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MAY 3 2018

Board of Supervisors  
San Luis Obispo County



San Luis Obispo County Water District  
County Government Center  
1055 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo  
93408

Dear San Luis Obispo County Water Board,

Water is a very important resource for the state of California. So much so that it has become a serious issue for the whole county of San Luis Obispo. Water usage and consumption have taken a huge toll on us all, especially in North County. The growth of vineyards in North County has resulted in serious depletion of our water source, largely in Paso Robles and surrounding cities. In the 1980's San Luis Obispo county produced 20,000 tons of wine grapes, but by 2005 that number had increased by ten times, peaking at 200,000 tons of wine grapes. Despite the attempt at water conservation and sustainability, when coupled with population growth in San Luis Obispo County, this has led to a dramatic drop in the water tables in north San Luis Obispo County. We know that more droughts and people are moving to San Luis County. San Francisco and other cities are trying to buy water rights from us as well because they are having water problems. I believe it is about time we start standing up for what is ours and managing it better. We need to protect our water from outside interest, control the growth of population and agriculture, and manage our water tables. This isn't just affecting a few people and should not be overlooked. Many homeowners who have wells drill deeper and deeper to find water and in doing so may compromise our water tables. The deeper they drill, the more

expensive and harder it is to find water. The vineyards take up a large amount of space and water. I hope you will read this and make a change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mackenna Buchholz". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and connected.

Mackenna Buchholz