



Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency

July 19, 2018

Mr. Trevor Joseph
Sustainable Groundwater Management Section Chief
Department of Water Resources
9001 P Street, Room 213
PO Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Re: Initial Notification of Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development,
Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin

Dear Mr. Joseph,

This letter is to notify you that the Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency (SMGWA) intends to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin (#3-027) pursuant to California Water Code Section 10727.8. Formed by a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement on June 1, 2017, the SMGWA is the sole Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for this basin, has three members (Scotts Valley Water District, San Lorenzo Valley Water District, County of Santa Cruz) and is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of member representatives and other stakeholders.

The SMGWA has engaged in a variety of outreach efforts to inform and engage the stakeholders, interested parties and the general public. The outreach comprises local printed media, social media, direct mail and email distribution to list. The agency has its own website (www.smgwa.org) that is being used to store, post and promote relevant information about the SMGWA, Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and Groundwater Sustainability Planning requirements and process.

The SMGWA uses a collaborative staffing model in which professional, technical and professional staff designated by the members provides ongoing leadership, management and administration of the agency. The SMGWA will retain subject matter experts and other consultants for various tasks and activities. Development of the GSP will be an iterative and collaborative process that builds upon technical data and policy information taking into

consideration input from the SMGWA board, member agencies, beneficial users in the basin and other public. Beginning in the fall of 2018, elements of the GSP will be developed and made available for public comment. Information meetings and workshops will be held at the critical milestones throughout the GSP development process with sufficient time allowed for comments, questions and dialogue.

Please contact me if you need additional information or have follow-up questions:

pharmon@svwd.org, 831-600-1902.

Sincerely,



Piret Harmon
Authorized Representative
Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency
General Manager
Scotts Valley Water District