

**PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY
PROPOSED ORDINANCE/INITIATIVE
MEASURE D**

**POSTPONEMENT OF PIPELINE
MORATORIUM ON PURCHASE OF SUPPLEMENTAL WATER
LIMITATION OF GROUNDWATER AUGMENTATION CHARGES**

The people of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency District do ordain as follows:

FINDINGS

There are acknowledged water supply problems in the Pajaro Valley that have developed over many years and that will take many years to solve. The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency ("Agency") has primary responsibility to develop a long-term plan to balance water demands with water supplies in the Pajaro basin. As part of that plan, the Agency has proposed constructing a pipeline to import supplemental water from the Central Valley Project, to be financed from groundwater augmentation charges levied by the agency.

The Agency should give priority to local solutions to alleviate long-term groundwater overdraft conditions in the Pajaro basin that would be less costly than the proposed pipeline project. To minimize the severe economic loss and hardship that might result from immediate reduction in long-term overdraft, any decision to construct the proposed pipeline should be delayed until these other less costly alternatives can be pursued.

ORDINANCE

The Agency shall implement viable conservation measures and construct affordable local water projects within the Agency's boundaries in order to efficiently and economically manage local water resources toward the avoidance and eventual prevention of conditions of long-term overdraft, land subsidence, and water quality degradation.

The Agency shall postpone for a period of not less than ten (10) years, and until the results of local solutions have been monitored and analyzed, any decision for the design and construction of any pipeline to import supplemental water from the Central Valley Project.

The Agency shall finalize its acquisition of the San Felipe entitlement and shall contract with the Central Valley Project for this purpose.

The Agency shall immediately impose a 10-year moratorium on all new purchases of supplemental water from outside the boundaries of the Agency, and shall immediately prohibit new exports of water outside the boundaries of the Agency.

The groundwater augmentation charges authorized by Section 1003 of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency Act shall not exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per acre-foot until modified by a vote of the people.

**JOINT IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY COUNTY COUNSEL
MEASURE D**

The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency is established by California law for the purpose of managing water resources within Agency boundaries. Among the objectives set for the Agency by the Legislature is the management of local groundwater resources toward the avoidance and prevention of long term overdraft.

If approved by a majority of those voting, this measure will become an Agency ordinance governing certain future actions by the Board of Directors of the Agency as follows:

1. The ordinance would provide that the Agency postpone for at least ten (10) years any decision to construct a pipeline to import water from the Central Valley Project as part of the Agency's long-term plan to balance water demands with water supplies, and instead the Agency should give priority to and first pursue local solutions less costly than the pipeline project to alleviate groundwater overdraft conditions. Toward that end it would require the Agency to carry out the activities stated in the ordinance, which is printed in this ballot pamphlet. Because the actions required are nonspecific, the Agency Board would need to determine what conservation measures and local solutions to the groundwater overdraft conditions are viable and affordable.

2. The ordinance would require the Agency to finalize its acquisition of entitlement to San Felipe water and contract with the Central Valley Project for this purpose.

3. The ordinance would impose a ten-year moratorium on all new purchases of supplemental water from outside the Agency boundaries, and prohibit new exports of water outside the Agency boundaries.

4. The ordinance would also limit the maximum groundwater augmentation charges within the Agency to \$50 per acre-foot unless modified by a vote of the people.

All of the foregoing provisions, if enacted, will continue effective unless they are changed by further ordinance of the Agency.

A "yes" vote is to approve the ordinance.

A "no" vote is against approving the ordinance.

Dated: March 6, 1998

DWIGHT L. HERR, SANTA CRUZ COUNTY COUNSEL
s/ Jane M. Scott
Assistant County Counsel

DOUGLAS C. HOLLAND, MONTEREY COUNTY COUNSEL
s/ Douglas C. Holland

STEVEN R. SANDERS, SAN BENITO COUNTY COUNSEL
s/ Steven R. Sanders



ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE D

Local water projects are the sensible solution to salt water intrusion and to overdrafting in the Pajaro Valley, not building a **ridiculous overpriced pipeline**. Conservation programs should also be a vital part of the solution.

By constructing on a **step by step**, pay as you go basis, we can build only what we really **need** and will **save** over 50% of our money from going to **finance charges** with the pipeline scheme.

There is a vast quantity of water flowing through our valley. The pipeline would give us **less than four average winter days of water** flowing down the Pajaro River. We should be using this **resource**. Local water storage will assist in **flood control**. It is not economically sound to saddle this small valley with a **multi-million dollar debt** over an extended period of time, when local solutions have not been tried. The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency has done no economic study to determine if our small valley **can afford** their pipeline.

By using **free** water rather than importing **expensive** water with the **overpriced pipeline**, we will stay **independent** of Federal and State **controls** and the **politics** involved. We will remain free from **competition** with large urban areas for scarce future water deliveries and will be separate from **environmental** concerns within the Central Valley Project system, whereby water deliveries may be drastically curtailed at any time.

We ask for your **YES VOTE ON MEASURE D**. It is your chance to be heard. A **YES VOTE** will keep this control in the local consumers' hands. We cannot afford to go broke paying for a high-priced pipeline so that our water bureaucrats can peddle the resource to water-hungry Southern California. Stop them from selling out **Watsonville's future**. Remember it is your water and **your money**. **VOTE YES ON MEASURE D**.

N.O.P.E.

No Overpriced Pipeline Ever

s/ Hank Schimpeler
s/ Virginia F. Norris
s/ Nita Gizdich
s/ Bonnie Matulich
s/ Dick Peixoto

**NO ARGUMENT AGAINST THIS MEASURE
WAS SUBMITTED**

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE D

After 30 years and many studies, we know that seawater intrusion and overdraft problems in the Pajaro Valley can't be solved with local projects cost-effectively. We need at least 18,000 acre-feet (af) per year of new water along the coast in order to stop intrusion.

It is true that vast amounts of water run off to the ocean from the Pajaro River and the sloughs during winter. But farmers are not irrigating during this time, and to be of any use this water would have to be captured and stored. That means dams, which are both expensive and difficult to build for environmental and earthquake reasons. Dams of the size that NOPE proposes would cost in excess of \$45 million, and the piping and distribution system would cost another \$24 million to deliver only 13,000 af of water. These, plus other proposed local projects, would cost more than the pipeline, the water to fill it, and the necessary distribution system.

Trying to operate on a pay-as-you-go basis is just not feasible with a \$50 augmentation charge. This would generate about \$3.5 million per year. In ten years we would have collected only enough to build the coastal distribution system and would have no water to put into it.

The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency has thoroughly investigated the least expensive methods for halting intrusion and overdraft. We can't afford further delays. Vote **NO** on Measure D.

s/ James R. Dutra
Chair, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
s/ Brad Bennett
Vice-Chair, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
s/ Howard Mauthe
Director, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
s/ "Gwen" Wanda Carroll
Director, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency

