



# SHANDON-SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT

## SHANDON-SAN GSA

### 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Willy Cunha**  
President

**Steve Sinton**  
Vice President

**Marshall Miller**  
Director

**Kevin Peck**  
Director

**Matt Turrentine**  
Director

April 30, 2021

Board of Supervisors  
San Luis Obispo County  
1055 Monterey Street, D430  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

**Subject: SSJWD Applications to the SWRCB for Unappropriated Water**

Dear Honorable Board,

It has come to the attention of the Board of the Shandon-San Juan Water District that there is a proposed motion to oppose our applications to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) for unappropriated water. These applications are for supplemental water specifically to benefit the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin. We are still in the process of responding to initial requests from the State Board for additional information, but our District intends and desires to fully brief your Board with regard to the need for and benefits of our applications to the community in the coming weeks.

It should be pointed out that the water we seek to benefit the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin is water that would otherwise leave the County and that was explicitly identified in our jointly adopted Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Section 9.5 states that of the various projects identified, Nacimiento and Santa Margarita are among the few systems that "currently have sufficiently reliable volumes of unused water to justify the expense of new infrastructure to be used on a regular basis for supplementing water supplies in the Subbasin." Our plan to help recharge the groundwater will in no way harm any users of the Paso Robles basin. In fact, this project will protect our local economy from potential business losses of over \$400 million! It will also protect jobs both in agriculture and at local businesses that are dependent on agricultural productivity.

We are also working with the Nacimiento Regional Water Management Advisory Committee (NRWMAC) so that our application will help provide better water levels in Lake Nacimiento during its recreational season.

We believe we are taking the wise and appropriate steps to help protect our local basin and urge your board to give us the opportunity to explain in detail our plans and projects. Ultimately, it is our desire that we work with the County and other Groundwater Sustainability Agency partners to achieve the broadest possible benefit to the users of the Paso Groundwater Basin and the surrounding economy.

Sincerely,

Willy Cunha  
President of the Board