

**SANTA BARBARA  
LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION**

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

**LAFCO File 16-04: Formation of the Cuyama Basin Water District**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a meeting of the Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission will be held on Friday, August 5, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, 105 East Anapamu Street, Fourth Floor, Santa Barbara, California. At the meeting, the Commission will consider the **Formation of the Cuyama Basin Water District (District)**.

The Cuyama Valley is a valley along the Cuyama River in central California, in northern Santa Barbara, southern San Luis Obispo, southwestern Kern, and northwestern Ventura counties. The Cuyama Groundwater Basin is a major agricultural area of the State that is not within an organized water or other similar type of district, that is totally dependent on the use of groundwater.

The proposed District boundaries encompass portions of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura Counties. However, because the majority of the land and assessed value of taxable property is located within Santa Barbara County, Santa Barbara LAFCO as the principal LAFCO is required to give notice in all three counties. Santa Barbara LAFCO is also responsible for holding the formation hearing(s).

The proposed District would provide a public agency with powers and abilities to, among other things, (i) administer, develop, construct and operate projects and programs to enhance water supplies to help stabilize the groundwater conditions in the Cuyama Groundwater Basin, and (ii) advance groundwater management and conservation programs and thereby pursue stabilizing the Basin and sustaining its resources for the beneficial use of all those who use water within the proposed District.

The need for local groundwater management was highlighted with the adoption of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (Water Code Section 10720, (“SGMA”), which will require for the Cuyama Basin that certain groundwater management action be taken within the next approximately four years. After formation, the District will be financed by the creation of an assessment district pursuant to a Proposition 218 ballot proceeding/election.

Remote Testimony is Permitted - Persons may address the Commission in person or by using the remote video testimony system in the Board of Supervisors hearing room in the Betteravia Government Center at 511 Lakeside Parkway, Santa Maria.

Disclosure of Campaign Contributions – LAFCO Commissioners are disqualified and are not able to participate in proceedings involving an “entitlement for use” if, within the 12 months preceding the LAFCO decision, the Commissioner received more than \$250 in campaign contributions from the applicant, an agent of the applicant or an financially interested person who actively supports or opposes the LAFCO decision on this matter.

Those who have made such contributions are required to disclose that fact for the official record of the proceedings. Disclosures must include the amount of the contribution and the recipient Commissioner and may be made either in writing to the Executive Officer of the Commission prior to the hearing or by an oral declaration at the time of the hearing.

The foregoing requirements are set forth in the Political Reform Act of 1974, specifically in Government Code section 84308.

Disability Accommodations - Persons with a disability who require any disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the meeting are asked to contact the LAFCO office at least three (3) days prior to the meeting by telephone at 805/568-3391 or by email at [lafco@sblafco.org](mailto:lafco@sblafco.org).

Additional information – Additional information regarding items to be considered at the meeting may be obtained by contacting the LAFCO office at 105 East Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara CA 93101 or by calling 805/568-3391.

Dated this 8th day of July, 2016

PAUL HOOD  
Executive Officer