

December 6, 2007 (Agenda)

Local Agency Formation Commission  
105 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara CA 93101

**Status of the SYRWCD, Improvement District No. 1  
as a Special District for LAFCO Purposes**

Dear Members of the Commission:

RECOMMENDATION

Receive this report and continue this matter to the February 7 meeting.

DISCUSSION

This topic has been discussed at prior LAFCO meetings. On October 2 the Commission directed staff to monitor this matter and present a report in December.

The Executive Officer and Legal Counsel met with District legal counsel Alexandra Barnhill and Gary Kvistad on November 21. We discussed legislation to clarify that the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No. 1 is a “special district” that is subject to LAFCO’s jurisdiction with respect to regulation of boundaries.

We discussed changes that would amend both the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act and the Water Code. The District’s attorneys proposed draft wording to achieve that objective that they feel will be acceptable to other water districts. We agreed that, if possible, the amendments should be part of an “omnibus bill” that would be non-controversial.

We agreed to share the draft wording with other LAFCOs for their review and comments as well, and believe that we can do that prior to the Commission meeting in February, 2008.

Sincerely,

**BOB BRAITMAN**  
Executive Officer

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cc: Alexandra Barnhill, Attorney at Law, Hatch & Parent  
Chris Dahlstrom, General Manager, SYRWCD, Improvement District No. 1  
Gary Kvistad, Attorney at Law, Hatch & Parent