

### WEEKLY UPDATE DECEMBER 6 - 12, 2020

#### THIS WEEK

# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY HEAVY BOS COSTLY COUNTY WATER SUIT AGAINST ITS OWN CITIZENS

COUNTY NOW PART OF LA FOR COVID REGULATIONS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS A POSITIVE STEP BUT NEED SHARPENING

FY 2021-22 BUDGET GAP PROJECTED AT \$12 TO \$21 MILLION

**BOS 2021 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS** 

#### PLANNING COMMISSION BUSY

BUT NOT HEAVY POLICY ONE PROJECT COULD BE APPLIED TO THE HOMELESS AS A SOLUTION

#### CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD DEC. 9-11, 2020

MORE SEVERE AG IRRIGATORS' REGULATIONS (SEE ADDENDUM II ON PAGE 29)

## INTEGRATED BOARD WASTE CANCELLED

AT LEAST THEY WON'T BE BANNING STEAK BONES THIS MONTH

#### LAST WEEK

**NO BOS MEETING** 

# RATES FOR PG&E USERS TO DECLINE SLIGHTLY CENTRAL COAST COMMUNITY POWER TO RISE

WILL BE ON TOP OF FIRE SETTLEMENT INCREASES FOR EVERYONE

#### **COLAB IN DEPTH**

**SEE PAGE 19** 

#### WHY OUR UNIVERSITIES HAVE FAILED

Something went wrong with the rapidly expanding university in the 1960s, and the new 21st century, high-tech, globalized campus has made the mess it inherited dangerous.

BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

# HOW SOCIALIST DOGMA REPLACES REAL SCIENCE WITH "SETTLED SCIENCE"

BY ALLEN GINDLER

#### **ALERT:**

#### JOE BIDEN WANTS A HUGE NEW TAX ON GUN OWNERS



Joe Biden's gun policy platform offers support for almost all conceivable forms of government restrictions on the Second Amendment. This includes bans and restrictions on sales, expansion of registration and background checks, expansion of buyback programs and gun-grabbing statutes, and the closing of all sorts of "loopholes."

While we are only at the policy platform stage, where proposals are grandiose and imprecise, Biden's legislative agenda will clearly be anti–Second Amendment and not a program to reduce crime and violence. First, he wants to stop the "gun violence epidemic" with restriction on rifles when it is

handgun shootings, not rifles that are a problem and one that is mostly confined to big cities controlled by leftists. Second, he wants to go after "assault weapons" and "weapons of war" when he should know that rifles like the AK and AR "sporters" are not military-grade fully automatic weapons. Third, he would like to hold gun manufactures civilly liable for criminal acts committed with guns, a move which would shut down the industry, the true goal.

In support of the government's buyback program, i.e., the carrot, Biden has added a gun tax for anyone who wishes to keep their rifles and high-capacity magazines. If you want to avoid the buyback and keep your guns and high-capacity (greater than ten rounds) magazine, you would have to register both under the National Firearms Act, which triggers a \$200 tax for each rifle and magazine—the stick. The stick behind the stick is a penalty of up to ten years in federal prison and a \$10,000 fine. Registration involves filling out a thirteen-page registration form and providing fingerprints and a photograph of yourself.<sup>1</sup>

#### THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

#### THE BOARD SHOULD END ITS LEGAL WAR ON THE PASO BASIN OVERLIERS

We have been asking the Board of Supervisors for 3 years to end their punitive and costly litigation against the 850 plus farmers and property owners of the Paso Basin (representing over 25,000 acres) who have sought to have the Court confirm their primary water rights through a quiet title confirmation. This is a normal process available to citizens of California who seek to protect their water, ability to farm, and prevent erosion of their property values.

Supervisor Gibson and former Supervisor Hill opposed the peoples' right to confirm their prior water rights on the grounds that it somehow diminished the County's "interests." It has never been made clear what those "interests" are. In actuality, they opposed the peoples' rights, because confirmation would restrict the ability of the County and other governments to expropriate water from their citizens. The City of Paso Robles, Templeton Community Service District, and the San Miguel Community Service District joined the County in its effort to punish own citizens.

Supervisors Compton and Arnold have sought to end the County legal interference, which has cost taxpayers \$3.2 million so far. Supervisor Peschong, although supporting the end of the County abuse, could not participate or vote because he himself had filed as an ovelier to protect his rights. This resulted in a 2/2 tie on the Board. Once Hill died, you would think that Compton and Arnold could have outvoted Gibson on the matter, but apparently County Counsel determined that a 2/1/0 vote was insufficient to end the County's abusive and costly litigation. With a full Board, the issue could now be considered.

We never know exactly when the case is on the agenda because the County staff reports ongoing litigation often as *Existing Litigation (Gov. Code, section 54956.9(a)). (Formally initiated.)* This case

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> By Mark Thornton December 3, 2020. Mises Institute- Mises Wire. Go to <a href="https://mises.org/wire/joe-biden-wants-huge-new-tax-gun-owners">https://mises.org/wire/joe-biden-wants-huge-new-tax-gun-owners</a> for the full analysis.

is entitled Cynthia Steinbeck et al v. County of SLO et al. This does not appear on the agenda for this week but should be placed there as soon as possible.

The fact that the County, City of Paso Robles, and the San Miguel Community Service District (SMCSD) are persisting in this law suit is outrageous. All that the citizens are, requesting) is that the County, City, Service District, and perhaps some newly formed water districts not be able to steal their water through a process called prescription. Prescription is akin to trespass law. It is similar to someone who has waterfront property and the public uses a path access through it to reach the beach. After decades of use the local government may assert that the path is public right of way (Adverse Possession).

In this case the County, City, and SMCSD, and Templeton CSD (the prescriptors) opposed the overliers because they claim that they had been pumping basin water for years and were entitled to large allotments attributable to the past pumping periods. The Superior Count has already decided that any water claim by these governments is very di-minimus. Nevertheless they continue their expensive and obstructive litigation, even though they have mainly lost already. County Counsel has spun the story as a victory, but as you can see below, it is nothing of the sort.

The amount of taxpayer money expended by the County in attacking its own citizens is extraordinary (almost \$2 million so far and counting). The City of Paso Robles has spent a reported total of \$3,054,914 so far. The San Miguel Community Service District reported expenditures of \$716,000 as of April 3, 2019. This has most likely grown to \$1 million or more by now. We could not obtain the Templeton Community District's costs.

All in, the 3 reporting prescriptors have expended somewhere around \$6,054, 914 so far. Since it is not known how the County has allocated internal costs to this issue, the actual number may be much higher.

SLO COUNTY STEINBECK



BEST BEST & KRIEGER

LITIGATION COSTS 2013-
$2020.^{2}$

2013	\$24,830.50
2014	\$110,505.00
2015	\$275,111.43
2016	\$231,842.42
2017	\$327,438.20
2018	\$753,143.76
2019	\$131,864.77
2020	\$144,648.94
	\$1,999,385.02

82480 - CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES 00039 - CYNTHIA STEINBECK V. COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBI

YEAR	FEES	COSTS	TOTAL
2013	-	-	-
2014	87,586.00	4,889.77	92,475.77
2015	163,586.50	65,019.89	228,606.39
2016	234,161.00	129,228.64	363,389.64
2017	199,472.00	88,773.06	288,245.06
2018	943,562.00	865,552.66	1,809,114.66
2019	183,755.50	(5,600.40)	178,155.10
2020	89,204.50	5,722.83	94,927.33

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> It is not clear if these costs are only for outside counsel or include county salaried lawyers and other costs.

What did they get for this? The Court's (Phase 5 of the proceedings) decision of June 7, 2019 pertains to the actual allocation of water. Out of hundreds of thousands of acre-feet the 3 governments received allocations as follows:

County of San Luis Obispo.... 342 acre feet per year.

Templeton CSD ...... 309 acre feet per year.

San Miguel CSD...... 184 acre feet per year.

#### The cost per acre-foot per jurisdiction is therefore:

County of Dan Luis Obispo.....\$5,846.

City of Paso Robles......\$2,267.

Templeton CSD...... Unknown.

San Miguel CSD......\$5,435.

Given the data, the prescriptors have already lost the most important portion of the case. Why are they still pushing it? What if these funds had been spent on a County priority such as the homeless? Or what if the City of Paso had spent the money on a new fire station and equipment, which it needs but has been unable to fund?

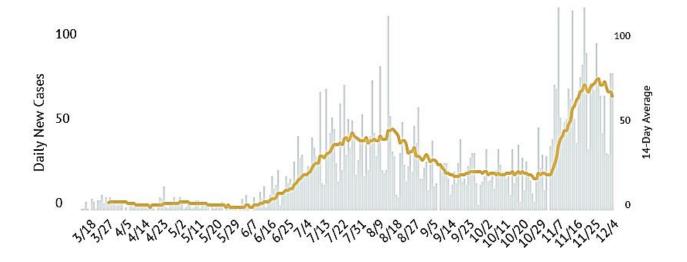
#### **Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, December 8, 2020 (Scheduled)**

**Item 1 - December 5, 2020 SLO COUNTY COVID Status.** Governor Newsome has again changed the rules for business, education, social interaction, and other activities. This time the key metric is the percentage of ICU beds occupied in various regions of the State. When the ICU average patient population in a region reaches a point where only 15 % of the beds are unoccupied, the lockdown "Stay At Home Order" takes force. The broad-brush approach lumped Santa Barbara County and San Luis Obispo County into the Southern California region, which in includes LA, Ventura, San Bernardino, Riverside, and other large urban counties with high COVID infection rates, high hospitalization rates, and high ICU rates.

As can be easily determined from the graph below, SLO County had one person in the ICU at the end of last week. Santa Barbara County has similar proportionality low numbers. This means that impacted businesses, institutions, employees, and community groups are irrationally condemned to lockdowns, economic damage, and social isolation when there is no reason for such action.

It is outrageous that the Governor did not use the county boundaries for the rules, as had been done since last March. A number of our counties are larger in area than some states. Why the sudden switch?

As we have often opined in the past, the so-called left progressive Democrat Socialists understand that the Pandemic and lockdowns are a perfect opportunity to undermine the private sector and further weaken the middle class.



#### Currently Hospitalized

14 (of whom 1 is in ICU)

#### Key provisions of the order are excerpted below

- 2. CDPH will evaluate the adult ICU bed capacity for each Region and identify on covid19.ca.gov any Regions for which that capacity is less than 15%. When that capacity is less than 15%, the following terms (the Terms of this Order) will apply.
- a. All gatherings with members of other households are prohibited in the Region except as expressly permitted herein.
- b. All individuals living in the Region shall stay home or at their place of residence except as necessary to conduct activities associated with the operation, maintenance, or usage of critical infrastructure, 1 as required by law, or as specifically permitted in this order. Wonder what the

Wonder what the difference is between stay home and place of residence is?

- c. Worship and political expression are permitted outdoors, consistent with existing guidance for those activities.
- d. Critical infrastructure sectors may operate and must continue to modify operations pursuant to the applicable sector guidance.

- e. Guidance related to schools remain in effect and unchanged. Accordingly, when this Order takes effect in a Region, schools that have previously reopened for in-person instruction may remain open, and schools may continue to bring students back for in-person instruction under the Elementary School Waiver Process or Cohorting Guidance.
- f. In order to reduce congestion and the resulting increase in risk of transmission of COVID-19 in critical infrastructure retailers, all retailers may operate indoors at no more than 20% capacity and must follow the guidance for retailers. All access to retail must be strictly metered to ensure compliance with the limit on capacity. The sale of food, beverages, and alcohol for in-store consumption is prohibited.
- g. To promote and protect the physical and mental well-being of people in California, outdoor recreation facilities may continue to operate. Those facilities may not sell food or drink for on-site consumption. Overnight stays at campgrounds are not permitted.
- h. Nothing in this Order prevents any number of persons from the same household from leaving their residence, lodging, or temporary accommodation, as long as they do not engage in any interaction with (or otherwise gather with) any number of persons from any other household, except as specifically permitted herein.
- i. Terms (a) and (b) of this section do not apply to persons experiencing homelessness.
- 3. Except as otherwise required by law, no hotel or lodging entity in California shall accept or honor out of state reservations for non-essential travel, unless the reservation is for at least the minimum time period required for quarantine and the persons identified in the reservation will quarantine in the hotel or lodging entity until after that time period has expired.
- 4. This order shall take effect on December 5, 2020 at 1259pm PST.
- 5. For Regions where the adult ICU bed capacity falls below 15% after the effective date of this order, the Terms of this Order shall take effect 24 hours after that assessment.
- 6. The Terms of this Order shall remain in place for at least three weeks from the date the order takes effect in a Region and shall continue until CDPH's four-week projections of the Region's total available adult ICU bed capacity is greater than or equal to 15%. Four-week adult ICU bed capacity projections will be made approximately twice a week, unless CDPH determines that public health conditions merit an alternate projection schedule. If after three weeks from the effective date of the Terms of this Order in a Region, CDPH's four-week projections of the Region's total available adult ICU bed capacity is greater than or equal to 15%, the Terms of this Order shall no longer apply to the Region
- 7. After the termination of the Terms of this Order in a Region, each county within the Region will be assigned to a tier based on the Blueprint for a Safer Economy as set out in my August 28, 2020 Order, and the County is subject to the restrictions of the Blueprint appropriate to that tier.
- 8. I will continue to monitor the epidemiological data and will modify this Regional Stay-at-Home Order as required by the evolving public health conditions. If I determine that it is necessary to change the Terms of this Order, or otherwise modify the Regional Stay-at-Home Order, these modifications will be posted at covid19.ca.gov.

9. When operative in a Region, the Terms of this Order supersede any conflicting terms in other CDPH orders, directives, or guidance. Specifically, for those Regions with ICU bed capacity triggering this order, the Terms of this Order shall supersede the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy and all guidance (other than guidance for critical infrastructure sectors) during the operative period. In all Regions that are not subject to the restrictions in this order, the Blueprint for a Safer Economy and all guidance shall remain in effect.

It is expected that the order will accelerate business failures, layoffs, and unemployment claims. In turn State and local government revenues will again decline, culminating in funding and service problems. As noted in Agenda Item 37 below, the County staff is already forecasting a 12 to 21 impending deficit for FY 2021-22. This shut down will only exacerbate the problem.

**Item 8 - Request to review and determine the appointments of Board members to various committees and commissions.** Historically, individual Board members have served on a variety of commissions and committees. Based on input from Board members individually, several assignments are recommended to remain the same, and other assignments are recommended to change, per the table below. New 3<sup>rd</sup> District Supervisor Dawn Ortiz-Legg will now be added to the mix.

TITLE	2020 Appointments	2021 Interest
Adult Services Policy Council	Bruce Gibson	Bruce Gibson
Behavioral Health Advisory Board	Adam Hill	District 3
Cal ID Advisory Board	John Peschong	John Peschong
Carrizo Plain National Monument	Debbie Arnold	Debbie Arnold
Advisory Committee		
Cal Poly Campus Planning	Debbie Arnold	Debbie Arnold
Committee		
California State Association of	Bruce Gibson,	Bruce Gibson
Counties (CSAC)	Alternate- Vacant	Alternate-John Peschong
Children's Resource Network of	Bruce Gibson	Bruce Gibson
the Central Coast		
Community Action Partnership of	Debbie Arnold	Debbie Arnold
San Luis Obispo (CAPSLO)		
Economic Vitality Corporation	Adam Hill, Lynn Compton	District 3
Fire Safe Council	Debbie Arnold	Debbie Arnold

First 5 Children & Families Commission	Bruce Gibson	Bruce Gibson
Golden State Finance Authority	Lynn Compton No Alternate	John Peschong No Alternate
Homeless Services Oversight Council	Adam Hill	District 3
Latino Outreach Council	Debbie Arnold	Debbie Arnold
Local Agency Formation	Debbie Arnold,	Debbie Arnold,
Commission (LAFCO)	Lynn Compton	Lynn Compton
		No Alternate
Nacimiento Water Project Commission	John Peschong	John Peschong
National Estuary Program Executive Committee	Bruce Gibson	Bruce Gibson
Psychiatric Health Facility Committee	Vacant	Debbie Arnold
Rural Counties Representatives of	Lynn Compton, John Peschong -	John Peschong
California (RCRC)	Alternate	Alternate-Lynn Compton

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SB/SLO Regional Health Authority (CenCal)	Debbie Arnold	Debbie Arnold
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Student-Community Liaison	Debbie Arnold	Debbie Arnold
Committee		
Visit SLO Advisory Committee	Lynn Compton	Lynn Compton
Consolidated Oversight Board	Vacant	Lynn Compton
Paso Basin Cooperative	John Peschong, Alternate –	Debbie Arnold
Committee	Debbie Arnold	Alternate-John Peschong
Atascadero Basin GSA Exec	Debbie Arnold, Alternate- John	Debbie Arnold
Committee	Peschong	Alternate-John Peschong
SLO Basin Groundwater	Adam Hill, Alternate-Bruce	District 3
Sustainability Commission	Gibson	Alternate – Bruce Gibson
Cuyama Basin JPA Board of	Lynn Compton, Alternate-	Lynn Compton
Directors	Debbie Arnold	Alternate-Debbie Arnold
Los Osos Basin Management	Bruce Gibson	Bruce Gibson
Committee		

**Item 37 - Budget Policies for the Development of the Proposed FY 2021-22 County Budget.** The item is primarily a check-in by the staff to make sure that the Board's budget priorities are the same as in past years. It is presented in the context of a staff forecast of \$12 to \$21 million revenue expenditure gap for the FY 21-22 fiscal year. Accordingly, much of the discussion is of the principles and process for reducing the expenditure side of the budget.

Given the recent first quarter Financial Report, which showed property tax and sales tax revenues exceeding budget, we aren't so sure the problem is so big. On the other hand, the current new COVID lockdown may drive an even more severe impending deficit if it continues into the spring.



In fact, the short-term priorities mostly follow the dictum that when governments have programs that don't work or result in mistakes, they throw more money at them. The underlying problems of land use rationing, lack of head of household jobs, tolerance for anti-social behavior, drug and alcohol abuse,

truancy, decay of the nuclear family, value relativism, decaying educational system, and attacks on free enterprise are ignored. The proffered programs are simply surface attempts to cover them up.

Separately from the substantive policies, the County has a long list of process rules, many of which are generally accepted budgetary standards such as not to use one-time revenues to fund ongoing programs, maintaining reserves, not issuing excessive debt, and so forth. Others pertain to difficult times, such as the current COVID induced deficits, which impact not only local revenues but State support of County programs. Some of these include:

# **Short-Term Approaches**

- Hiring chill
- Reduce General Fund contingency
- · Defer capital & automation projects- revising
- Minimize building maintenance
- Reduce organizational development- deleting
- Reallocate accumulated depreciation
- Voluntary time off
- · Retirement incentives
- Use of one-time reserves

Interestingly, there is no discussion of deferring raises, eliminating programs, accelerating approval of revenue generating private sector development projects (tell planning to quit screwing around the proposed Avila 5 Star Resort and get a plan in front of the PC by next fall), suspending discretionary regulatory barriers, or closing facilities. Lip service is given to privatization, but there does not seem to be any push to explore where this could take place.

We always get a kick out of "minimize building maintenance" (per the chart above). Could the employees vacuum their own offices, dust the furniture and blinds, stock the bathrooms with paper products, and empty the trash each night? In the Army we had to clean the barracks and latrines as well. Could the healthy adults on pubic income maintenance be employed to mop and wax the floors, and clean the bathrooms and other common areas? No doubt someone would argue that it's demeaning.

What about lost time due to sick and workers comp? What are the rates by department and division as well as for the County as a whole? Of course 6 of the County's seven cities have signed up for tax exempt Central Coast Community Power. Neither the County nor anyone else (except Assemblyman Cunningham) has done anything to keep Diablo open, even though it is 100% CO<sub>2</sub> free.

Item 38 - Creation of a new County Official (Economic Development Manager) and allocation of \$1,207.530 to various not-for-profit agencies for economic development projects.

**Background:** Beginning back in 2011, the County contracted with the not-for-profit business Economic Vitality Corporation (EVAC) to produce and operate a County economic development strategy. The County provides funding to EVC each year of about \$144,000. Now the County seeks to expand its economic development capacity through the REACH partnership, which includes Santa

Barbara County as well. The overarching philosophy is to view economic development on a global bicounty basis instead of town-by-town or area-by-area.

#### This item has 2 main components:

- 1. Allocation of \$1.2 million in Diablo Power Plant closure mitigation funds to various not-forprofits for economic development projects.
- 2. Creation of an Economic Development Manager position within the County Administrator office.

The table below illustrates the County's plan for this year and the general plan for allocation of the Diablo closure mitigation funding for economic development.

SB 1090 Proceeds-Economic Development Designation				
Fiscal Year	Amount Received	Potential Uses	Potential Use Amount	Remaining
FY2019-20*	\$ 2,408,750	Used to date	\$ -	\$ 2,408,750
		ED Manager**	\$ 120,000	\$ 2,288,750
		Joint Proposal	\$ 238,000	\$ 2,050,750
		Bridgeworks	\$ 249,530	\$ 1,801,220
		SLO Partners	\$ 200,000	\$ 1,601,220
		Cuesta/ACI Jet Yr 1	\$ 100,000	\$ 1,501,220
		REACH	\$ 300,000	\$ 1,201,220
FY2020-21	\$ 236,250	ED Manager**	\$ 235,061	\$ 1,202,409
		SLO Partners	\$ 200,000	\$ 1,002,409
		Cuesta/ACI Jet Yr 2	\$ 100,000	\$ 902,409
FY2021-22	\$ 236,250	ED Manager**	\$ 235,061	\$ 903,598
		SLO Partners	\$ 200,000	\$ 703,598
		Cuesta/ACI Jet Yr 3	\$ 100,000	\$ 603,598
FY 2022-23	\$ 236,250	ED Manager**	\$ 235,061	\$ 604,787
		SLO Partners	\$ 200,000	\$ 404,787
		Cuesta/ACI Jet Yr 4	\$ 100,000	\$ 304,787
FY 2023-24	\$ 236,250	ED Manager**	\$ 235,061	\$ 305,976
		SLO Partners	\$ 200,000	\$ 105,976
		Cuesta/ACI Jet Yr 5	\$ 100,000	\$ 5,976
FY 2024-25	\$ 236,250	ED Manager**	\$ 235,061	\$ 7,165
Total	\$ 3,590,000		\$ 3,582,835	\$ 7,165

<sup>\*</sup> Includes both full EDF allocation and initial allocation of ESSF

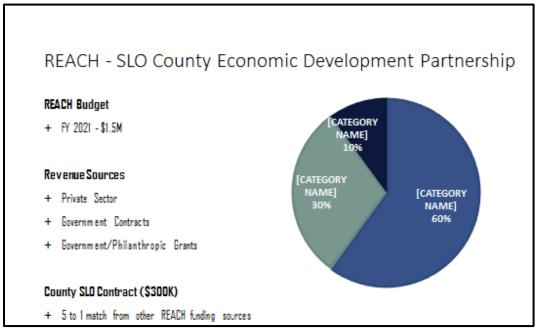
Specific proposals for this year include:

#### **Proposals**

- Co-working
  - 1. Joint Proposal (Paso Robles, Nipomo/Grover Beach, SLO) \$238,000
  - 2. Atascadero \$249,530
- Education/Training
  - 3. SLO Partners \$200,000 annual
  - 4. Cuesta College/ACI Jet \$500,000 match
- Consulting
  - 5. REACH \$300,000

<sup>\*\*</sup> At step 5 (top step).

The REACH proposal and the Cuesta College Jet proposal should go forward now. The other 3 proposals are for establishment or enhancement of shared worksites that provide office cubicles, meeting space, wireless, and other office services to individuals who need a space to work. The Board needs a little more analysis on how this fits within overall economic development strategy as contained in the REACH Goals and Objectives, which it has essentially adopted as its overall economic development strategy. REACH indicates that it will leverage the County \$300,000 by 5 times from its corporate member grants and government grants.



Source: REACH 2020.

## 2. Creation of an Economic Development Manager position within the County Administrator office.

After 170 years of existence, SLO County is discussing a real economic development program. While we appreciate the effort, the current program as proposed in this agenda item is substantially underpowered, both structurally and operationally.

- 1. The position is cast too low in terms of stature and pay, and lacks appropriate support. The title "manager" suggests a mid-level bureaucrat instead of a key lead executive with appropriate authority and status to deal with CEOs, government chief executives, State Department heads, other economic development agencies, and the County's own internal department heads.
- a. In these regards, the positon (especially given the gravamen of the issue with Diablo closing and the descent of California into a socialist swamp) should at best be cast at the Assistant or Deputy CAO level and be given authority over Planning and Development, Public Works, Ag Commissioner, the various disparate housing programs, the CIP, Legislative Program, and the various other economic development programs funded by the County, such as tourism, arts, the Hothouse, REACH, EVC, etc.
- b. At worst it should be a Director within the CA's office, cast as the Office of Economic Development.

- c. In either case it should be provided with organic administrative support i.e., a dedicated admin professional type with office skills, social skills, and sophistication required of a corporate level AA. When Jeff Bezos calls, who will talk to him first?
- d. This position should not be cast as a midlevel manager bureaucrat sitting by him or herself in a cubical next to an entry level budget analyst. There should be a real office and outer office that conveys the importance and prestige of the function, especially to the business community and agricultural community.
- e. Rather than frittering away the SB 1090 money on a number of eclectic projects, use the first tranche to set a real strategy and operational program. Remember that in the face of the COVID generated recession, failing government revues, the Diablo closure, and past polices of throwing ever more money at failures, this is a program designed to generate more business investment and agricultural investment and thereby provide more revenues for County operations and capital investment rather than service consumption.

The proposed County job description and salary for the position is inadequate to attract a real sophisticated economic development pro with national experience and perspective. It reads like its rigged to promote someone who has dabbled in economic development but who has not been on the front lines in real development organizations. It does not contain set of skills and expertise needed for real action. It doesn't even require an advanced degree in most of the fields which are essential to economic development. Instead, it posits general Business Administration or Public Administration. This ignores the more skilled specialties, such as advanced degrees and/or formal certification in Real Estate Project Development, Project Financing, Project Design, or Tax Policy.

The job description does not mention any certification or licensure requirements other than a California driver's license. What about CED (Certified Economic Developer) or EDFP (Certified Economic Development Finance Professional) certification?

The experience requirements are vague and only detail that the person appointed have knowledge of various principles of economic development. The problem is that they do not specify that the applicants have demonstrated success in executing a jurisdiction's (city or county) actual programs successfully. For example, during their career what economic development projects did they bring to a successful conclusion? What were the job, sales tax, property tax, and leveraging benefits?

What about membership in national economic development professional associations?

Relatedly, how many of the skill sets listed below do they possess, and what were the results of using these in their previous employment?

- Affordable Housing Strategy
- Economic and Fiscal Impact Analysis
- Economic Revitalization & Community Planning
- Market and Financial Feasibility Analysis especially as a generator of adjacent economic development
- Planning for Resilience and Sustainability

- Public Policy Analysis
- Public-Private Development
- Transit-Oriented Development
- Retail Planning
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Solicitation and Developer Selection
- Agricultural Vertical Integration
- Agricultural Marketing and Branding
- Tax and Regulatory Policy Impact
- Business Planning for Infrastructure
- Reuse Plans for example, former industrial facilities, military bases, obsolete Shopping Centers
- University Related Corporate/Technology Parks
- Global Market Development
- College Division I Sports Program and Facility Development
- Professional Development and/or Entertainment Facility Development

To apply candidates should be required to demonstrate proven skills which resulted in development in at least several of these skill sets.

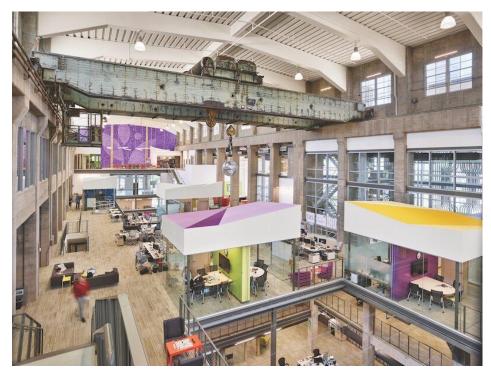




They stay in the hotels, go to restaurants, buy stuff, and come back again and again each year over the decades. We know one who has never missed a home game since he was an undergraduate in the 1960's. Rural Lexington

Kentucky development with \$500 million in annual sales (that's 50% of the PG&E multipliers which are going away).

How about a complex on the large vacant Madonna Inn property, where horses are grazing now, and which essentially has its own freeway ramp. The County and City could be in for a piece of the betting handle.



Adaptive power plant reuse. The County has two, one at Diablo Point and one in Morro Bay. The economic development program has to have the sophistication to envision and work this sort of program.

How about the Cal Poly College of Applied Transportation Technology (non-fossil fuel vehicles, self-driving vehicles, electronic freeway controls, etc.) in the current turbine building and adjacent office building. Or a fisheries institute. Either way there could be housing and some

small commercial and hospitality uses.

There needs to be beef in the economic development program; not just collaboration, planning, and endless stakeholder process.

#### While You Were Sleeping - Hewlett Packard Headquarters Moving to Houston Suburb

**Speaking of Economic Development:** The bad California trend continues. Meanwhile the dumb schnook State politicians do everything they can to accelerate the exodus.



Hewlett Packard is building a new campus in the Houston area for its new headquarters. Why didn't the County and State work together to help these guys create a campus for work, residential, and commercial in SLO County? After all, we have potential sites next to both a transcontinental railroad and a major US highway.

**What About Mindbody in SLO?** Will the 500 employees laid off for COVID ever be back now that the Company was sold and its headquarters moved to Texas?

**Vandenberg?** It doesn't look like Vandenberg AFB is on the list of finalists for Space Command Headquarters. Lack of housing, high costs, and lack of a diverse economy all contributed to the ding. But it's not to worry. The Chinese will be opening the first manned moon base before anyone here can begin to pass calculus, since our California universities will have no math or writing standards for admission.

**Diablo?** Everyone is still hell bent on seeing it close, including the loss of 1800 head of household jobs and \$1 billion in regional economic impacts. Of course it's being "replaced" by the new tax-exempt government, Central Coast Community Energy, which is buying CO<sup>2</sup> free and green energy credits from out-of-state and out-of-nation utilities like Vancouver Power whose workforces can grow. Again and in this regard, see Addendum I on page 26..

#### YOU SHOULD BE OUTRAGED!

#### Planning Commission Meeting of Thursday, December 10, 2020 (Scheduled)

**In General:** There is the usual litany of cell towers, small subdivisions, and a cannabis operation. There do not appear to be any large across the board policy considerations. However, **Item 7**, immediately below, raises some interesting questions about the commitment of the County to help the homeless.

Item 7 - County Compliance with Its Own General Plan and State law in siting Capital Improvements. The item requests that the Planning Commission (PC) approve the establishment of

certain capital improvements at the Dairy Creek Golf Course at El Toro Regional Park. This is part of the Park's Departments' ongoing effort to make the golf course and park in general more self-funding. The decline in the popularity of golf in general and the drought (and cost of irrigating) has created an ongoing structural deficit over the years. To counter this the Parks Department has recommended and the Board of Supervisors approved improvements, including upgrading driving ranges, better food service, a go cart track and other presumably revenue producing amenities.

This particular item requests approval of the Planning Commission to install 25 modular trailers to enhance camping options. This has become more popular with the public and many state and local parks systems are installing similar units, yurts, and even rustic cabins. The write-up states in part:

The County of San Luis Obispo Parks and Recreation Department proposes to convert the 2.5-acre area of 9 closed holes of Dairy Creek golf course into a camping area with 25 park model trailers (resembling cabins), one park model trailer used as a laundry room, and 3 new RV spaces within the existing campground to serve as care taker units for the cabins. The project will be completed in 2 phases. The parcel is designated Recreation pursuant to the County's General Plan.

This may well be a good idea and may ultimately help the park become more self-sustaining.

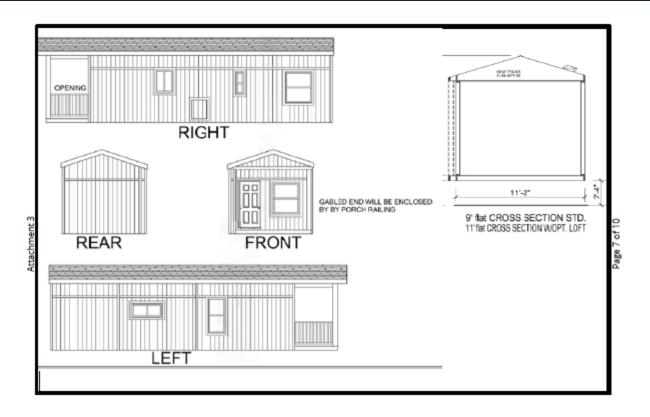
#### Could this type of unit be used for the homeless?

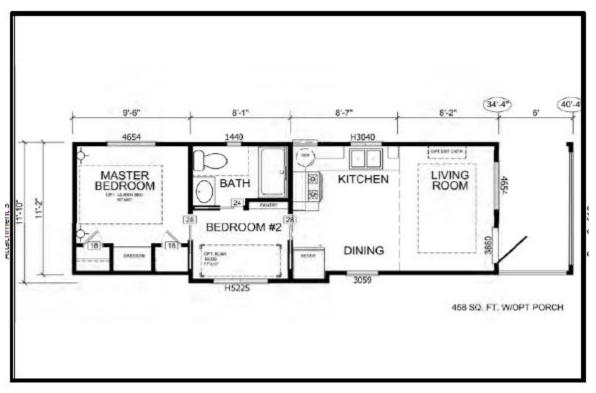
All this raises a pointed question: If the County can provide such units for its residents and tourists, why can't it provide them for the homeless? The units cost anywhere from \$15,000 to \$25,000, depending on the size, finishes, and amenities. Other costs include the site development, utilities, etc.

Why can't the County set aside some land for several homeless camps? There is plenty of County-owned land spread all over. Instead of spending hundreds of thousands of dollars per unit on stick built housing which produces very few units, why not use this modality and produce hundreds of units? Certainly in line with the County's established priority of reducing homelessness, this would seem to be a humane and practical approach – especially for small families.

Certainly, and if the Commission approves these, and the Board ultimately funds them, there can be no substantive objections from land use or "social justice perspectives." It is possible that some neighbors of a proposed area of such units would attempt to use land use controls to contest and defeat the project. The only question at that point would be whether the Board values special justice for the homeless over NIMBYISM. At this point we know the concept is OK for the middle class and tourists. What would be the problem?

Please see the home cabin schematics on the next page:





#### LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

#### No Scheduled Board of Supervisors Meeting (Not Scheduled)

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Tuesday, December 8, 2020. There are 2 scheduled meetings remaining in 2020.

Notice of Pacific Gas and Electric Company's request to change rates for its power charge indifference adjustment trigger application (A.20-09-014) - PG&E CUSTOMER RATES TO GO DOWN - CENTRAL COAST COMMUNITY ENERGY RATES TO GO UP

Two weeks ago the Update presented information about the Central Coast Community Energy's (3CE) mailer to most of the PG&E customers and many Southern California Edison customers about their intention to "replace" the 2 investor-owned utilities. Last week's Update explained how PG&E has also sent a required mailer describing a request to lower its rates. 3CE's rates may have to rise in accordance as a result. Please see the details from last week in Addendum I starting on page 26the end of this update if you missed all this last week.

#### **COLAB IN DEPTH**

IN FIGHTING THE TROUBLESOME, LOCAL DAY-TO-DAY ASSAULTS ON OUR FREEDOM AND PROPERTY, IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN MIND THE LARGER UNDERLYING IDEOLOGICAL, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMIC CAUSES

#### WHY OUR UNIVERSITIES HAVE FAILED

Something went wrong with the rapidly expanding university in the 1960s, and the new 21st century, high-tech, globalized campus has made the mess it inherited dangerous.

#### BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

<

Where did Antifa youth rioting in the streets receive their intellectual and ethical bearings? Why are the First and Second Amendments no longer fully operative? How did the general population become nearly ignorant of their Constitution, history, and the hallmarks of their culture? Why do employers no longer equate a bachelor's degree with competency in oral and written communications, basic computation, and reasoning? How in the 21st century did race and ethnicity come to define who we are rather than become incidental to our individual personas? In answering all these questions, we always seem to return to higher education—the font of much of our contemporary malaise.

#### The Perfect Storm

A perfect storm of events—many of them reforms with unintended consequences—have conspired to end disinterested education as we once knew it.

The passage of the 26th Amendment in 1971, lowering the voting age to 18—in response to widespread resistance to the draft and the Vietnam War—turned rhetorical campus activism into real progressive block voting. The campuses were no longer just free-speech zones, but woke reservoirs of millions of

young voters, a new political and mostly subsidized constituency with clout, to which universities catered.

Globalization enriched the coasts. Seven-billion-person markets were translated into multibillion-dollar endowments of a magnitude never imagined. The Ivy League, MIT, Caltech, Stanford, the UC system, and dozens of other research universities between Boston and Miami, and San Diego and Seattle, partnered with corporations and solicited foreign government money. They opened up overseas satellites, welcomed in hundreds of thousands of foreign students, and began adjusting their curricula to reflect transnational issues.

So university "development" was no longer the sleepy domain of burned-out faculty, who "went into administration" for a few years before retirement to glad-hand a few wealthy alumni. Instead, it became a massive industry of tapping into the huge global fortunes of Silicon Valley, Wall Street, vertically integrated corporations, and mostly illiberal petro-governments in the Middle East and Chinese-communist approved conglomerates.

Floods of cash created new "centers" and "institutes" on campus. The vast majority were boutique left-wing. The disconnected result was often bizarre: students living in upscale campus dorms, enjoying Club Med gyms and recreation centers, and replete with all sorts of influential internships and overseas enrichment—as they cosplayed Marxist activists.

The legions who staffed the new universities were upper-middle class, affluent and the beneficiaries of the privilege which they trashed from 8-5 before returning home to comfort. Few tenured grandees cared about growing percentages of exploited and part-time lecturers, the campus' version of the interior deplorables, who taught large courses for little pay and no security. It was about 2008 when I began to notice two growing phenomena when I walked to work on the Stanford campus: in the C/student lots, there was a growing epidemic of student Lexuses, Audis, and BMWs, even as student protests were growing shriller, more radical, and intolerant.

Massive immigration—nearly 50 million current American residents were not born in the United States, including 27 percent of the California resident population—redefined the old 88-12 percent white/black American binary into "diversity." The melting pot of assimilation, in retrograde fashion, was replaced by salad-bowl segregation.

Class and historical issues faded in the face of a new dogma of "white supremacy." That now empty banality was the banner for a new constituency of 30 percent of the country. Regardless of their own wealth or absence of past grievance, dozens of ethnic and gender groups now were "victimized" on their claims of a non-white or non-male appearance. And they demanded reparatory redress in admissions and applications, and institutionalized their lamentations in the hiring of faculty and administrators.

Wealthy white females, upper-middle class immigrants from Brazil, and the children of Jamaican or Nigerian doctors, all in theory felt the university should provide them some sort of redress for their intersectional, inclusive victimhood. In the zero-sum game of university curricula, deductive "-studies" courses sprung up to indoctrinate students in "what" to think, rather than inductively how and why. Therapy replaced tragedy in the study of the past and present.

Federal loans (see below) infused billions of dollars into the university, while ensuring ever greater moral hazards of default. Students came to believe that student loans were near-zero interest, "free"

money. The loans might not really have to be paid back. And they were a pathway to an impressive salary even if some day they were to be called in.

Many loans easily exceed 5-6 percent of compounded interest. Such guaranteed income greenlighted university price-gouging, and were not forgiven (at least not yet). To justify the illiberal usury and Ponzi schemes, progressive universities winked and nodded that in "our globalized world" a "degree"—i.e., their monopoly on branding students—from a "good" college ensured lifetime higher salaries unavailable to "them," who worked with their hands, built, assembled, farmed, or delivered. These were to be the new despised "losers" who never were properly prepped in "diversity, inclusion, and equity."

#### The Wages of Debt

The result is that students and graduates now struggle under \$1.6 trillion in aggregate—and growing—student debt. These millions for the most part are not for Ivy League undergraduates, but for students who ran up their debts at thousands of public universities and small, private undergraduate liberal arts colleges. Current calls to cancel that obligation assume at least three things:

- 1) Graduates who scrimped and saved either to pay upfront for college or to pay off their debts, are seen as naïve if not delusional. So did paying what they owed prove a chump's decision?
- 2) Those who either could never afford college or chose to take their chances in the workplace without a degree, as taxpayers, are now obliged to help pay off what their supposedly better educated counterparts would or could not?
- 3) The next cohort of students, hand-in-glove with rapacious colleges, will learn what exactly from debt relief—that they too can borrow without worry on the expectation of yet another eventual amnesty? In fairness, for hundreds of thousands of youth, there is no university assurance that such expensive branding will lead to the sort of job that would allow such staggering obligations to be repaid. Indeed the debt affects us all. It is a drag on half of an entire generation—a fact well known to those who run universities but one that is apparently of little moral concern to them. The ancient formula of four years at a university and a job have metamorphosed into six to eight years now and then in college, as a lowwage job scarcely pays the interest on a student loan.

The result is that our traditional *cursus honorum* is warped. Marriage? Later than ever. Childbearing? Near record-low fertility. Home ownership? Receding. It is no exaggeration that all the referents of traditionalism and conservatism—the grown-up responsibilities of career, marriage, family, and home ownership—are inert. They seem replaced by ever more prolonged adolescence, as one drifts in and out of near perennial psychological student-hood. And the regression is a particularly dangerous sort of infantilization.

Nothing historically has proven more dangerous to a society than millions of half-educated college students and graduates, indebted, either idle, underemployed, or poorly remunerated, full of pride in their largely suspect majors, and bitter that the supposedly less educated and not as sophisticated cohorts are deservedly making more than they. Their educations ensured that they are glib, but not necessarily industrious. An unemployed sociology graduate, up to his neck in debt, without a good job is a volatile citizen—once he grasps too late in his late 20s that he is no better educated than a plumber or electrician, and far less compensated. *Mutatis mutandis*, these profiles were the wannabe midechelon of the French and Bolshevik Revolutions.

The country is split in two. Red-state conservatives and blue-state progressives roughly balance each other. Not so on campus. Various surveys suggest 95 percent or more of the faculty is left-leaning and often eager to enforce their conformity of thought and ideology on students. The latter enter college worried that their parents' views may be seen as liabilities by those "enlightened" who grade them. The university makes no attempt to defend its lack of intellectual diversity. By default, one is to assume that it believes that either perfect progressivism needs no balance, or its own biases are properly offset by those of society at large.

#### **Corporate Education**

Today's global research universities are multibillion-dollar enterprises more akin to multinational corporations than to the idyllic undergraduate campuses of traditional lore. Yet huge endowments and their income remain tax-exempt. Few occupations outside academia ensure veritable lifetime employment through tenure—a rarified tradition designed to ensure free expression and diversity of thought, but which may have had the exact opposite effect of guaranteeing unchecked intellectual intolerance and suppression of free expression. The less a tenured scholar produces, and the poorer his teaching will be, so the more likely his idle mind, as recompense for mediocrity, turns to rooting out purporting enemies of the people.

But most importantly, universities no longer inform students of the huge and often dangerous choices they make as teenagers when they enroll. How will they pay off such huge debts? Which majors are likely to earn what sort of income? Can students at least receive an itemized bill of charges to apprise them where exactly their tuition dollars are allocated—and thus where they could be trimmed? In sum, if universities are increasingly akin to corporations, why then should they assume that the moral hazards of their risky behavior fall on others? Why cannot schools with ample endowments guarantee their own student loans to ensure such exposure reminds them to control the costs they charge students?

If student applicants must submit standardized scores on the theory their prior high schools' grades are too idiosyncratic to offer reliable constant standards of achievement, then why should not higher education adhere to its own rules?

Why, then, not have exit exams to guarantee employees and professional schools that a BA or GPA from Harvard really is superior to one from a land-grant college, through a standardized national exit exam? Why are GPAs in high schools—but not in colleges—subject to authentication and audit through standardized tests?

Today what is college for?

To teach induction and empiricism, and empower such skills through a common body of knowledge, with shared classical referents of science, mathematics, literature, history, language, and philosophy? To ensure that a student's future stays inquisitive, enhancing his contribution to his nation? To inculcate a sense of civics and social morality that emphasizes the values of free speech and expression, individualism, tolerance, public service and constitutional government? To seek and reinforce commonalities between citizens of a shared republic?

#### **Progressive Boot Camps**

The implicit directive of undergraduate education is so often deductively to enhance progressive values that center on a common but unquestioned core: radical restructuring of the economy to fight "climate change," the shift from free-market capitalism to state redistributionism, equality defined not as parity in opportunity but in result, the view that the Constitution is fossilized and an impediment to the moral

arc of history, the surety that values are mostly race, class, and gender constructs and do not reflect eternal truths of unchanging human nature, identity politics above all, abortion on demand, and real doubt that the American project, now and in the past, has been a force for good.

This is the unquestioned creed of the university, its faculty advocacies, its students' acquiescence, and the subtext of its themes in internal communiques. If anyone doubts, try the thought experiment of entering a university and throughout those four years suggesting that a heating planet may be primarily a result of age-old and cyclical natural phenomena, or that capitalism has brought far more out of poverty than statism, or praise the Second Amendment, or the melting pot over the salad bowl. Support a ban on partial or late-term abortion, and express faith that America has been good without having to be perfect. At each juncture, a student would not only be questioned but likely would find himself at a disadvantage academically and socially ostracized.

Something went wrong with the rapidly expanding university in the 1960s during the affluence and leisure of the postwar boom. And the new 21st century, high-tech, globalized campus has now made that mess it inherited dangerous.

Victor Davis Hanson is an American military historian, columnist, former classics professor, and scholar of ancient warfare. He was a professor of classics at California State University, Fresno, and is currently the Martin and Illie Anderson Senior Fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution. He has been a visiting professor at Hillsdale College since 2004. Hanson was awarded the National Humanities Medal in 2007 by President George W. Bush. Hanson is also a farmer (growing raisin grapes on a family farm in Selma, California) and a critic of social trends related to farming and agrarianism. He is the author most recently of The Second World Wars: How the First Global Conflict was Fought and Won (Basic Books). This article first appeared in the American Greatness of November 30, 2020.



Click on the link to see what Hanson is talking about.

# HOW SOCIALIST DOGMA REPLACES REAL SCIENCE WITH "SETTLED SCIENCE" BY ALLEN GINDLER

Over the past hundred years, evolutionary socialism has slowly but steadily taken root in the fabric of American



society. This is especially noticeable in the economic sphere, because evolutionary socialism uses the mandatory redistribution of wealth as one of the methods to achieve its ultimate goal. The bloated state machine interferes with the economy, distorts market signals and economic relations between market agents, and chooses winners and losers in order to achieve an illusory and propagandistic goal of equality and justice.

However, one should not forget that evolutionary socialism simultaneously uses the collectivization of consciousness and the redistribution of wealth. Moreover, an analysis of the existing

flavors of socialist movements, especially those that have been able to materialize in practice, shows that the subjugation of individualism by collective thinking is an even more effective path to building a socialist society than the redistribution of wealth. Totalitarianism is the end result of the collectivization of consciousness, characterized by the complete suppression of free will and thoughts, the subordination of everything and everyone to the volition of the state apparatus, and the rule of one ideology under the leadership of one party. Politics, culture, art, morality, ethics, and aesthetics have to be unquestioningly obeyed across the ideological line, and dissent is severely punished.

One of the consequences of the collectivization of consciousness is that science is restructured from an institution of free thought and the generation of ideas into a servant to the ideological dogmas of the ruling regime. Socialism is very concerned with ideological purity and like-mindedness; therefore, science is used as a means of collectivizing consciousness, and is itself subjected to oppression by the coercive state apparatus. The exceptional features of science under socialism are the emergence of openly pseudoscientific trends and the accusation of dissenting thoughts as unscientific and harmful to society. The most striking examples of the transformation of science into an ideologically dependent and suppressed institution were provided by the Communist regimes of the Soviet Union and National Socialist Germany.

From the very beginning, science in the Soviet Union was subjected to ideological control that continued until the collapse of the country. The first victims of the communist regime were representatives of the science of sciences—philosophy. After the Bolshevik coup, Marxism-Leninism was proclaimed the only correct and permissible philosophy in the Soviet Union; representatives of other schools of thought were outlawed. The Bolshevik regime expelled philosophers from the country on the notorious "Philosophy Steamer" (there were several voyages), including famous Russian philosophers such as Nikolai Berdyaev, Ivan Ilyin, and Semyon Frank, together with other figures of science and culture. Trotsky explained that

"We expelled these people because there was no reason to shoot them, but it was impossible to tolerate them." Suppression continued until the 1930s, and, as a result, Soviet philosophy never became a science; it was nothing more than dogma.

While the logic of repression against non-Marxist philosophy in the Soviet Union can be understood, the persecution of biology and genetics seems rather unusual at first glance. However, we should not forget that the collectivization of consciousness does not imply the coexistence of alternative views and the struggle of ideas. The winner in a scientific debate is the ideologically "correct" or regime advantageous theory. So, a very mediocre agronomist with a "correct" worker-peasant pedigree, Trofim Lysenko, was able to destroy biology and genetics in the Soviet Union. With Stalin's blessing, Lysenko designated genetics as a bourgeois pseudoscience based on idealism instead of Marxist materialism. Lysenko's followers received political and administrative power; as a result, the supporters of classical genetics were severely repressed. Geneticist Nikolai Vavilov was arrested on suspicion of anti-Soviet activities and died in prison in 1943. Other scientists also ended up in labor camps, and some were shot. In the face of persecution, many changed their field of activity or joined the campaign against science. Biologists were forced publicly and in written form to renounce their scientific views while acknowledging the correctness of Lysenko's pseudoscientific ideas. Classical genetics was banned in the Soviet Union until the 1960s and was rehabilitated entirely after Khrushchev's displacement. To this day, the term Lysenkoism denotes any administrative persecution of scientists for their "politically incorrect" scientific views.

In the Soviet Union, attempts also began to divide physics into ideologically correct and bourgeois views. Einstein's theory of general and special relativity, as well as Copenhagen's interpretation of quantum mechanics, were found to be inconsistent with the principles of dialectical materialism. This was a strong accusation that could close these branches of science. Nevertheless, when Beria, who oversaw the creation of the atomic bomb, found out that the bomb could be forgotten in the event of persecution in these areas of physics, he, possessing enormous political power, did not allow the persecution campaign to develop and thereby saved physics in the Soviet Union. Along with philosophy, genetics, and physics, many other science branches underwent revisions for compliance with the teachings of Marxism-Leninism. It was normal for unscrupulous careerist scientists with connections in the Communist Party to accuse contended ideas as idealistic and bourgeois, as competitors were subjected to various kinds of repressions and persecutions. Such tendencies were observed in cybernetics (which was declared bourgeois pseudoscience), chemistry, literary criticism, and pedagogy.

German National Socialism followed a similar trend but had a subtle difference: science was split not into materialistic and idealistic science, but rather between Aryan and non-Aryan science. The adherents of Aryan science sought to purge German science of Semitic influence long before the Nazis came to power. In particular, some German physicists did not accept Einstein's theory, not because they had a valid alternative description of physical reality, but because the bearer of the thesis was a Jew and, therefore, a "Jewish science" representative. Philip Lenard, the 1905 winner of the Nobel Prize in physics, believed that science is determined by race and blood. He and other proponents of Aryan physics argued that Einstein's theory of relativity steers physics away from the genuine German approach. Aryan physics is supposed to retrieve objective laws from nature by observation and intuition, not mental experiments and mathematical formalism, which in essence constitute "Jewish science." Nazi academics, including world-renowned scientists, accused Jewish scientists of changing the philosophy of science. Therefore, Einstein's theory was not only erroneous in itself but was based on the wrong research methodology and presupposed a game with mathematical symbols, not a description of reality. It is not difficult to see parallels in Soviet and Nazi scientists' criticisms of Einstein's theory; both condemned it on the pretext that Einstein's view did not correspond to the materialist understanding of the world.

What about science in the United States, mainly promoted by left-leaning academia? If one looks closely, it's evident that evolutionary socialism has penetrated deeply into the educational and scientific fields. Only

the lazy would not write about the American academy's predominantly leftist orientation and the fact that the education system has turned into a machine of compulsory indoctrination in leftist ideas. However, I want to draw attention to another aspect of American science that clearly points to its socialization. As with the previously described totalitarian socialist regimes, American science has begun to be divided into what is ideologically correct and what requires public censure. For example, modern leftist political doctrine holds global warming to be one of the main threats to the existence of human civilization. Climatology and ecology have turned from objective sciences into undersigners of party science. Instead of scientific debate, doomsday advocates hysterically accuse political opponents of denying scientific facts and general ignorance.

These dogmatic beliefs were refuted not only from a theoretical point of view but also after the gloomy predictions did not come true: the ocean did not flood the cities, and polar bears did not die out. But the emerging facts of manipulation in temperature measurements, data processing, and data interpretation have only led to a change in the Left's terminology. Instead of global warming, now we are dealing with climate change due to human activity. Scholars who question harmful carbon dioxide's effect on the climate get ridiculed and silenced. Luckily, the Left still falls short of prosecuting dissident scientists. Nevertheless, leftists clearly understand that peddling climate change and recruiting more believers will bring them long-lasting political success. The Green New Deal, which is presented as a means to save humanity from the consequences of climate change and is based on the false premises of socialist climatology, is as stupid as the fight against sparrows in China during the Cultural Revolution. It is a political declaration of the pseudoscience and an attempt to implement its provisions on par with Lysenko's Michurin method.

One of the corollaries of the collectivization of consciousness in relation to science is the persecution of its separate branches and of scientists who do not fit into the dominant ideological paradigm. The arbitrary division of science and industries into politically correct ones and undesirable ones is the unmistakable trademark of society's socialist transformation. As in all leftist regimes, including evolutionary socialism, the trend is apparent: the subordination of the individual to the collective is accompanied by the depletion of the intellectual potential of society and leads to decadence in science, education, culture, and morality.

Allen Gindler is a scholar from the former U.S.S.R., specializing in Political Economy, Econometrics, and Industrial Engineering. He taught Economic Cybernetics, Standard Data Systems, and Computer-Aided Work Design in the Khmelnytskyi National University, Ukraine. He is currently a private consultant to IT industry on Database Administration and Cryptography. As a hobby, he is interested in political philosophy, history, population genetics, and Biblical archaeology. He has published articles and opinion pieces in Mises Wire, American Thinker, Foundation for Economic Education, and Biblical Archaeology Review. This article first appeared in the Mises Institutes publication Mises Wire on November 30, 2020.

# ADDENDUM I CENTRAL COAST COMMUNITY POWER

Study the PG&E flyer below and then scroll down for the explanation of what's going on.

#### Why am I receiving this notice?

On September 28, 2020, PG&E filed its Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) Trigger Application with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). The application requests that the Commission authorize a \$253 million refund to bundled service customers who receive their electric generation, transmission and distribution services from PG&E, and a corresponding increase in the PCIA charge for customers that receive electric generation service from a third party and electric transmission and distribution services from PG&E.

If PG&E's application is approved, PG&E will collect \$253 million in rates from customers who receive electric generation service from a third party beginning in January 2021 and will simultaneously refund \$253 million in rates to bundled customers.

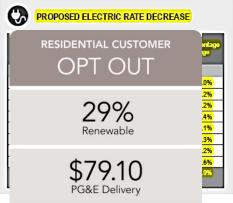
#### Why is PG&E requesting this rate increase?

The PCIA is a charge paid by most customers enrolled in a third-party electric generation service provider, such as a Community Choice Aggregator (CCA) or Direct Access (DA) provider. The PCIA is a charge to recover certain costs for energy purchases prior to a customer's switch to a third-party provider. In 2019, the PCIA undercollection balancing account (PUBA) was established to track the undercollection of the PCIA rate compared to the entire forecasted PCIA revenues. If the undercollection in PUBA exceeds a threshold, then PG&E is required to file an application to recover the undercollection in a timely manner.

PG&E is proposing to spread the increase for third-party customers over a 12-month period beginning in January 2021 to minimize the rate impact on those customers.

#### How could this affect my monthly electric rates?

For customers that receive bundled electric service from PG&E, meaning they receive electric generation, transmission and distribution services, a summary of the proposed rate decrease is provided below.





to CPUC regulatory approval.

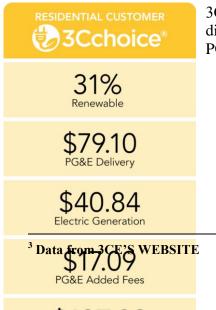
#### How does the rest of this process work?

This application will be assigned to a CPUC Administrative Law Judge who will consider proposals and evidence presented during the formal hearing process. The Administrative Law Judge will issue a proposed decision that may adopt PG&E's application, modify it, or deny it. Any CPUC Commissioner may sponsor an alternate decision with a different outcome. The proposed decision, and any alternate decisions, will be discussed and voted upon by the CPUC Commissioners at a public CPUC Voting Meeting.

Parties to the proceeding are currently reviewing PG&E's application, including the Public Advocates Office, which is an independent consumer advocate within the CPUC that represents customers to obtain the lowest possible rate for service consistent with reliable and safe service levels. For more information, please call 1.415-703-1584, email PublicAdvocatesOffice@cpuc.ca.gov, or visit PublicAdvocates.cpuc.ca.gov.

Your participation by providing your thoughts on PG&E's request can help the CPUC make an informed decision.

Note that PG&E will be lowering its rates and 3CE will in all likelihood have to raise rates (or burn down more of its reserves) to cover long-term costs which were incurred on behalf of the customers being involuntarily switched from PG&E to 3CE. In simple terms PG&E entered into long term energy contracts from various other suppliers. Now it will need less energy but cannot abrogate those contracts. Accordingly, the Public Utilities Commission requires that PG&E file for reimbursement from 3CE bundled customers to recover its proportionate costs.



Average Total Monthly Cost

3CE's current average rates are displayed below in comparison with PG&E (Opt Out Column).<sup>3</sup>



27

<del>\$141.03</del>

Average Total Monthly Cost

#### Some noteworthy facts:

- 1. 3CE's self-reported general rate is only 83 cents per month less than what <u>it</u> reports for PG&E's general rate for an average customer. This would be a total "savings" of \$9.96 for year.
- 2. 3CE's vaunted energy mix is only 3 percent more "green" than PG&E's. Of course if the State law did not irrationally define nuclear as not renewable, PG&E would be 59% renewable so long as the Diablo Power Plant remains open.
- 3. The Public Utilities Commission is likely to approve PG&E's legally mandated request to recover its long-term costs for power contracts with suppliers, which is a 4% increase over the year 2021. This means that 3CE will probably have to raise its rates to cover the costs, which will wipe out most, if not all, of the deferential reported by 3CE.
- 4. Simultaneously, PG&E will lower its rate for the average customer from \$127.40 per month to \$123.64 per month. By now you have probably noted a discrepancy. 3CE's table above shows the current PG&E average rate as being \$137.86 per month while PG&E reports it as \$127.40.

In this regard PG&E shows the per-kilowatt-per-hour charge in the table in the center of its flyer, displayed on page 3. Significantly, 3CE does not. Is it possible that 3CE has been misrepresenting the "savings" all along?

In the big picture, the State policy of socializing electrical energy is leading to the destruction of the investor owned utilities (IOUs). Many private stockholders and millions of non-stockholders own shares in the IOU's through their 401ks and pension systems. In effect you're being screwed at least 4 ways.

- 1. The supposed savings is di-minimus at best, may not exist at all, and will certainly decrease over time.
- 2. The supposed green energy benefits are a total fake (see last week's expose in Addendum I on page 20 in the back of this update).
- 3. The value of the PG&E stock will be under even more negative pressure (not just the fire lawsuits).

4. The State will eventually convert the electric utilities to State owned departments. Think of the DMV and now the State Employment Department (which just sent \$1.5 billion in unemployment checks to incarcerated prisoners).

#### **ADDENDUM II**

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Meetings of December 9, 10, 12, 2020 (Scheduled) - EARLY WARNING

The first two days of this meeting (December 9-10) is a continuation of the September 10-11, 23-24 and October 22-23, 2020 workshop (Item 3) focused on Draft Agricultural Order 4.0.

The comment card and instructions are available at the following site along with additional information about participating via the remote meeting solution or telephonically:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board\_info/remote\_meeting/

Check out what our irrigating farmers face. The document below, starting on the next page, is just a high level summary guide to the massive regulations. It illustrates the insanity that the State regulatory system has reached.

Please see the tables below:

Item 3, Attachment 1: Key to Requirements in Draft Ag Order 4.0 Documents

September 10-11, 2020

	TABLE 1 - IRRIGATION AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT FOR GROUNDWATER PROTECTION		
	Option from March/May 2019	Location in Order	
	Individual Discharge to Groundwater Discharge volume and concentration Drinking Water Supply Well Groundwater Quality Trends	Management Practices Order Part 2, Section C.1. Irrigation and Nutrient Management for Groundwater Protection MRP Section F. Annual Compliance Form (ACF) Individual Discharge to Groundwater Order Part 2, Section C.1. Monitoring and Reporting MRP Section D. Ranch-Level Groundwater Discharge Drinking Water Supply Well Order Part 2, Section C.1. Monitoring and Reporting MRP, Section D. Domestic Wells Groundwater Quality Trends Order Part 2, Section C.1. Monitoring and Reporting MRP Section D. Groundwater Quality Trends	
Incentives	-Pump & fertilize -Compost nitrogen -Increasing nitrogen removal -Third parties	Pump & fertilize, compost, and increasing nitrogen removal Order Part 2, Section C.1. Nitrogen Discharge Targets and Limits MRP Section B. Total Nitrogen Applied (TNA) and Section C Irrigation and Nutrient Management Plan (INMP)  Third parties Order Part 2, Section C.1. Irrigation and Nutrient Management for Groundwater Protection - Nitrogen Discharge Targets and Limits Order Part 2, Section F. Third Parties	
Definitions	-A <sub>FER</sub> is the amount of nitrogen applied in fertilizers, compost, and other amendments -A <sub>IRR</sub> is the amount of nitrogen applied through the irrigation water based on the groundwater nitrate concentration -A <sub>FER</sub> + A <sub>IRR</sub> = the total amount of nitrogen applied -R is the amount of nitrogen removed through harvest, pruning, or other methods, plus nitrogen sequestered in permanent/semi- permanent crops *Required elements; other elements are included because they can help improve the effectiveness of the Order		

	TABLE 1 - IRRIGATION AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT FOR GROUNDWATER PROTECTION			
	Option from March/May 2019	Location in Order		
Phasing or Prioritization	Phasing	Order Part 1, Section B. Phasing and Prioritization		
Quantifiable Milestones* (Numeric Limits)	Discharge Limit  Application Limits	Discharge Targets and Discharge Limits Order Part 2, Section C.1. Nitrogen Discharge Targets and Limits  Application Limits Order Part 2, Section C.1. Fertilizer Application Limits		
Time Schedule*	Discharge Target (lbs/ac/ranch/year)  AFER + AIRR - R  OR AFER = R  Discharge Limit (lbs/ac/ranch/year)  AFER + AIRR - R  OR AFER = R  Application Limit	Discharge Target Order Part 2, Section C.1. Quantifiable Milestones and Time Schedules Order Table C.1-2 Time Schedule for Nitrogen Discharge Targets and Limits  Discharge Limit Order Part 2, Section C.1. Quantifiable Milestones and Time Schedules Order Table C.1-2 Time Schedule for Nitrogen Discharge Targets and Limits  Application Limit Order Part 2, Section C.1. Quantifiable Milestones and Time Schedules Order Table C.1-1 Time Schedule for Fertilizer Application Limits		
Monitoring and Reporting*	Irrigation & Nutrient Management Plan Total Nitrogen Applied (TNA) Removal Irrigation Management Practices	Irrigation & Nutrient Management Plan Total Nitrogen Applied (TNA) Order Part 2, Section C.1. Monitoring and Reporting MRP Section B. Total Nitrogen Applied (TNA) and Section C Irrigation and Nutrient Management Plan (INMP)  Removal Order Part 2, Section C.1. Monitoring and Reporting MRP Section C. Irrigation and Nutrient Management Plan (INMP)  Irrigation Order Part 2, Section C.1. Monitoring and Reporting MRP Section B. Total Nitrogen Applied (TNA), MRP Section C. Irrigation and Nutrient Management Plan (INMP), MRP Section D. Irrigation Wells		

Table 3 - PESTICIDE MANAGEMENT FOR SURFACE WATER PROTECTION			
	Ag Order 4.0 - Updated Option	Location in Order	
Phasing or Prioritization	Prioritization	Order Part 1, Section B. Phasing and Prioritization	
Quantifiable Milestones* (Numeric Limits)	Receiving Water Limit and Discharge Limit Pesticide concentrations, toxicity tests, and toxic units	Receiving Water Limit and Discharge Limit Order Part 2, Section C.3. Quantifiable Milestones and Time Schedules	
Time Schedule*	Receiving Water Limit and Discharge Limit TMDL Areas Other Areas	Receiving Water Limit and Discharge Limit  Order Part 2, Section C.3. Quantifiable Milestones and Time Schedules  Order Table C.3-1 Time Schedule for Pesticide and Toxicity Limits (TMDL)  Order Table C.3-2 Time Schedule for Pesticide and Toxicity Limits (Non-TMDL)	
	Pesticide Management Plan & Report Application characteristics, discharge characteristics, management practices	Pesticide Management Plan & Report  Order Part 2, Section C.2. Pesticide Management for Surface Water Protection  MRP Section F. Annual Compliance Form	
	Surface Water Quality Trends	Surface Water Quality Trends Order Part 2, Section C.2. Monitoring and Reporting MRP Section E. Surface Water Quality Trends	
Monitoring and Reporting*	Follow-Up Receiving Water Monitoring	Follow-Up Receiving Water Monitoring Order Part 2, Section C.2. Monitoring and Reporting MRP Section E. Follow-Up Surface Receiving Water	
	Individual Discharge to Surface Water Discharge flow rate and volume, discharge pesticide concentrations, discharge toxicity	Individual Discharge to Surface Water Order Part 2, Section C.2. Monitoring and Reporting MRP Section E. Ranch-Level Surface Discharge	
	<u>Drinking Water Supply Well</u>	<u>Drinking Water Supply Well</u> Order Part 2, Section C.1. Groundwater Monitoring	
Incentives	Third parties	Third parties Order Part 2, Section C.3. Monitoring and Reporting Order Part 2, Section F. Third Parties MRP Section E. Follow-up Receiving Water; Ranch-Level Surface Discharge	
Definitions	*Required elements; other elements are include	ded because they can help improve the effectiveness of the Order	

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Item 3, Attachment 1

Item 3, Attachment 1: Key to Requirements in Draft Ag Order 4.0 Documents

September 10-11, 2020

	Table 4 - SEDIMENT AND EROSION MANAGEMENT FOR SURFACE WATER PROTECTION		
	Ag Order 4.0 - Updated Option	Location in Order	
Phasing or Prioritization	Prioritization	Order Part 1, Section B. Phasing and Prioritization	
Quantifiable Milestones* (Numeric Limits)	Receiving Water Limits and Discharge Limits Turbidity Impermeable surfaces	Receiving Water Limit and Discharge Limit Order Part 2, Section C.4. Quantifiable Milestones and Time Schedules Order Part 2, Section C.4 Impermeable Surfaces	
Time Schedule*	Receiving Water Limit and Discharge Limit TMDL Areas Other Areas	Receiving Water Limit and Discharge Limit Order Part 2, Section C.4. Quantifiable Milestones and Time Schedules Order Table C.4-1 Time Schedule for Sediment Limits (TMDL) Order Table C.4-2 Time Schedule for Turbidity Limits (Non-TMDL)	
Monitoring and Reporting*	Sediment & Erosion Management Plan Discharge characteristics, management practices, stormwater management, sizing and design of control measures Surface Water Quality Trends	Sediment & Erosion Management Plan Order Part 2, Section C.2. Sediment and Erosion Management for Surface Water Protection MRP Section F. Annual Compliance Form Surface Water Quality Trends Order Part 2, Section C.2. Monitoring and Reporting	
	Follow-Up Receiving Water Monitoring	MRP Section E. Surface Water Quality Trends  Follow-Up Receiving Water Monitoring Order Part 2, Section C.2. Monitoring and Reporting MRP Section E. Follow-Up Surface Receiving Water	
	Individual Discharge to Surface Water Discharge flow rate and volume, discharge turbidity	Individual Discharge to Surface Water Order Part 2, Section C.2. Monitoring and Reporting MRP Section E. Ranch-Level Surface Discharge	
Incentives	- Third parties	Third parties Order Part 2, Section C.4. Monitoring and Reporting Order Part 2, Section F. Third Parties MRP Section E. Follow-up Receiving Water; Ranch-Level Surface Discharge	
Definitions		n as plastic mulch and hoop houses; here, impermeable surfaces do not refer to soils ided because they can help improve the effectiveness of the Order	

	Table 5 - RIPARIAN AREA MANAGEMENT FOR WATER QUALITY PROTECTION			
	Ag Order 4.0 – Updated Option	Location in Order		
Phasing or Prioritization	Prioritization	Order Part 1, Section B. Phasing and Prioritization		
Quantifiable Milestones* (Numeric Limits)	Setback Width and Native Vegetative Cover Priority Areas  Non-Priority Areas  Prohibition	Setback Width and Vegetative Cover Order Part 2, Section C.5. Quantifiable Milestones, Time Schedules, and Monitoring and Reporting for Ranches in Riparian Priority Areas (four compliance pathways available) Order Table C.5-1, Table C.5-2 Order Part 2, Section C.5. Quantifiable Milestones, Time Schedules, and Monitoring and Reporting for Ranches in All Areas Prohibition Order Part 2, Section C.5. Quantifiable Milestones, Time Schedules, and Monitoring and		
Time Schedule*	Setback Width and Native Vegetative Cover Establishment Priority Areas  Setback Width Establishment Non-Priority Areas	Reporting for Ranches in <u>All Areas</u> <u>Setback Width and Native Vegetative Cover Establishment</u> Order Part 2, Section C.5. Quantifiable Milestones, Time Schedules, and Monitoring and Reporting for Ranches in <u>Riparian Priority Areas</u> (four compliance pathways available)  MRP Section F. Annual Compliance Form <u>Setback Width Establishment</u> Order Part 2, Section C.5. Quantifiable Milestones, Time Schedules, and Monitoring and Reporting for Ranches in <u>All Areas</u>		
Monitoring and Reporting*	Riparian Management Reporting Individual Approaches Cooperative Approach Surface Water Quality Trends Bioassessment	Riparian Management Reporting Order Part 2, Section C.5. Quantifiable Milestones, Time Schedules, and Monitoring and Reporting for Ranches in Riparian Priority Areas (four compliance pathways available) MRP success criteria tables Surface Water Quality Trends MRP Section E. Surface Water Quality Trends		
Incentives	-Cooperative Approach	Order Part 2, Section C.5 Four compliance pathways available, including Cooperative Approach		
Definitions	-Riparian is defined as vegetation, habitat, or ecosystems that are associated with bodies of water (creeks, streams, or lakes) or are dependent on the existence of perennial, intermittent, or ephemeral surface or subsurface water drainage  *Required elements; other elements are included because they can help improve the effectiveness of the Order			

#### Item 3, Attachment 1: Key to Requirements in Draft Ag Order 4.0 Documents

September 10-11, 2020

	Table 2 - IRRIGATION AND NUT	RIENT MANAGEMENT FOR SURFACE WATER PROTECTION				
	Ag Order 4.0 - Updated Option	Location in Order				
Phasing or Prioritization	Prioritization	Order Part 1, Section B. Phasing and Prioritization				
Quantifiable Milestones* (Numeric Limits)	Receiving Water Limit and Discharge Limit Nitrate, as N; Ammonia (un-ionized), Orthophosphate, as P Application Limit	Receiving Water Limit and Discharge Limit Order Part 2, Section C.2. Quantifiable Milestones and Time Schedules.  Application Limit Order Part 2, Section C.1. Fertilizer Application Limits				
Time Schedule*	Receiving Water Limit and Discharge Limit TMDL Areas Other Areas	Receiving Water Limit and Discharge Limit (TMDL and Other Areas) Order Part 2, Section C.2. Quantifiable Milestones and Time Schedules Order Table C.2-1 Time Schedule for Nutrient Limits (TMDL) Order Table C.2-2 Time Schedule for Nutrient Limits (Non-TMDL)				
Monitoring and Reporting*	Irrigation Nutrient Management Plan & Report Discharge characteristics, management practices  Surface Water Quality Trends	Irrigation Nutrient Management Plan & Report Order Part 2, Section C.2. Irrigation and Nutrient Management for Surface Water Protection MRP Section B. Total Nitrogen Applied (TNA) and Section C Irrigation and Nutrient Management Plan (INMP) MRP Section F. Annual Compliance Form Surface Water Quality Trends				
	Follow-Up Receiving Water Monitoring  Individual Discharge to Surface Water Discharge flow rate and volume, discharge nutrient concentrations	Order Part 2, Section C.2. Monitoring and Reporting MRP Section E. Surface Water Quality Trends Follow-Up Receiving Water Monitoring Order Part 2, Section C.2. Monitoring and Reporting MRP Section E. Follow-Up Surface Receiving Water Individual Discharge to Surface Water Order Part 2, Section C.2. Monitoring and Reporting MRP Section E. Ranch-Level Surface Discharge				
Incentives	Third parties	Third parties Order Part 2, Section C.2. Monitoring and Reporting Order Part 2, Section F. Third Parties MRP Section E. Follow-up Receiving Water; Ranch-Level Surface Discharge				
Definitions	*Required elements; other elements are include	ded because they can help improve the effectiveness of the Order				



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