

MONTEREY COUNTY

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May 25, 2021

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
Attention: Mr. Erik Ekdahl, Deputy Director
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Re: Opposition to Shandon-San Juan Water District's Applications to Appropriate Water A033189 and A033190

Dear Mr. Ekdahl,

On behalf of the County of Monterey and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency ("MCWRA"), I am submitting this letter of opposition to the two applications to appropriate water submitted to your agency by Shandon-San Juan Water District ("Shandon"). Monterey County and MCWRA have serious concerns with the two applications, do not believe Shandon will be able to adequately address the applications' deficiencies, and respectively request that these applications be rejected. Importantly, MCWRA owns and operates Nacimiento Reservoir and does not consent to Shandon's proposed use of Nacimiento Reservoir. Also, MCWRA fully utilizes its water rights (License 7543 and Permit 21089) for Nacimiento Reservoir and intends to continue this use. Lastly, portions of the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin are in critical overdraft and increased diversions on the Nacimiento and Salinas Rivers impact senior water right holders and riparian users.

Sincerely,

Chair Wendy Root Askew
Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey
Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources
Agency

Cc: Erica Rhyne-Christensen, SWRCB
Shelby Witherby, SWRCB

MONTEREY COUNTY

WATER RESOURCES AGENCY

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SALINAS, CA 93902
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BRENT BUCHE
GENERAL MANAGER



STREET ADDRESS
1441 SCHILLING PLACE, NORTH BUILDING
SALINAS, CA 93901

May 19, 2021

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
Attention: Mr. Erik Ekdahl, Deputy Director
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000
Email: Erik.Ekdahl@waterboards.ca.gov

Re: Opposition to Shandon-San Juan Water District's Applications to Appropriate Water (A033189 and A033190)

Dear Mr. Ekdahl,

I am submitting this letter in response to Shandon-San Juan Water District's ("Shandon") applications to appropriate water from the Nacimiento River Stream System (A033190), and from the Salinas River Stream System (A033189). The Monterey County Water Resources Agency ("MCWRA") has serious concerns with the two applications, does not believe Shandon will be able to adequately address the applications' deficiencies and respectfully request that these applications be rejected.

First, in response to Ms. Rhyne-Christensen's letter to Shandon from March 5, 2021, MCWRA has not given Shandon right of access to Nacimiento Reservoir and does not consent to its proposed use of Nacimiento. In fact, Shandon has not even approached MCWRA on this issue. Second, MCWRA fully utilizes its water rights (License 7543 and Permit 21089) for Nacimiento and intends to continue this use. Third, portions of the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin are in critical overdraft and increased diversions on the Nacimiento and Salinas Rivers impact senior water right holders and riparian users.

MCWRA requests that any additional information that is submitted to or prepared by the State Board, related to these applications, be forwarded to MCWRA for our review. If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact me at 831-901-6703 or bucheb@co.monterey.ca.us.

Sincerely,

E-signed 5/18/2021

Brent Buche

cc: Erica Rhyne-Christensen, SWRCB
Shelby Witherby, SWRCB