

Clerk of the Board

From: Katja Irvin [mailto:katja.irvin@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 8:15 PM

To: Clerk of the Board <clerkoftheboard@valleywater.org>; Board of Directors <board@valleywater.org>

Subject: 4/10/18 Item 2.6 Public Hearing Groundwater Production & Other Water Charges

Dear Chair Santos and Board of Directors,

The Sierra Club is very interested in the progress of the California WaterFix and bringing to daylight as much as possible the data and decision-making process behind this important mega-project. When we saw that 2018-2019 Groundwater Production Charge projections assume Water District participation in the WaterFix at 7.5%, we thought this assumption deserved more than a footnote.

On behalf of the public, we have a few questions about the increase from 2.5% participation (our share of the State Water Project) to 7.5% participation.

1. Since we haven't heard any reasoning for the increased participation, why was this assumption used to project Groundwater Production Charges?
2. What will we get for the extra 5% participation? Does increasing our investment by over 200% increase the benefits we receive accordingly?
3. Where will the additional water rights come from? Are we intending to buy out a share of the project/benefits from other SWP contractors?
4. How did District Directors and staff use the Guiding Principles in the October 17, 2017 Board Resolution to shape participation in the WaterFix, and specifically the 7.5% contribution?

To facilitate an informed public, staff reports should include more complete information and discuss alternative assumptions to more fully explain staff decisions.

Please respond with answers to each of these questions.

Sincerely,

Katja Irvin, AICP
Conservation Committee
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter