

# Addition to the Public Record for Item 9(B) –

- Email dated February 5, 2019 between James Lewis, City Manager of Pismo Beach and Brad Snook, Chair of the Surfrider Foundation, San Luis Obispo Chapter

**From:** James Lewis <[JLewis@PismoBeach.org](mailto:JLewis@PismoBeach.org)>  
**Date:** February 5, 2019 at 6:11:03 PM PST  
**To:** San Luis Obispo Chair <[chair@slo.surfrider.org](mailto:chair@slo.surfrider.org)>, City Council <[citycouncil@pismo-beach.org](mailto:citycouncil@pismo-beach.org)>  
**Cc:** San Luis Obispo Vice Chair <[vicechair@slo.surfrider.org](mailto:vicechair@slo.surfrider.org)>, Benjamin Fine <[bfine@PismoBeach.org](mailto:bfine@PismoBeach.org)>, Daniel Heibel <[dheibel@wsc-inc.com](mailto:dheibel@wsc-inc.com)>, Jorge Garcia <[jgarcia@pismo-beach.org](mailto:jgarcia@pismo-beach.org)>  
**Subject: RE: Central Coast Blue**

Mr. Snook-

Thank you for continuing to share your thoughts regarding Central Coast Blue. Please allow to me clarify some assertions made in your email below.

Foremost, Central Coast Blue (CCB) has never been meant to be a project that brings more water for expansion of development opportunities within and around the City nor does the City have any desire to grow outside of its current borders.

The focus of CCB is to first off, reduce discharge into the ocean which is better for our precious water quality. Second, to protect our groundwater basin from seawater intrusion. This protects all of our local communities including Oceano. As a matter fact, past data and our current model show that Oceano's wells are most vulnerable to saltwater intrusion as they are closest to the ocean. Finally, CCB provides a sustainable, drought resistant water supply for our current customers. The water available from CCB allows us to safely pump more of our judicially-established entitlement to groundwater from the basin, without added risk of seawater intrusion. Even with this water, we are still far below what we legally can pump. Again, this is not new water, it simply is water security to provide a more sustainable source in critical droughts for all of our partner communities.

Regarding the location of the facility, this is yet to be determined. You are correct in that I have said the SSLOCSO site is a preferred alternative for now, however we agree that it has risks which will need to be examined during the environmental process. We are actively pursuing other sites as well in the Grover Beach and Oceano area. You will recall that in locating this facility we are trying have the least impact on the natural environment and the built environment by keeping location close to the existing outfall line and to the groundwater basin itself. Locating in this manner reduces costs and construction impacts as the necessary piping required is shorter. I welcome your suggestions on sites as we continue to look.

Mr. Snook, CCB is a huge win for our environment and for a more sustainable future. It is also consistent with the Surfrider Foundation's goal of protecting the coast and water quality. Like you, the City is committed to the protection and enjoyment of ocean, waves, and beaches. I have been in touch with Surfrider officials at the state level and they remain supportive of our project. I hope with this information we can continue to count on your local support.

Regards,  
Jim

*James R. Lewis*

**City Manager**

**City of Pismo Beach, CA**

"Classic California"

805-773-7003

[www.pismo-beach.org](http://www.pismo-beach.org)

**From:** San Luis Obispo Chair [<mailto:chair@slo-surfrider.org>]

**Sent:** Saturday, February 2, 2019 1:41 PM

**To:** City Council <[citycouncil@pismo-beach.org](mailto:citycouncil@pismo-beach.org)>

**Cc:** San Luis Obispo Vice Chair <[vicechair@slo-surfrider.org](mailto:vicechair@slo-surfrider.org)>

**Subject:** Central Coast Blue

Good day,

I hope to open a dialogue with the Council regarding unaddressed issues with Central Coast Blue. It is our chapter's goal to identify and communicate these issues as soon as possible in the interest of supporting a viable, sustainable recycled water project for the Five Cities area. We are not interested, however, in supporting Central Coast Blue project as Pismo Beach Staff is presently describing it.

