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March 16, 2023

Local Agency Formation Commission
Attention: Mike Prater, Executive Officer
105 East Anapamu Street, Room 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

SUBJECT: Los Olivos Community Services District - Project Progress and Request for Proposition 218 Extension

Dear Commissioners:

As you may recall, LAFCO officially issued a Certificate of Completion in the formation of the Los Olivos Community Services District (LOCS D) on April 5, 2018, following the successful County certified vote on January 30, 2018. Subsequently, on June 3, 2021, your Commission approved a LOCS D request to extend the time to successfully conduct a Proposition 218 assessment as required by Condition B (vii) in the Resolution 17-03 approving formation on April 13, 2017. The LOCS D is returning to your Commission at this time to request an additional extension.

The District continues to make steady progress towards a community wastewater collection and treatment solution. As shown in the attached March 2023 District Update (see Attachment 1), recent LOCS D efforts include:

- Obtaining the First New Los Olivos Groundwater Monitoring Well Data in 30+ Years
- Completing an Effluent Disposal Study
- Holding a Regional Water Quality Control Board and Santa Barbara County Environmental Health Services Community Workshop
- Hosting a Wastewater Solutions Community Workshop
- Engaging an Independent Engineering Firm to Make a Community Wastewater Solution Recommendation

The above efforts come after the LOCS D completed a draft assessment model (fair share assessment) for the district, completed a 30% design for a gravity-fed collection system to a membrane bioreactor treatment facility, and hosted a number of educational workshops for the community. In addition, the LOCS D is engaged in contract conversations with Padre and Associates to perform Environmental Impact Review for our future project.

As recent efforts show, the LOCS D is diligently working towards a community wastewater solution. Progress has been slower than we had hoped, but we are making steady progress. We are a small district, with only 391 parcels and annual revenues just over \$200,000 (roughly \$500

per parcel). Consequently, we are carefully managing our efforts to maximize the limited funding available. Moving forward, we anticipate needing more funding, particularly Federal, State, and local grants, to complete the necessary engineering, review, outreach, and research studies required to achieve a successful Proposition 218 assessment vote. To that end, the LOCSD recently formed a Grants/Financing subcommittee to research and find grant opportunities that will help us complete the needed studies. To date, the LOCSD has obtained two grants: County Environmental Health Special Funds - \$180,000 and State Water Board SRF Water Recycling Funding Program \$150,000.

As demonstrated above we continue to make substantial progress toward implementing a community wastewater solution. Yet we still have significant work to do in order to get to an informed and successful Prop. 218 benefit assessment vote. It is our intent to conduct additional community outreach, define a final project, identify construction grant opportunities, complete environmental review, and execute a full Proposition 218 process within the requested extension timeline. We therefore respectfully request that the LAFCO Board of Director's receive this progress report and extend the LAFCO Resolution deadline to conduct the District's Prop 218 proceedings for two years. During the extension, we will continue to submit biannual updates to your Board. We ask for this extension to maximize the probability of a successful Prop 218 proceeding for the District.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support of the Los Olivos CSD and our efforts to improve our groundwater quality with the implementation of a community wastewater management solution. If you have any questions, please contact me at (805) 448-7033 (or tom.fayram.locsd@gmail.com) or Guy Savage, General Manager, at (805) 500-4098 (or gm.locsd@gmail.com.)

Sincerely,



Thomas Fayram
President, Board of Directors LOCSD

cc: Joan Hartmann, 3rd District Supervisor
Matt Keeling, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
Lars Siefert, County EHS Director