
FRESNO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION (LAFCo)
EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

ADDENDUM TO AGENDA ITEM
No. 6

DATE: June 8, 2016
TO: Fresno Local Agency Formation Commission
FROM: David E. Fey, AICP, Executive Officer 
BY: George Uc, LAFCo Analyst II
SUBJECT: Addendum to Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Revision Prepared for the Pinedale County Water District

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the Municipal Service Review for the Pinedale County Water District and revise the District's sphere of influence by taking the following actions:

- A. Approve Categorical Exemption from the provisions of the CEQA under Section 15306, "Information Collection."
- B. Find that the Municipal Service Review, as addended prepared for the Pinedale County Water District is complete, satisfactory, and satisfies State law and adopt the MSR.
- C. Revise the District's Sphere of Influence in order to rectify the District's and City of Fresno's existing water service boundaries.
- D. Pursuant to Government Code Sections 56425 and 56430 make the required determinations as addended for the Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence, adopt the Municipal Service Review prepared for the Pinedale County Water District, and revise the Sphere of Influence for the said District by revising the current boundaries.

The attached MSR amendment responds to comments made by the City of Fresno regarding the District participation in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act process. The addendum has been reviewed by the general manager of the Pinedale County Water District and is recommended for approval.

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Discussion amendment:

District Services: Water

The District pumps groundwater at a historic average of 2700-2800 AF/Y. However, when applying its conservation goals, pumping is roughly 27% lower (based on 2013 when it pumped in excess of 2800 AF) which results in a projected extraction figure of approximately 2100 AF/Y.¹

Planned Capacity of Public Services

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has developed a Strategic Plan for its Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Program. DWR's SGM Program will implement the new and expanded responsibilities identified in the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Some of these expanded responsibilities include: (1) developing regulations to revise groundwater basin boundaries; (2) adopting regulations for evaluating and implementing Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) and coordination agreements; (3) identifying basins subject to critical conditions of overdraft; (4) identifying water available for groundwater replenishment; and (5) publishing best management practices for the sustainable management of groundwater.²

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) defines sustainable groundwater management as the management of groundwater supplies in a manner that can be maintained during the planning and implementation horizon without causing undesirable results. This responds to the DWR's California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) "high" priority ranking for San Joaquin Valley groundwater basins.

The District participates in several metropolitan water supply groups including the Fresno County SGMA working group and is actively working with metropolitan water supply agencies to form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) by the statutory deadline of June 30, 2017. The District intends to participate in the GSA's development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan due to DWR by January 31, 2020.

Determination amendments:

3. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies
 - The District relies entirely on groundwater for its supply and has no other water source, either physical or contractual.

¹ Email from PCWD General Manager, June 6, 2016.

² <http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/index.cfm>.

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- The CASGEM has identified the San Joaquin Valley ground water basins as “high” priority basins for timely development of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies by the statutory deadline of June 30, 2017, and Groundwater Sustainability Plans by January 31, 2020.
- The District is actively participating with other metropolitan water supply agencies in the development of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency by June 30, 2017 .
- The GSA has until January 31, 2020 to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan that demonstrates that the basin is operated within its sustainable yield within the 50-year planning and implementation horizon established by SGMA.

Recommendation amendment:

6. That the District continue to participate in the SGMA process to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Agency and participate, as feasible, in the implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans.