge Trail Service Day Project (\$10,000)
- FY 2025 Refill Station Grant: Holy Cross Lutheran Church – Holy Cross Lutheran Children's Center (\$5,000)
- FY 2025 Refill Station Grant: County of Santa Clara – Vasona Park Playground (\$5,000)

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**COUNTYWIDE GRANTS**

In FY 2025, the following grants were awarded to grantees and projects that served all District areas, including Districts 4 and 7:

- FY 2025 Standard Grant: San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory – Student Stewards Restoring Alviso's Wetland for the Future Project (\$137,909.16)
- FY 2025 Standard Grant: California State University, East Bay Foundation, Inc. - Development of Tracer Experimental Plan to Evaluate Groundwater - Surface Water Exchange and Spatiotemporal Water Quality Trends Project (\$150,000)
- FY 2025 Standard Grant: Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action – Youth Powered Clean Water Outreach Project (\$150,000)
- FY 2025 Standard Grant: City of San Jose – Native Garden Installation at San Jose Parks Project (\$146,509.60)
- FY 2025 Mini Grant: Collaborating Agencies' Disaster Relief Effort – Strengthening Community Resilience, Environmental Stewardship, and Water Sustainability in Santa Clara County Project (\$10,000)
- FY 2025 Mini Grant: Collaborating Agencies' Disaster Relief Effort – Strengthening Community Resilience, Environmental Stewardship, and Water Sustainability in Santa Clara County Project (\$10,000)
- FY 2025 Refill Station Grant: Walden West Outdoor School Foundation – Walden West Outdoor School (\$5,000)

A complete list of all grants awarded as part of Project F9 is updated each year as part of the Safe, Clean Water Annual Report, and can be found at the following link:

<https://fta.valleywater.org/dl/C4wdBXgjGc>.

DocuSigned by:

*Rachael Gibson*

7/7/2025

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Rachael Gibson  
Chief of External Affairs  
External Affairs Division

Date

# **INCOMING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**



## Board Correspondence (open)

Correspond No	Rec'd By District	Rec'd By COB	Letter To	Letter From	Description	Disposition	BAO/ Chief	Staff	Draft Response Due Date	Draft Response Submitted	Writer Ack. Sent	Final Response Due Date
C-25-0090	06/24/25	06/24/25	All	DON HARPER	Letter (via email) from Don Harper, Manager-EFUEL Investments San Jose, to the board, dated 06/24/25, requesting a resolution for security issues and a financial settlement.	Refer to Staff	Hakes	Yerrapotu	07/02/25	-	n/a	07/08/25
C-25-0092	06/30/25	06/30/25	All	ANYA AGARWAL	Email from Anya Agarwal, to the board, dated 06/30/25, reporting litter in Los Gatos Creek and inquiring about efforts to resolve the issue.	Refer to Staff	Gibson	Yasukawa	07/08/25	07/08/25	n/a	07/14/25

**From:** [Bartee\\_Kennedy@CNRA](mailto:Bartee_Kennedy@CNRA)  
**To:** [Board of Directors](#)  
**Subject:** CNRA 30x30 Data Accuracy for Santa Clara Valley Water District  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 2, 2025 1:23:42 PM  
**Attachments:** [SantaClaraValleyWaterDistrict\\_CPAD\\_2025a\\_DetailedAssignment.xlsx](#)  
[SantaClaraValleyWaterDistrict\\_CCED\\_2025a.xlsx](#)

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**\*\*\* This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. \*\*\***

Hello!

My name is Kennedy Bartee, and I am on the Biodiversity and Habitat Team here at the California Natural Resources Agency. I am working on data accuracy and outreach for the 30x30 initiative.

The [30x30 initiative](#) is a California statewide goal of conserving 30% of lands and coastal waters by the year 2030, in order to protect and restore biodiversity, expand access to nature, and mitigate and build resilience to climate change. This effort relies on the collaboration of partners across the state, who input data on their conserved lands in order to be counted towards this goal.

The 30x30 initiative uses a [GAP code system](#) to determine whether conserved lands may be included as a 30x30 Conservation Area. Only lands identified as GAP 1 or 2 are eligible to be counted towards the 30x30 goal, but lands of all GAP Codes are beneficial to our goals and data accuracy. We are reaching out to get in contact with someone who can help to reevaluate the GAP codes of Santa Clara Valley Water District's lands presently labeled as GAP 3 or GAP 4, and to add currently unidentified properties to our database.

We are working with [GreenInfo Network](#) to update this data. We have put together the attached toolkit in a spreadsheet format for you to see what lands are currently included in the database and their management status (GAP code). We are asking you to review your lands and make any necessary revisions in the spreadsheet, or directly to the shapefile if your organization has GIS capabilities. If they are already correct, you can leave them as is. Once corrected, it will be updated in the California Protected Areas Database and California Conservation Easement Database going forward. We are hopeful to add any currently unidentified properties, too.

If it would be helpful, we can help make these corrections through email or even by phone or video call. For all new lands not currently in the spreadsheet, we will need GAP code information in addition to shapefiles, APN or parcel numbers, or existing maps to place the

properties and know their acreage. You may add the new properties to the same spreadsheet or the attached template.

I would encourage reaching out with questions regardless of whether there is certainty that land classification could be updated. There are many ways to join the 30x30 initiative and we welcome support in any capacity.

Thank you for taking the time to read this in depth. Additionally, we have put together some [case studies](#) for properties that may appear to sit between GAP 2 and GAP 3. Please reference this as necessary. As a final note, if there is someone else you believe would work best with us on this, please forward this email to them. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Kennedy Bartee

*Kennedy Bartee*

Data Accuracy Fellow

California Natural Resources Agency

**From:** [Jeffrey Hare](#)  
**To:** [Shiloh Ballard](#)  
**Cc:** [Board of Directors](#)  
**Subject:** IMC - Letter of Resignation  
**Date:** Thursday, July 3, 2025 11:53:38 AM  
**Attachments:** [Letter of Resignation.pdf](#)

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**\*\*\* This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. \*\*\***

Shiloh

Attached please find my Letter of Resignation, effective immediately, from my role as a member of the Independent Monitoring Committee. As set forth in my letter, my resignation at this time is to allow you to make new appointments to the positions in a timely manner.

Please accept my gratitude for the opportunity to serve the community, and let me know if there is anything I can do to assist further with the transition.

Thank you again,  
Jeff

 (Cell)

**Jeffrey B. Hare, JD, AICP**  
[REDACTED]  
**San Jose, CA 95113**

July 3, 2025  
Via Email

Shiloh Ballard  
Director, District 2  
Santa Clara Valley Water District  
5700 Almaden Expwy  
San Jose, California

Re: Letter of Resignation from Independent Monitoring Committee

Dear Director Ballard:

This letter will serve as a formal statement of my resignation, effective today, as a member of the Independent Monitoring Committee (IMC), to which I was appointed commencing in December, 2022, by your predecessor, Barbara Keegan, to serve a three year term. It has been a privilege to have had the opportunity to serve as a member of the IMC, and a particularly unique honor to have been elected by my fellow Committee members to serve as the Chair of the Committee during this term.

As I have previously explained to you, my decision to resign at this time is to allow you the opportunity to appoint new members to help continue the role and mission of the IMC. I remain ready to provide whatever assistance during the transition that you deem appropriate and necessary, and I am confident that your nominees will find the experience to be as rewarding and interesting as I found the assignment to be.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve the community.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jeffrey B. Hare

cc: Clerk, Board of Directors  
Santa Clara Valley Water District

July 8, 2025

Tony Estremera  
Director District 6  
SCVWD Board of Directors  
5750 Almaden Expressway  
San Jose, CA 95118

Dear Chair Estremera,

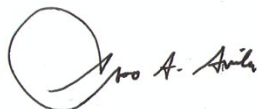
Thank you for your July 2, 2025 letter highlighting the longstanding partnership between Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) and Valley Water. CCWD also greatly values our collaborative relationship with Valley Water and looks forward to our continued discussions on future regional collaboration opportunities. Regional partnerships and collaboration are imperative to solving the complex water supply and management challenges facing our respective agencies as well as the region.

