

To - Santa Clara Valley District Board

From- Rita Norton

Date- Feb 3, 2024

Subject --Tuesday, February 13, 2024 8.1. 23-1117 Receive an informational update on the Operations and Benefits of the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project, Project No. 91954002. Recom

Dear District Board-

The Valley Water Board should not accept the Staff power point report and presentation on the Pacheco Reservoir project entitled "Needs Addressed by Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project".

Reviewing this report, I wonder why the report only addresses "needs" without an examination of other critical aspects. The "report" is more a promotional piece than a grounded overview covering:

- cost to meet the needs,
- sources of funding,
- environmental review status,
- possible cost overruns,
- legal challenges and options.

For these reasons, it is difficult to examine this project based on the information presented. This item and the neglected material reflects poorly in terms of the agency's role to be an objective source.

Governmental agencies have a duty to present full-disclosure information to elected officials and to the public. Members of the Board should discuss whether they need additional information to what is covered here. Leadership is demonstrated by asking these questions up front.

Advisory Committees could have played a role in contributing to such a review. However currently these committees only research on what the Board directs them.

Thank you, your hard work, as elected officials in these trying times and for your attention to my response and input.

Sincerely,  
Rita Norton

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