

CSA 23 Drought Reliability Assessment District (2012)

Frequently Asked Questions

The following information is provided as a result of questions and discussions at the Santa Margarita Town Hall Meeting held on April 5, 2012 regarding the State Water connection for Drought Reliability and Assessment District formation.

What is the proposed Project?

The County Public Works Department is proposing to construct a physical connection to the State Water Pipeline near CSA 23's existing well #3 on the southeast side of town. The connection will provide the community with the ability to obtain up to 80 acre feet of water during a drought or other water emergency as declared by the Board of Supervisors.

What is the total assessment for a residential parcel?

*A residential parcel has a **one-time** total assessment of \$671.73. A commercial parcel has a one-time assessment of \$839.66. Property owners may pay off all or any part of the assessment in cash without interest during the one-month pre-payment period. You will receive a notice of this opportunity by mail.*

How much will it cost if I have it placed on my property tax bill?

If a property owner chooses not to pay off the assessment in full during the pre-payment period (see above) then a residential parcel would have an annual assessment of \$35.87 each year for 40 years plus an annual Tax Collectors fee not to exceed \$6 placed on their property tax bill.

Will this cost go up over time?

No, this is a fixed assessment. However the Tax Collector's fee may go up 2% per year.

When is the Public Hearing?

Tuesday, May 22, 2012 at the Board of Supervisors Chambers in San Luis Obispo at 9:00 am.

How do I vote?

Mail in or hand deliver the ballot, it must be received by the County Clerk-Recorder by the end of the public hearing on May 22, 2012.

Can I change my vote?

*Yes, Proposition 218 allows property owners to change their vote up until the close of the public hearing. If you would like to change your vote, **call John Diodati at the County Public Works Dept. (805) 788-2832.***

Please see reverse side for more information 

More Frequently Asked Questions

Why is the County recommending a connection to the State Water Project?

*The County Public Works Department is recommending a connection to the State Water Project to address water reliability during a drought or other water emergency **and** because grant funding from the USDA is currently available to offset 45% of the costs.*

The community relies on two wells to supply its water. If the main well - which supplies 75% of the water - was unable to be used due to low water levels as in a drought situation or some other emergency, the remaining lower producing well does not have sufficient capacity to meet community demands during its highest use period in the summer.

Why don't we just drill another well?

A new well or wells could produce additional water to supply the needs of the community however, in a drought situation this additional ground water supply could also be subject to low water levels and is not considered a reliable source for drought planning. Additionally, current USDA grant funding is not available for this option.

How can I get more information?

*Website: www.slocountywater.org click on CSA 23 Santa Margarita
Various reports such as the Santa Margarita California (CSA 23) 2010 Water Supply Reliability Report, Environmental Impact Report, Assessment Engineers Report and the Town Hall Meeting Presentation can be viewed or down loaded.*

Call: John Diodati Public Works Administrator at (805)781-2832 or Jill Ogren 781-5263.

Go to: Santa Margarita, Atascadero, or SLO City Libraries or the County Public Works Department to view copies of the reports.