Similar to the effort underway at Valley Water, CCWD is updating its Future Water Supply Study (FWSS) to address increasing climate extremes, water availability constraints, regulatory shifts, water supply resiliency, and affordability challenges. It seems CCWD's updated FWSS could help inform Valley Water's effort to develop its Water Supply Master Plan. We are also interested in building on the strong foundation of our past work and exploring new opportunities for collaboration to further enhance long-term regional water supply reliability.

I understand that staff from both of our agencies have been in contact and are planning to meet on August 28, 2025 to continue this important discussion.

Thank you and we look forward to our continued collaboration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ernesto A. Avila". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "E".

Ernesto A. Avila, P.E.  
President

EA/KO/JA:sf

cc: Valley Water Board of Directors  
Melanie Richardson



# **OUTGOING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

**From:** [Candice Kwok-Smith](#) on behalf of [Board Correspondence](#)  
**To:** [Breanne Roderick](#); [Kirsten Struve](#); [Aaron Baker](#)  
**Cc:** [Board of Directors](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Siting of Desalination Facility  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 2, 2025 3:32:26 PM

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**From:** Candice Kwok-Smith **On Behalf Of** Board of Directors

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 2, 2025 3:31 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: Siting of Desalination Facility

**Sent on Behalf of Chair Estremera**

Dear Doug Peterson,

Thank you for your interest in the Desalination Engineering Feasibility Study (Study) currently underway by Valley Water. On behalf of the Recycled Water Committee, we appreciate the thoughtful comments you provided in your correspondence to me on June 26, 2025.

As you are aware, an update on the Study was presented to the Recycled Water Committee (Committee) on June 25, 2025. Among the topics discussed was an initial assessment of potential alternatives for siting a desalination facility, should the project prove feasible. One of the locations under consideration is within the City of Palo Alto. Our team is conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the alternatives, which includes biologists reviewing options and impacts on marine life and the proximity to sensitive wetland habitats. Thank you for expressing your concerns regarding the Palo Alto site. Please be assured that your input will be considered as we continue our analysis.

As the Study progresses, additional updates will be provided to the Committee in the fall and again upon release of the draft Study, which is anticipated in early 2026. At that time, updated data and findings will be shared, and Valley Water will continue to welcome feedback from residents, environmental stakeholders, and regulatory agencies.

As you noted in your message, Valley Water is committed to environmental stewardship. Our final recommendations will reflect a balance of regulatory compliance, environmental protection, and financial feasibility in pursuit of a sustainable water supply for Santa Clara County.

Should you have any additional input or questions, please contact Kirsten Struve at 408-630-3138.

Sincerely,



Tony Estremera  
Chair, District 6

C-25-0091

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**From:** Doug Peterson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 26, 2025 4:44 PM  
**To:** Henry Barrientos <[HBarrientos@valleywater.org](mailto:HBarrientos@valleywater.org)>; Tony Estremera <[TEstremera@valleywater.org](mailto:TEstremera@valleywater.org)>; Jim Beall <[JBeall@valleywater.org](mailto:JBeall@valleywater.org)>  
**Subject:** Siting of Desalination Facility

**\*\*\* This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. \*\*\***

Good afternoon,

I wanted to follow up on my comments at yesterday's Water Recycling Committee meeting. At that meeting, I expressed strong concern about the possibility that a desalination facility might one day be constructed just south of Charleston Slough and Salt Pond A1. I greatly appreciated Director Beall's follow up questions that allowed me to clarify my concern. I was also thankful for reassurances I received after the meeting regarding the precise location that is being considered for a desalination facility in this pristine area. It appears that the siting process will continue to move forward with this location as a favored option. I continue to be troubled that the reassurances I received after the meeting regarding the boundaries of the theoretical facility are considerably different than the boundaries presented in the PowerPoint presentation and the preliminary feasibility study.

The purple area marked with the numeral eleven in the PowerPoint presentation is consistent with the area designated as the "Treatment Facility Planning Area" in the Environmental Feasibility and Planning Study from July of 2023, which was prepared by GEI Consultants (See Figure 3-10). In the context of the preliminary study, "Treatment Facility Planning Area" is abbreviated "TFPA" and refers to the "general area" of the desalination facility where the reverse osmosis process would take place. In both the preliminary study and the PowerPoint, the maps clearly show an area bound by the south shores of Charleston Slough and Pond A1, the western shore of Shoreline Lake, the entire length of Terminal Blvd, and a contiguous triangular area west of San Antonio Road, east of Adobe Creek, and north of existing developed property. As pictured, this defined area includes the entire Coast Casey Forebay, which is a very sensitive wildlife habitat of extraordinary value, and similar lush habitat along the trail southeast of

Adobe Creek. I was reassured after the meeting that the facility site being considered would actually be confined to a much smaller portion of the defined triangular area west of San Antonio Road, and that this area has little ecological value.

I drove out to the location this morning and had a chance to see the parcel that was described to me as the actual site of the proposed facility. It appears to be an area currently bound by a chain link fence topped with barbed wire, some of which is currently being used as a staging area for nearby construction (1237 San Antonio Road). The staging area is covered with large metal storage containers and does appear to be different in character from the surrounding wetlands, but much of the area enclosed by the fence includes small ponds and vegetation very similar to that encountered in the Coast Casey Forebay. I used my phone to photograph the triangular parcel from vantage points facing in all directions, walking the perimeter of the area using existing public trails, a private parking lot, and a short stretch of San Antonio Road. I have toured the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center, and it is difficult for me to visualize a similar facility for desalination that would fit within the small parcel currently being used as a staging area within that chainlink fence.

I appreciate the fact that we are early in the planning process for a possible desalination facility and that technical issues regarding intake, brine discharge, brine dilution, and the conveyance of product water are primary considerations when narrowing down feasible sites. That being said, we are now in the process of completing a second study that will greatly inform the siting decision, and favored options have emerged. A concerned member of the public like myself would naturally like to see reliable maps showing the rough boundaries of the desalination facility sites under consideration. In the case of this very sensitive area south of Charleston Slough, it would seem especially important that all stakeholders have a clear understanding of the proposed facility's actual boundaries, even at this early stage of planning.

I remain fully confident that Valley Water shares my concerns about our most precious ecosystems and that our mutual concerns will be weighed heavily in the siting of any future desalination facility. Know that I have been troubled by the Charleston Slough/Pond A1 site option since reading the preliminary study and consider myself an advocate for the vulnerable wildlife that thrives there. I am hopeful that the site will be removed from consideration when the process is further along, and I will strive to keep myself fully engaged.

Sincerely, Doug Peterson

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Doug Peterson.

**From:** [Candice Kwok-Smith](#) on behalf of [Board Correspondence](#)  
**To:** [Katrina Holden](#); [Sally Castro](#); [Audrey Beaman](#); [Christopher Hakes](#); [Kathy Nguyen](#)  
**Cc:** [Board of Directors](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Letter to SCVWD Board of Directors  
**Date:** Thursday, July 3, 2025 9:33:12 AM

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**From:** Candice Kwok-Smith **On Behalf Of** Board of Directors  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 3, 2025 9:27 AM  
**To:** 'Don Harper' [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Letter to SCVWD Board of Directors

***Sent on Behalf of Chair Estremera:***

Dear Don Harper,

Thank you for your letter dated June 24, 2025 regarding the security issue resolution and financial settlement of your property located at 1346 Taylor Street, San Jose, CA. We will respond to your letter by July 16, 2025.

Thank you for your patience.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sincerely,



Tony Estremera  
Chair, District 6

C-25-0090

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**From:** Don Harper [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 12:21 PM  
**To:** Board of Directors <[board@valleywater.org](mailto:board@valleywater.org)>  
**Subject:** Letter to SCVWD Board of Directors

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\*\*\* This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. \*\*\*

Please see attached letter and attachment to the SCVWD Board of Directors.

Thank you,

**Don Harper**

Mobile: [REDACTED]