For instance, at the last meeting:

- The City Council decided Mayor Waage should talk to the Oceano CSD President. The information exchanged with the OCSO President was not public, though that action has impacted the public's perception of Pismo Beach's intentions (this time, in Oceano). Instead, if that exchange of information had been in a public meeting with CCB stakeholders in attendance, the exchange could have been more effective and documented for all the partners in CCB.
- The City Manager stated the SSLOCCSD's existing site was a superior location for wastewater recycling equipment if the existing plant is upgraded and the site is armored to reduce the risks and potential impacts of coastal flooding. The Council then reviewed projected costs for CCB, assuming that with grant money and economy of scale considerations from Phase 2, the cost per acre foot of recycled water would decrease. However, 9 days later (on January 31st) the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board discussed how dangerous and unsustainable it would be to continue building on the SSLOCCSD site. They also questioned how long the Regional Board could continue to authorize discharging permits for the existing site, the wisdom of SSLOCCSD's Redundancy Project, and how Regional Staff should improve their access to SLO County Staff and the California Coastal Commission to assess the planning of Managed Retreat for SSLOCCSD's sewage plant. Thus, all the factors involved with Phase 2 of CCB have now been called into question. I recommend watching yourself at <http://cal-span.org/unipage/?site=cal-span&owner=RWQCB-CC&date=2019-01-31>
- The City Manager stated the intent of Central Coast Blue was to provide a sustainable regional groundwater supply, not mentioning the City's intent to expand city limits and develop elsewhere. If Pismo Beach's support for CCB is purely for sustainability of

groundwater, does that mean Pismo Beach will legally remove the city's expansion from future considerations? If not, it would be more transparent and accurate for the City Manager to mention expansion and sustainability as the reasons for Pismo's involvement in CCB.

Our chapter has been an advocate for a recycled water solution for the Five Cities area for many years. We have a good relationship, also, with the Pismo Beach City Council and with many leaders in the Five Cities. However, if this project has gone off track, it is our obligation to reach out in a good faith effort to rectify these issues.

I'm available for further discussion.

Thank you,

Brad Snook  
Chair  
Surfrider Foundation  
[San Luis Obispo Chapter](#)  
(805) 440-9489

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## Addition to the Public Record for Item 9(C) –

- Email dated February 11, 2019 to the Board of Directors of the Oceano CSD from Andrew Christie, Director of the Sierra Club, Santa Lucia Chapter

## Carey Casciola

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**From:** Andrew Christie <sierraclub8@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2019 8:29 PM  
**To:** carey@oceanocsd.org  
**Subject:** Contact Form Submission, Subject: Other | Entry ID 65

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

### Name

Andrew Christie

### Email

[sierraclub8@gmail.com](mailto:sierraclub8@gmail.com)

### Phone

(805) 543-8717

### Subject

Other

### Message

Re: OCSD 2/13/19 meeting, Item 9C, Continuance of Agenda Item #6(C) from the Board's Special Meeting on Jan. 30, 2019, regarding Reconsideration and/or modification of 2019 Committee Assignments and Appointments.

Dear CSD Directors,

I am writing to you to commend the work of Cynthia Replogle as an alternate on the South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District and the Central Coast Blue recycling committee, and to urge her appointment as a primary representative on the SSLOCSD and the CCB committee.

Along with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, we share the concerns Ms. Replogle has raised over the selection of the Oceano wastewater treatment plant for the CCB recycling project.

In addition to the lack of alternative sites under consideration, Ms. Replogle has noted the likelihood that the Oceano plant will be designated for "managed retreat" as the state mandates the relocation of such facilities inland to avoid inundation from rising sea levels.

She is correct. When the California Coastal Commission denied the application for a Coastal Development Permit for a new Morro Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant as originally submitted by the City in 2013, it singled out two primary deficiencies: The lack of serious consideration of alternative sites and the vulnerability of the plant site to sea level rise and flooding.

Acknowledging regulatory reality is crucially important to the success of such projects. It is clear to us that the success of this project will depend on Ms. Replogle's voice continuing to be heard on your board.

Thank you for your attention to this issue,

Andrew Christie, Director  
Sierra Club - Santa Lucia Chapter  
P.O. Box 15755  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406