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PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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February 9, 2022

Anthony Nicola
7741 Langley Canyon Road
Salinas, CA 93907

Regarding: Watsonville Area Water Recycling Facility – Recycled Water Use

Dear Mr. Nicola,

This letter is in response to your questions regarding the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency's (PV Water) water recycling program. PV Water, in collaboration with the City of Watsonville, distributes recycled water within the service area as shown on Figure 1, attached (roughly from Academy Road in Santa Cruz County to Moss Landing in Monterey County). PV Water delivers supplemental water supplies, which include recycled water, to growers in the coastal area in order to reduce groundwater overdraft and seawater intrusion, two major threats to the long-term sustainability of the Pajaro Valley Groundwater Subbasin (3-002.01 – see Figure 2).

Data provided by the City of Watsonville indicate that during the five-year period, 2017-2021, approximately 51% of wastewater entering the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant was treated to meet Title 22 standards for agricultural reuse. It is important to note that most water recycling occurs during the peak agricultural irrigation season, roughly May through October. A smaller volume of wastewater is recycled during the shoulder months of the growing season and winter months, depending on precipitation and crop type rotation.

Additional information regarding PV Water's projects and programs is available on our website: www.pvwater.org. Should you have any questions or comments, please let me know.

Kindly,

Marcus Mendiola
Water Conservation and Outreach Specialist

Encls:

- Figure 1. Map of Delivered Water Service
- Figure 2. Map of Pajaro Valley Groundwater Subbasin

CC: Mary Israel, Senior Planner, County of Monterey – Housing and Community Development
Nicki Fowler, Supervising Environmental Health Specialist, Monterey County Health Dept.

