



WEEKLY UPDATE
October 9 - 15, 2022

ATTEND A BI-COUNTY PARTY OCTOBER 28
JOINT EVENT WITH COLAB SLO AND COLAB SANTA BARBARA
SPEND A FUN EVENING WITHOUT ISSUES
DETAILS BELOW

COLAB'S

Meet Me Halfway Is Back, Baby!

Friday, October 28, 2022

At the Santa Maria Fair Park

Starring

Tammy Pescatelli

Verbal Assassin



Includes
Steak Dinner by Testa Catering!
Hosted Bar!
and a Great Comedy Show!

*Reserve early
for best seats!*

\$1,250 for a table of 10 guests.

\$125 per person.

Reserve Tickets Online at www.colabsbc.org

Or by Mail at:

COLAB PO Box 7523 Santa Maria CA 93456

THIS WEEK

NO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

**3C ENERGY AUTHORITY BANKS AND INVESTS
IN SACRAMENTO AND CANADA
CRUMBS GO TO MEMBER AGENCIES**

**PLANNING COMMISSION TO HEAR REVISED
PLANS FOR MONARCH DUNES**

**APCD HEARING BOARD
APCD EPIPHANY: DUST IS NATIVE TO DUNES
PROPOSES REVISED DUST REDUCTION PLAN
WILL COASTAL COMMISSION STRIKE BACK?**

LAST WEEK

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
DROUGHT RATIONING**

\$56.9 MILLION 3 YEAR UNION CONTRACT APPROVED

**CAYUCOS VETERANS' HALL REBUILD GROWS TO \$11 MILLION
STARTED AT \$5 MILLION**

**STATE FORCES COUNTY TO BAN PLASTIC UNTENSILS,
CONDIMENT PACKS, DRINK STIRRERS, ETC.**

PLANNING DEPT – TOO MUCH WORK, NO STAFF

\$70 MILLION DEBT ISSUANCE FOR NEW BUILDINGS

**\$116 MILLION ALL IN WITH INTEREST
HOPE THEY CAN HEAT & LIGHT THEM**

SLOCOG

**ANOTHER GOVT FETISH - MORE BROADBAND STUDIES
WILL IT REALLY HELP YOUR KID WITH CALCULUS OR JUST
VIDEO GAMES?**

**ZERO EMISSION VEHICLE CHARGING STUDY APPROVED
THERE IS PROBABLY A REASON WHY THE PRIVATE SECTOR
HASN'T RUSHED TO PUT THEM IN**

**IS THERE ANYWHERE WE CAN BUILD HOUSING?
LACK OF WATER & INFRASTRUTURE
YET ANOTHER STUDY**

**SLOCOG BOARD REAFFIRMS STACK-and-PACK HOUSING POLICY
70% OF FUTURE HOMES ATTACHED OR ON SMALL LOTS NEXT TO THE BUS**

EMERGENT ISSUES

CAL COAST NEWS EXPOSES CONFLICT OF INTEREST AT APCD

AT BEST DUMB, AT WORST A GOVERNMENT CODE 1090 VIOLATION

COLAB IN DEPTH SEE PAGE 22

THE GLOBALIST CLIMATE AGENDA IS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY

*It is more than a misguided but well-intentioned mistake. It is a
brazen lie, promulgated by some of the most dangerous people who
have ever lived.*

BY EDWARD RING

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

ALL MEETINGS ARE AT 9:00 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

No Board of Supervisors Meeting on Tuesday, October 11, 2022 (Not Scheduled)

The next meeting is set for Tuesday October 18, 2022.

Central Coast Community Energy Authority (3CE) Operations Board Meeting of Wednesday, October 12, 2022 (Scheduled) 10:30 AM

The meeting items largely consist of updates on various aspects of the Authority's Operations.

These include:

- Full FY 2021 Financial Reports.
- Distribution of green energy grants member agencies and other entities.
- Updates on the regulatory environment and specifically on the vice in which the 3CE and the other community choice energy authorities (CCE's) are trapped. The State requires that they have sufficient ability to receive the power needed to supply their member agencies citizens. At the same time they are attempting to ramp up the amount of CO₂ free and green energy mix in their portfolios. These two goals often do not match and result in cost pressure. This in turn results in 3CE having more difficulty in maintaining its rates lower than PG&E and SCE.
- Ensuring that the cities and counties in the southern territory of the Authority have sufficient representation on the Operations Board.

Item 5 - Investments and other Matters. One of the updates in this item pertains to the Authority's new investment strategy:

LIQUIDITY AND RESERVES MANAGEMENT UPDATE August marked the start of CCCE's new liquidity and reserve management strategy. Under the strategy, detailed by Staff at the June 2022 Policy Board of Directors meeting, excess cash will be allocated to higher-yielding instruments authorized by CCCE's Investment Policy. Staff allocated \$75 MM to RBC Asset Management (GAM) Global¹ under a contract approved by the Operations Board of Directors at its June meeting; RBC

¹ Royal Bank of Canada headquartered in Toronto, Canada.



GAM began managing the funds on August 11. Annualized yields in August on this allocation were approximately 1.8%, reflecting the partial month.

Staff also negotiated an agreement with River City Bank, CCCE's commercial banking partner, to invest in treasury-indexed Certificates of Deposit (CD). These CDs yield Treasury rates + 10 basis points on the date of execution and waive penalties if CCCE needs to withdraw funds early due to business needs. In August and September, Staff allocated \$25 MM to these products with a weighted average maturity of 3.9 months and a weighted average annualized yield of approximately 3%. For reference, the iShares Short Treasury Bond ETF, which consists of US Treasury bonds maturing in less than a year, had an annualized yield of 1.67% for the August 11-August 31 period. Staff will begin including performance benchmarks in September, the first full month using the new strategy

River City Bank (RCB) of Sacramento, the largest local bank in the Sacramento Region, has been 3CE's bank since its inception as Monterey Community Power. It turns out that RCB has cornered the market as the bank of choice for many of the community energy authorities throughout the state. Its deposits have grown exponentially since the advent of the CCEs.

In fact, RCB has created a whole new division within its corporate structure to cater to the CCEs.



Rosa Cucicea is the SVP/Director of Clean Energy Division. She has had a fast rise within RCB, having started out as a teller in the Roseville branch.

The Clean Energy Division will be headquartered in San Francisco, not Sacramento. Cuccicea reportedly lives in Berkeley and is a candidate for an MBA from the prestigious UC Berkeley Hass School of Business. She has a BA in economics from UC Davis. Cuccicea has received the highest academic honors and serves in a number of volunteer leadership posts.

Coincidentally, Steve Fleming, the CEO of River City Bank, also has a BA in Economics from UC Davis and an MBA from Hass.

For all the palaver about 3CE supporting local business, Monterey Bank, Santa Maria Bank, and Montecito Bank aren't going to see any of these funds.²

Whereas PG&E employs 2,000 people in SLO County who do their banking, shopping, and investing in SLO County, 3CE employs 40 people in Monterey and exports its surplus to Sacramento and Canada. Whereas PG&E generates millions in property taxes in SLO County, 3CE pays no taxes. Instead, it passes out patronage in the form of a few million in grants to the cities and not-for-profits for EV charging stations and electric garbage trucks. Rosa Cucicea will be sipping Moët & Chandon Imperial Champagne at Restaurant Bix in SF on your dime, while you suck in the odor of pot from the field down the road from your place.

² It should be noted that Royal Bank of Canada maintains a Wealth Management office in Santa Barbara.

Like the proverbial “county families,” it appears that the CCE family is beginning to emerge. Oh well, Go Bears!

You should be enraged and vote out the city council people and county supervisors who perpetuate this scam.

Planning Commission Meeting of Thursday, October 13, 2022 (Scheduled)

Item 5 - Hearing to consider a request (LRP2021-00003) by Monarch Dunes LLC to amend the Monarch Dunes Specific Plan to modify the allowable land uses of four sites within the Monarch Dunes Specific Plan area: Site #1 (Village Center) is proposed to be redesignated from Commercial Retail land use to Recreation-Resort land use, to support up to 65 hotel rooms (a reduction and reallocation from the 400-room hotel allowable on Site #3); Site #2 (Village Center) is proposed to retain the Commercial Retail land use designation, but would be modified to support up to 40 condominium residential dwelling units on the second floor (above commercial retail spaces) and to decrease the maximum allowable floor area for commercial uses from 140,000 square feet to 38,500 square feet; Site #3 (Resort Area) is proposed to be redesignated from Recreation-Resort land use to Residential Single-Family land use, to support up to 76 residential dwelling units in the form of 38 common wall developments; and Site #4 (Public Park Area) is proposed to be redesignated from Public Park land use to Residential Single-Family land use, to support 46 residential dwelling units in the form of 23 common wall developments. The overall thrust of the item is to reduce acreage that had originally been planned for commercial, recreational, or a hotel, and increase the area to residential.

Some of the residents are unhappy with various aspects of the proposed changes and feel that they are being cheated out of what they were promised when they purchased their properties. A problem is that small commercial uses sited in resort type housing developments usually do not work.

Table 1: Summary of Net Overall Changes to Specific Plan				
	Adopted Specific Plan	Proposed Amendment (Initial Application)	Proposed Amendment (Current)	Net Change (Based on Current Proposed Amendment)
Residential Primary Dwelling Units	1,320 dwelling units	1,482 dwelling units	1,482 dwelling units	162 dwelling units increase
Commercial Retail Use Floor Area	140,000 sq. ft.	51,680 sq. ft.	38,500 sq. ft.	101,500 sq. ft. decrease

Hotel Capacity	400 hotel rooms	97 hotel rooms	65 hotel rooms	335 hotel room decrease
Public Park (Active Use)	1 planned active-use public park	0 planned active-use public park	0 planned active-use public park	Removal of the planned active-use public park

SLO Air Pollution Control District Hearing Board Meeting of Friday, October 14, 2022 (Scheduled) - By Teleconference Only: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81331654308>

Item 6 - Hearing to consider the Air Pollution Control Officer’s application to modify the terms and conditions of Stipulated Order of Abatement (Case No.17-01): In the Matter of California Department of Parks and Recreation - Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division – Oceano Dunes State Recreation Area.

- a. APCD Application to Modify Stipulated Order of Abatement #17-01**
- b. Proposed Order to Modify Stipulated Order of Abatement #17-01**
- c. Accept public comment.**
- d. Board member questions and comments.**

Introductory Background: The APCD Hearing Board is not the governing policy board. It is special Board that hears appeals from enforcement orders. It has jurisdiction over any modifications in the APCD order that requires the State Parks Department to reduce the dunes dust at the Oceano Dunes State Park.

Note that the hearing has been cast as “attendance by teleconference only”. Given the wide interest in this issue, the Hearing should also be conducted in person in an adequately sized venue. New COVID cases in SLO County are very low, and there is no reason to limit the public participation.

Current Proposed Action: The APCD staff, State Parks Department, and a Scientific Advisory Committee of experts (the SAG) have determined that the actions taken so far by the APCD and State Parks have reduced the dust emissions by around 33 %.

Analysis of ambient PM10 monitoring data by the District shows that as the extent of ODSVRA dust mitigations has increased, air quality downwind has improved. Compared to 2017, in 2021 wind-event-day PM10 at CDF improved by 33.5% after controlling for meteorology. During this period, the scale of mitigation projects increased from about 55 to 323 acres, a net increase of 267 acres. This improvement in air quality is corroborated by State Parks’ air quality modeling, which predicts a 36.8% improvement at CDF over the same period

The Stipulated Order of Abatement (the SOA) requires that the emissions be reduced by 50% by 2023. State Parks was given 5 years to meet the 50% reduction. The deadline occurs in 2023. This will not be met.

The APCD Staff, State Parks, and the SAG recommend that the deadline be extended to 2025, as progress is being made. They also recommend that the emissions target (50% by 2023) be lowered.

In February 2022, the Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) presented a recommendation for a modification to the SOA Section 2.c emissions reduction target. Specifically, they recommended changing the existing target—a 50% emissions reduction from pre-mitigation levels—to reducing emissions to pre-disturbance levels based on a 1939 vegetation scenario.

AND

The District, SAG, and State Parks all agree that the goal stated in SOA Section 2.b—achieving the state and federal ambient PM10 standards—needs to be revisited. Sand dunes are a natural feature of this area, and that even without the long history of vehicular disturbance, the area would be naturally dusty and would likely still see exceedances of the PM10 air quality standards if mitigated to its natural state.

WOW! In other words, they now believe what we have been telling them for years. The dust and sand is a natural occurrence and would exist even if there were no vehicles riding on the beach or dunes.

The discussion is highly technical and can be reviewed at the link: [MetaViewer.php \(granicus.com\)](http://MetaViewer.php(granicus.com))

It appears that the goal is to operate the area flexibly based on weather, moisture, and actual emissivity.

If the Hearing Board does agree to the modifications, the next big hurdle will be the attitude of the Coastal Commission, which has already stated that it intends to shut down the riding completely. There is a major question about its authority to do so. However, it exercises control through its 1984 permit, which recognized State Parks ability to operate the area.

LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, October 4, 2022 (Completed)

Item 1 - Request to receive and file a 60-day update on current drought conditions and related management actions for the Board's review of the continuing need for the July 13, 2021, proclamation of local emergency pursuant to Government Code section 8630. The report was received on the consent calendar without comment.

The Board letter stated in part:

Request to receive and file a 60-day update on current drought conditions and related management actions for the Board’s review of the continuing need for the July 13, 2021, proclamation of local emergency pursuant to Government Code section 8630.

AND

The U.S. Drought Monitor report released September 13, 2022, indicates that the drought change level for the county has not changed for our County from the last update provided on August 9, 2022. Local reservoir levels remain significantly lower than the average percentage capacity for this time of year, including: Nacimiento 19% Page 3 of 6 (-5%); Lopez 24% (-2.3%); Salinas 52.4% (-4.6%); and Whale Rock 73% (-1%)1 .

As we enter the fall months, we will start to see measurable rainfall. The San Luis Reservoir2 is currently at 27% (-9%) capacity. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) continues to take a conservative approach for State Water (SWP) “Table A”3 allocations of 5% for 2022. This will not impact the District’s ability to deliver the requested State water for 2022 to the subcontractors.

State Water Allocations

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
5%	20%	60%	85%	35%	75%	20%	5%	5%

The drought is expected to continue through the winter and spring. New wells are restricted, and various jurisdictions are imposing increased water rationing, including fines for those who exceed the limits.

This is emblematic of the total failure of the State and localities to provide a fundamental government service.

Item 10 - Request to A) adopt a resolution approving the July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2025, Memoranda of Understanding between the County of San Luis Obispo and the San Luis Obispo County Employees’ Association, (SLOCEA) Bargaining Unit 01 – Public Services Unit, Bargaining Unit 02 – Trades, Crafts & Services Unit, Bargaining Unit 05 – Supervisory Unit, and Bargaining Unit 13 – Clerical Unit; and B) approve amendments to the San Luis Obispo County Employees Retirement Plan Appendices. The contract was approved 4/1, with Supervisor Arnold dissenting. Supervisor Gibson opined that the increases were needed to retain and recruit the best and most qualified staff.

Background: SLOCEA is the County’s largest union, representing about 1500 employees currently. As a result of State mandated collective bargaining, the Board is adopting a 3-year contract with costs, as displayed in the table below.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The increased costs associated with the provisions of the new MOUs as compared to current year expenses are shown in the table below.

Totals	Fiscal Year 2022-23 Annualized Cost	Fiscal Year 2023-24 Annualized Cost	Fiscal Year 2024-25 Annualized Cost	Annual Ongoing Cost
Wages	\$11,396,402	\$18,100,073	\$22,525,949	\$22,525,949
Health	\$329,490	\$888,480	\$1,445,378	\$1,772,777
Pension	\$1,252,195	\$1,289,760	\$1,328,265	\$1,328,265
Standby, Bilingual, CDL, Uniforms, Jail/PHF/Juvenile Hall Differential, & Summer Childcare Scholarship	\$437,799	\$437,799	\$437,799	\$437,799
Total Costs	\$13,415,886	\$20,716,112	\$25,737,391	\$26,064,790

The Staff anticipates that vacancies and some unbudgeted revenue growth will cover the costs for this fiscal year. The \$13.4 million in the first year is unbudgeted, and staff anticipates that it will be covered by funds accumulated due to employee vacancies and unanticipated revenues – a pretty big roll of the dice.

Departmental savings and/or unanticipated revenue will be the primary source of funding for unbudgeted expenditures associated with the compensation increases. To the extent departmental savings are not available to cover the amount, staff will recommend that your Board authorize a transfer of the deficit amount out of the General Fund Contingencies to the departments’ operating budgets, as needed, as part of the third quarter report. The third quarter is when many such year-end adjustments are made.

Item 14 - Request to: 1) accept a total of \$4,795,926 in grant and donations from several sources for construction of the Cayucos Veteran’s Memorial Hall Rehabilitation Project; and 2) authorize a budget adjustment in the amount of \$5,281,095 to increase appropriations: \$5,045,926 in Capital Outlay, \$35,000 in Issuance Costs, and \$200,169, in Internal Loan Principal Repayment to FC 268 – Tax Reduction Reserve Fund in Fund Center (FC) 230 - Capital Projects Fund, WBS# 320089 – Cayucos Veteran's Hall, by decreasing Tax Reduction Reserve Fund Loans by \$3,349,831; and increasing \$3,535,000 of bond proceeds from the Public Financing Authority, \$3,550,250 of State Grant Aid, \$435,676 in community donations, \$60,000 in nongovernmental grants, \$1,000,000 of State Veterans Affairs funding, and \$50,000 from District 2 Community Project Funds - FC 106, by 4/5 vote; 3) submit a bid opening report for construction of the Cayucos Veteran’s Memorial Hall Rehabilitation Project; to award the subject contract (Clerk’s File) to JG Contracting, Inc., in the amount of \$8,560,000; and 4) authorize the Director of Public Works, or designee, to approve change orders for a contingency amount up to \$856,000 for a potential final total construction amount of \$9,416,000. District 2. The revised higher cost project was approved unanimously. Supervisor Gibson publicly rejoiced in the approval.

Background: After various fits and starts, the County has cobbled together the funding to rebuild the oceanfront Cayucos Veteran’s Memorial Hall, which serves as a major focal point for

the community as well as serving as a venue for wedding receptions and other events on a fee basis.

Over several years, what was estimated to be a \$5 million dollar project has grown to \$11 million.

Table 1 - Proposed Project Funding			
Funding Source	Current Funding	Augmentation	Total Proposed Funding
CA Natural Resources Agency (CCNR) Grant Award Augmentation	\$1,937,000	\$2,500,000	\$4,437,000
State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) Grant Award Augmentation**	0	345,000	345,000
CA State Parks Locally-Operated State Parks (LOSPP) Grant Award	0	705,250	705,250
Sub-Total, State Grant Awards	\$1,937,000	\$3,550,250	\$5,487,250
General Fund	\$471,600	\$0	\$471,600
Decrease/Return Tax Reduction Reserve Fund (TRRF)	3,550,000	(3,550,000)	\$0
Bond Proceeds	0	3,535,000	3,535,000
CA State Budget Appropriations - Veterans Affairs	0	1,000,000	1,000,000
Community Business Improvement District (CBID)*	0	60,000	60,000
Restore Cayucos Vets Hall Community Donations Fund	0	435,676	435,676
District 2 Community Project Funds	0	50,000	50,000
Total Funding:	\$5,958,600	\$5,080,926	\$11,039,526

* Application pending - Award not issued

** SCC Grant - Initial \$300,000 was previously awarded & accepted by BOS on 03/01/2022, but not yet budgeted.

At time of bid, the project had a budgeted of \$4.5 million for the construction contract so awarding a contract in the amount of \$8,560,000 was not feasible. Since that time, staff has worked to secure additional project funding from various sources to augment the project budget sufficiently to be able to move forward with award of the construction contract.

In view of sea level rise, should the County expend \$11 million on this project? After all, the Coastal Commission is beating everyone's brains out to prohibit both new and rehab development on the coast.

If private citizens attempt to repair their steps to the beach, they are put through hell.

Item 15 - Submittal of a resolution authorizing the County Public Health Department, Environmental Health Services Division as the enforcement agency for Assembly Bill 1276 Single-Use Foodware Accessories and Condiments regulations within the County unincorporated area. The matter was approved unanimously on the consent calendar. You

would think that the Board members would at least register an objection to the State imposing this requirement.

Background: In another blatantly woke and ridiculous imposition, the County must gear up to enforce a new State law prohibiting food restaurants, coffee shops, and other businesses from using “single use foodware,” which means:

Sec. 2. 42270 – new definitions (e) “Single-use foodware accessory” means all of the following single-use items provided alongside ready-to-eat food:

- 1. Utensils, which is defined as forks, knives, spoons, and sporks*
- 2. Chopsticks*
- 3. Condiment cups and packets*
- 4. Straws*
- 5. Stirrers*
- 6. Splash sticks*
- 7. Cocktail sticks*

(f) “Standard Condiment” means relishes, spices, sauces, confections, or seasoning that require no additional preparation and that are usually used on a food item after preparation, including ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, soy sauce, hot sauce, salsa, salt pepper, sugar, and sugar substitutes.

Sec.3. 42271 In order to reduce the amount of waste created from single-use items the retail food industry is now required to:

- 1. Only provide single-use accessories to consumers upon request*
- 2. Only provide single-use accessories required to eat the ready-to-eat food*
- 3. No bundling of single-use accessories or condiments*
- 4. Only offer those single-use items needed to eat or prevent spillage of the ready-to-eat food at a drive-through as well as in a public use airport*
- 5. A third-party delivery platform shall provide consumers with the option to request single use accessories*
- 6. A food facility that uses a third-party platform shall customize their menu with a list of available single-use accessories or condiment. Only those items chosen by the consumer will be delivered. If no single-use accessories or condiments are requested none will be provided*
- 7. Unwrapped single-use foodware accessories that are self-serve, standard condiments that are self-serve, and/or bulk dispensed condiments may still be used*

Sec. 4. 42272 1. A city, county, or city and county have until June 1, 2022 to authorize an enforcement agency for the law 2. First and second violations results in a notice of violation, any additional violation carry a \$25 fine not to exceed \$300 annually

This is yet another fake virtue signaling imposition based on the theory that elimination of plastic forks, single use spice packets, chopsticks, etc., will lower CO₂ emissions. AB 1276 provides no information on how many metric tons of CO₂ will be reduced.

Item 23 - Request to 1) receive and file a report on Department of Planning and Building Activities and provide staff direction as necessary on the Department Tiered Priority Projects; and 2) receive and file the Annual General Plan Progress Report. The Board made a few minor adjustments and asked that the project to create a rural camping ordinance be brought back for priority consideration.

This item requested the Board to examine the Planning Department’s workload and then to adopt a policy regarding which long-range management projects should receive priority now and in the upcoming fiscal year.

The item notes that the Department has significant staff vacancies, which restricts its ability both to process ongoing permits and to conduct studies and policy document revisions required by the State and/or Board of Supervisors.

Department Staffing The Department has faced challenges with staffing certain service areas this past fiscal year which has led to longer response and processing times on some building and land use permits. The impacts were due to the separations of tenured staff and the hiring of new staff that needed to be trained. The turnover rate for fiscal year 2020-2021 was 21.4% with 22 employee separations. The turnover rate for fiscal year 2021-2022 decreased to 9.95% with 12 employee separations. The decrease in turnover can be attributed to engagement work with County Human Resources Department Leadership and the Centre for Organizational Effectiveness.

Table 1: Tier I Priority Projects Completed in 2022

Case #	Tier I Project	Completion Date
LRP2021-00007	Williamson Act Rules of Procedure Streamlining	Completed in FY 21-22
LRP2021-00009	Workforce Housing Subdivision Ordinance Extension	Completed in FY 21-22
LRP2022-00003	Inclusionary Housing Ordinance Repeal	Completed in FY 21-22
N/A	Remove ADU Deed Restrictions	Completed in FY 21-22
LRP2020-00005	Los Osos Vacation Rental Ordinance - Local Coastal Plan Amendment	Completed in FY 22-23
LRP2022-00007	Paso Basin Agricultural Offset Ordinance Extension	Completed in FY 22-23
LRP2021-00001	Paso Basin Planting Ordinance	FY 22-23, Q2
N/A	2022 Building Code Changes	FY 22-23, Q2
LRP2022-00005	Pre-Approved ADU Plans	FY 22-23, Q3

Table 2: Long Range Planning Work Program Fiscal Year 2023-24

Case #	Tier I Project	Target Completion Date
LRP2013-00001	Los Osos Habitat Conservation Plan	FY 23-24, Q1
LRP2017-00001	ADU Ordinance - LCP Amendment	FY 23-24, Q1
LRP2017-00002	Agricultural Worker Housing Ordinance - LCP Amendment	FY 23-24, Q1
LRP2018-00011	Density Bonus Ordinance - LCP Amendment	FY 23-24, Q1
LRP2020-00007	Dana Reserve Specific Plan	FY 23-24, Q1
LRP2011-00016	Los Osos Community Plan - LCP Amendment	FY 23-24, Q4
N/A	2023 Annual Ordinance Clean-up Package	FY 23-24, Q4
LRP2015-00018	Avila Community Plan Update	FY 25-26, Q1

Table 3: Tier II Priority Project List with Staff Recommendation to Remove or Keep

Tier II Priority Project	Staff Recommendation
Cannabis Advisory Council	Remove. Received no votes from supervisors during the November 16, 2021 priorities report.
Cannabis Ordinance Program EIR	Remove. Received no votes from supervisors during the November 16, 2021 priorities report.
No Camping on Public Lands	Remove. As presented by staff during the November 16, 2021 priorities report, County Counsel determined this project falls within the purview of the Sheriff and Real Property Services.
Vacation Rental Ordinance – “use it or lose it” provision	Remove. This initiative will be accomplished through amendments to Title 6, Business Licensees and Regulations, led by the Auditor Controller Treasurer Tax Collector’s (ACTTC) in consultation with the Department and County Counsel.
California Valley Land Acquisition Program	Remove. Put on hold until additional funds are sourced to implement the program.
Inland Vacation Rental Ordinance	Remove. Received no votes from supervisors during the November 16, 2021 priorities report.
Temporary Events Ordinance	Remove. Received no votes from supervisors during the November 16, 2021 priorities report.
Urban Small Wineries	Remove. Included in 2023 Ordinance Clean-up Package.
Distilleries Ordinance	Remove. Included in 2023 Ordinance Clean-up Package.
Cannabis Ordinance – 5 Years at Operation	Remove. Included in 2023 Ordinance Clean-up Package.
Airport Review (AR) Combining Designation	Remove. Included in 2023 Ordinance Clean-up Package.
Mineral Resource Area (MRA) Combining Designation	Remove. Included in 2023 Ordinance Clean-up Package.
Dark Skies Ordinance	Keep on Tier II list until resources are allocated.
Rural Camping Ordinance	Keep on Tier II list until resources are allocated.
Guest Ranch to Dude Ranch Change	Keep on Tier II list until resources are allocated.
Safety Element Update	Keep on Tier II list until resources are allocated.

Project	Description
Accessory Storage Ordinance – Recreational Vehicle and Equipment	On July 19, 2022, the Board directed the Department to add a potential new priority project to further limit the number of recreational vehicles (RVs) that can be stored on parcels in the Agriculture, Rural Lands, and Residential Rural land use categories. Currently, Land Use Ordinance Section 22.30.040.E.1.b allows up to 10 RVs to be stored on parcels in these land use categories when such vehicles are the personal property of residents of the site. The Board directed the Department to consider a new priority project to amend this section to reduce the maximum number of RVs that can be stored on parcels in the identified land use categories.

There is considerable interest by the public, which hopes that work on a rural camping ordinance could be expedited. Perhaps the Board could request some bids and contract this project out to a private sector planning firm.

Big Picture: The State and the localities have made the land use process so complex, time consuming, and expensive that most jurisdictions have similar struggles. Remember that the real purpose is to cripple business and private property in order to bring on an economic collapse and establish a socialist state controlled by the woke elite. It appears we are well on our way.

Item 24 - It is recommended that the Board adopt the attached resolution, by 4/5 vote, to:

A. authorize the issuance of the Authority's the issuance of 2022A (Tax-Exempt) and 2022B (Taxable) Lease Revenue Bonds to finance acquisition and construction of a Co-Located Dispatch Facility and a New Probation Department Building and rehabilitation of Cayucos Veterans Hall, and related improvements;

B. authorize the refunding of the Authority's Lease Revenue Refunding Bonds, 2012 Series A (New Government Center and Dairy Creek Golf), through authorization to issue of 2022A (Tax-Exempt) Lease Revenue Refunding Bonds for debt service savings;

C. Approve the form, terms, and provisions of documents associated with the financing and refunding;

D. confirm the selection and appointment of bond counsel, disclosure counsel, municipal advisor and underwriter; and

E. Authorize the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors, County Administrative Officer, Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax-Collector-Public Administrator and other County officers and representatives to finalize and execute all documents. The Board approved the dept financing.

Per earlier preliminary authorization, the staff submitted a debt funding package for capital building improvements including:

New Co-Located Public Safety Communications and Dispatch Center (Sheriff, Fire, and Ambulance) - \$30 million

New Probation Department Building - \$36 million

Cayucos Veterans Hall Reconstruction - \$3.5 million (As part of a total \$11 million project - see item 14 above for details)

The annual debt service is estimated to be \$4.64 million per year, which will be an obligation of the general fund. It appears that these are 25-year bonds. Thus, the full cost would be \$116 million for the \$70 million borrowing.

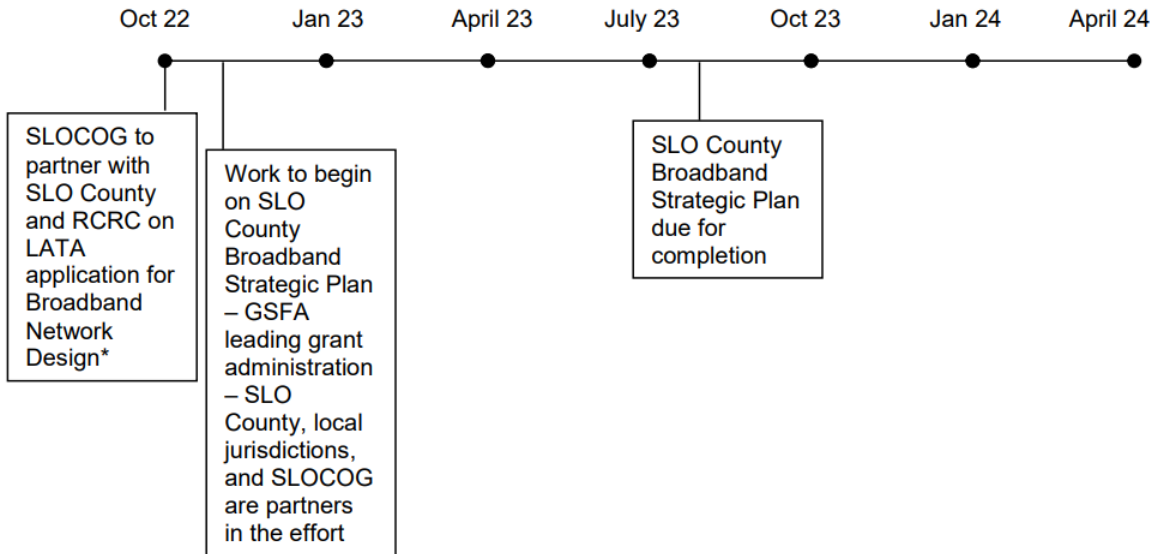
The issuance will also contain a \$7.5 million for refunding of the remaining debt on the Dairy Creek Golf Course and the County Administration Building. The staff estimates that this will save \$400,000 per year over the remaining term of the original bonds (for the Administration Building and \$292,000 for the golf course).

Given increased cost for labor contracts, pension costs, and inflation, the County budget will be tight.

**SLO County Council of Governments (SLOCOG) Meeting of Wednesday, October 7, 2022
(Completed)**

Item D-3: More Broadband Planning. Governments at all levels believe that improving broadband service for the poor and those with bad reception in rural areas will improve their education and awareness. Accordingly, SLOCOG and the County are jointly working on a \$2.7 million Broadband Strategic Plan. The write-up does not state what problem the plan is supposed to cure or how it might contribute to some future effort.

Projected Broadband Timeline:



Many local entrepreneurs have already solved this problem by placing repeaters on area mountain tops, which receive feed from the major providers. This is then beamed to a local area and distributed by a repeater to subcarriers in the neighborhood. The service is fast and personal. The local company installs and maintains the equipment. It is not like having to struggle with Sprint or Verizon on the phone. Why not encourage the private sector to do this?

Will faster video gaming help increase math scores? The spread of TV since 1950 does not seem to have helped.

Item F-2: Central Coast Zero Emission Vehicle (CCEVS) Strategy. The \$200,000 effort is summarized as:

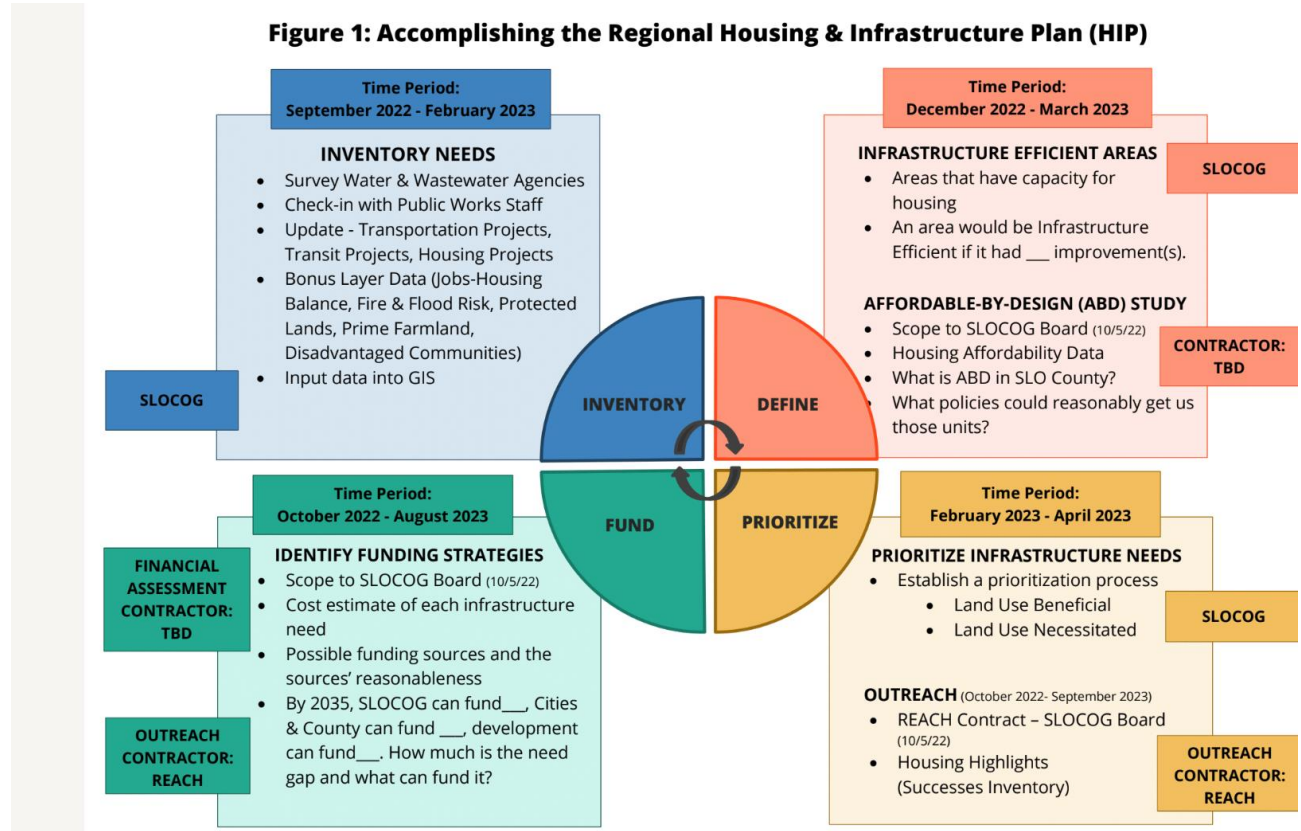
Project Description The Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG), San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG), and Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) have partnered to develop a Central Coast Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy (CCZEVS) that will identify electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure needs in the Central Coast Counties (Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Benito) as well as Ventura County. The goal of this effort is to identify future charging infrastructure siting and technology needs to accommodate future travel demand specifically for interregional motorists, regional transit services and freight. A key emphasis will be on addressing the region’s electromobility needs for accommodating intercity travel within the less developed unincorporated areas of the Central Coast and underserved populations, such as disadvantaged communities and residents of multi-family dwelling units.

Again, once they start deploying the equipment, who is going to maintain them, clean up the area, prevent crime, etc.? The State can't even maintain the rest areas, which are filthy and often closed. What about vandalism of the EV chargers? Perhaps the State would allow Chevron to sell both gas and EV energy?

Item F-3: Regional Housing & Infrastructure Plan (HIP) Update. How many times over the decades have we done this one?

SUMMARY The purpose of the Regional Housing & Infrastructure Plan (HIP) is to inventory infrastructure barriers to housing, identify funding to implement infrastructure needs, and develop foundational information for the future 2027 Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA). This collaborative approach between the eight jurisdictions continues the efforts in creating a focused strategy that addresses the regional housing and infrastructure shortage. The SB 2 grant, which funds the HIP, expires in September 2023.

Another big honking process:



Then what?

Item F-4: Regional Transportation Plan Development. The essential component is the selection of the type of housing that will be preferred. The Board reapproved its prior adopted preference that homes be smaller addends located next to transportation facilities.

Scenario C: Transportation Efficiency Analysis Scenario This scenario is inclusive of the Transportation Efficiency Analysis (TEA). The TEA identifies transportation efficient and potentially efficient areas by locating areas with sufficient access to interchanges, bikeways, and transit. The criteria used to consider an area transportation efficient includes locations within a 1/2 mile from transit stop, 1/2 mile from a bikeway, and 1 mile from an interchange. If an area had all three, it was considered transportation efficient and displayed in green on Figure 2. If an area has 1 or 2 transportation access factors, the area was considered potentially efficient and are displayed in yellow (for 2 factors) and red (for 1 factor-nots how below). If an area did not have any transportation access factors, it is considered transportation inefficient. This scenario initially guided new housing in transportation efficient (green) or potentially efficient (yellow) areas with the distribution of 30% larger-lot homes and 70% smaller-lot homes, but due to the nature of the TEA locations, the amount of smaller-lot housing increased.

Figure 2: Transportation Efficiency Heat Map



The map key demonstrates how little land area will be available under this policy when compared with the huge 3200 sq. mile County.

EMERGENT ISSUES

Item 1 - Did the APCD Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) Commit a Legal Violation in Recommending Free Electric Vehicle Charging stations for the Justin Winery? The Cal Coast News broke the story last week. The controversial winery, owned by the billionaire Stuart Resnick's Wonderful Company, reportedly employs APCO Kevin Willey's spouse, Carla, as its CFO. The APCD provided the Winery with a \$28,222 grant for 5 dual port electric vehicle chargers. **Item C-6** on the APCD Board agenda stated in part:

Request to approve funding for a JUSTIN Vineyards & Winery LLC electric vehicle infrastructure grant project. Recommendation: Consider and approve the proposed project and authorize the Chair to sign the grant agreement.

Contact: Ashley Goldlist. The write up states in part:

Your Board is requested to authorize the use of \$28,222 in Year 3 Community Air Protection Program (CAP Program) Incentive funds for a JUSTIN Vineyards & Winery LLC (JUSTIN) grant project, number AB617-1920-15. This project will install five (5) dual port Level 2 electric vehicle (EV) chargers for employees and visitors at the company's production facility and tasting room located at 11680 Chimney Rock Road in Paso Robles.

Why did Justin, out of the 200 or so wineries in the Paso Basin, know to apply? Was there any general solicitation?

Did Kevin advise his wife to have Justin apply?

The Board letter goes on to state in part:

*Grant staff were unaware until the grant agreement was ready to be approved and signed by the APCO that the APCO's spouse works for JUSTIN, and while there is **no direct financial gain to Mr. Willey for this project** or any other APCD grant project, for transparency's sake, Planning Division Manager, Andy Mutziger is handling this Board item instead of Mr. Willey. To eliminate any potential perception of a conflict of interest, staff recommends your Board approve the JUSTIN project and authorize the Board Chair to sign the project's grant agreement (Attachment 1) on behalf of the APCD. Other than this difference, this is a routine APCD grant project from an eligible applicant that staff has deemed complete and eligible to contract.*

This is pure malarkey. Why did Willey allow the matter to proceed to being placed on the agenda in the first place? The assertion that staff did not know that Willey's spouse is an executive at the winery is irrelevant. Willey knows.

Worse yet, the write-up states that there is "no direct financial gain to Mr. Willey for this project...", but his wife is on the payroll as the CFO. The \$28,222 grant adds to the winery's balance sheet. No one one at APCD has any idea how her compensation is determined. The chargers are likely to be an attractant to customers who otherwise might not have visited the winery and bought cases of wine. If the winery does better, Mrs. Willey could receive bonuses or other increased compensation.

As a spouse in the same household, Willey would enjoy a higher income. This in turn begs the question of a Government Code 1090 violation in as much as Willey allowed the contract to be placed on the APCD agenda. Even with the disclosure, it pushes the issue.

1090.

(a) Members of the Legislature, state, county, district, judicial district, and city officers or employees shall not be financially interested in any contract made by them in their official capacity, or by anybody or board of which they are members. Nor shall state, county, district, judicial district, and city officers or employees be purchasers at any sale or vendors at any purchase made by them in their official capacity.

The contract is a nullity.

This is all too bad, as Willey has been much more reasonable than the prior APCO and has attempted to solve the dunes dust dilemma. See the article below for all the gory details.

SLO County agency awards Justin winery grant, conflict of interest alleged

October 5, 2022



By KAREN VELIE

San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District is paying to put five electric vehicle charging stations at Justin Vineyards & Winery where Carla Willey, wife of agency head Gary Willey, has worked as chief financial officer or its acting controller since 2018.

APCD staff worked with employees of Justin Vineyards & Winery to fill out the grant application before recommending that the board approve the grant. But, Gary Willey said that the staff was not aware that his wife Carla worked for the winery and vineyards.

The grant will provide \$28,222 for five charging stations to be used by visitors and staff at the tasting room and production facility on Chimney Rock Road.

SLO County was allocated enough money to put in 235 electric vehicle chargers as part of the California Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project, CALeVIP. The funding is intended to support the rising number of electric vehicles in the state.

SLO County APCD Public Information Officer Meghan Field told local media, including KSBY, that the district was preparing for the arrival of electric vehicles.

“We have been promoting electric vehicle use and infrastructure for decades, trying to just gear up and get ready for the influx of vehicles that will be coming to California,” Field told KSBY in July. “People are worried they can’t get to LA from San Francisco, so we want to be able to provide charging stations across all those major corridors in California, to make sure people aren’t scared to get out and about.



APCD Officer Gary Willey

The APCD staff recommended that Justin Vineyards & Winery be approved on Sept. 23, a little more than two months after Field spoke of the need for charging stations on major transportation corridors in the state. The board approved the request.

It is not clear how much interstate traffic passes by Justin Vineyards & Winery, which is located in a rural area on a dead-end road.

Gary Willey was given the authority in 2020, “to execute grant agreements” for electric vehicle infrastructure. In his request for funding, Gary Willey explained that his staff was unaware when approving the grant application that it involved his wife, according to the APCD.

“No officer, employee, or agent of APCD who exercises any function or responsibility for planning and carrying out the services provided under this agreement may have any direct or indirect personal financial interest in the agreement,” according to the APCD’s grant agreement with Justin Vineyards & Winery. The APCD “will comply with all federal and state conflict of interest laws, statutes, and regulations, which are applicable to all parties and beneficiaries under this agreement and any officer, agent, or employee of APCD.”

Also, the agreement does not allow the recipient of the grant to unlawfully discriminate or harass any employee at the winery during the term of the agreement.

In late August, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission filed a lawsuit against Justin Vineyards & Winery and The Wonderful Company in Los Angeles over allegations of sexual harassment, unwanted sexual touching and retaliation, according to the lawsuit filed.

The lawsuit accuses management of “rubbing of genitals on female subordinate employees, unwanted hugging and kissing, forcible kissing on the mouth, grabbing on the hands, snapping of bra straps, nibbling on the ear, biting on the shoulder, exposure of male employees’ private body parts, texting inappropriate photos, and stroking employees’ hair.”

In 2010, Stewart and Lynda Resnick purchased Justin Winery through their wholly-owned The Wonderful Company, then began purchasing multiple acreages in the Paso Robles area. Since then, Resnick company holdings have grown to include thousands of acres in SLO County.

A decade ago, while their neighbors' wells were going dry, the Resnick's' employees were lobbying SLO County Supervisors to promote a proposed Paso Robles basin water district with promises of donating to their favorite causes or businesses, three supervisors told CalCoastNews. In the end, supervisors Bruce Gibson and Adam Hill championed the Resnicks' plans.

However, in 2016, 77 percent of voters rejected the proposed district.

Later in 2016, Justin Vineyards & Winery violated a SLO County grading code when it removed thousands of oak trees from a property at 750 Sleepy Farm Road in rural Paso Robles. Workers removed the trees in preparation for planting a new vineyard that would be added to the mega-corporation's collection.

Karen Velie is an investigative reporter and publisher of the CAL COAST NEWS. She is the only news source on the central coast which actually penetrates issues and corruption .

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



THE GLOBALIST CLIMATE AGENDA IS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY

It is more than a misguided but well-intentioned mistake. It is a brazen lie, promulgated by some of the most dangerous people who have ever lived

BY EDWARD RING

"This anti-sustainability backlash, this anti-woke backlash, is incredibly dangerous for the world."

— Alan Jope, CEO, Unilever, speaking at the *Clinton Global Initiative*

It would not be an exaggeration to say this is probably one of the most inverted takes on what is “dangerous” in the history of civilization. Not because anyone is against the concept of sustainability, but because sustainability as defined by Alan Jope is incredibly unsustainable. If he gets his way, he will destroy the world.

Jope, Clinton, the infamous Karl Schwab who heads the World Economic Forum, the ESG movement informally headed by Larry Fink of BlackRock (with over \$10 trillion in investments), and all the rest who champion today’s prevailing globalist climate agenda are coercing nearly 8 billion people into an era of poverty and servitude.

The primary target of the “sustainability” movement is fossil fuel, the burning of which allegedly is causing catastrophic climate change. Heedless of the fact that fossil fuel provides more than 80 percent of all energy consumed worldwide, banks, hedge funds and institutional investors throughout the Western world are using ESG criteria (environment, social, governance), to deny the financing necessary to maintain or build new fossil fuel infrastructure.

It’s working. Pressure from governments, international NGOs, and global finance is now delivering unprecedented shifts in policies around the world, creating needless scarcity and turmoil. In just the last month, new emissions rules have triggered protests by farmers in the Netherlands, Canada, Spain, Italy, Poland, and elsewhere. Sri Lanka, in the process of earning a near perfect ESG score, lost its ability to feed its people. In the ensuing fury, the president was forced to flee the country. Undaunted, globalist climate activists are discouraging African nations from developing natural gas.

It should be easy to see the hidden agenda behind this repression. If you control energy and food, you control the world. The biggest multinational corporations on Earth are empowered by ESG mandates, because marginal or emerging competitors lack the financial resiliency to comply. From small independent private farmers and ranchers to small independent nations, once their ability to produce is broken, the big players pick up the pieces for pennies on the dollar. But that’s not what you read in the *Washington Post*.

In a blistering editorial published on September 18, under “The Post’s View,” the editors wrote “The World’s Ice is Melting: Humanity Must Prepare for the Consequences.” For at least 30 years, and with increasing frequency and intensity, it is not the weather that has become extreme, but rather these proclamations. We have now reached the point where every major institution in the Western world is bent on spreading this panic. Yet very little of it is justified by the facts.

To verify the credibility of the globalist climate agenda, should it have any, several hurdles have to be overcome. If global warming and extreme weather is definitely

happening, then how serious is the problem, what is the cause of the problem, and what are rational solutions to the problem? To all four of these questions, serious debate is mostly absent from mainstream discourse. Skeptics are pariahs.

But if a skeptical response to any one of these four questions is accepted, the entire edifice of climate alarm collapses. Consider each of them:

Melting ice is sort of a trump card in the hands of the climate alarm community. If every molecule of ice on top of Greenland were to melt into the ocean, sea level would rise by over 20 feet. If the entire 5 million square mile Antarctic continent were to lose its ice, sea level would rise by 200 feet. That much is indisputable. But is ice in retreat?

The *Wall Street Journal* recently published an analysis by theoretical physicist Steven Koonin, where he noted that Antarctica has been ice-covered for over 30 million years, and is covered with over 26 million gigatons (a gigaton is a cubic kilometer) of ice. He points out that even at the current estimated rate of net loss, 250 gigatons per year, it would take a century for sea level to rise 3 inches. What Koonin ought also to point out is that $250/26,000,000$ is a fraction so small, it is unlikely to exceed the margin for error using existing measurement technology.

In Greenland, as in Antarctica, summer ice melt is offset by snow that causes accumulation of ice in the interior. A recent paper authored by NOAA's Michael Gallagher evaluates how snowfall affects ice mass in Greenland. Throughout the document, the author acknowledges large uncertainties that make it difficult to predict that climate change automatically signifies net losses in ice mass. It may be that a warmer climate would cause increased snowfall to more than offset increased melting in Greenland.

As for floating ice in the Arctic, which does not raise sea level when it melts, but does offer a cooling, reflective surface at the top of the world, inexplicably it is at a decade high. Vijay Jayaraj, writing for *Principia Scientific*, citing findings from both the *Japanese Institute of Polar Research* and the *Danish Meteorological Institute*, reported that "the extent of ice in the summer of 2022 has been greater than the 10-year average. On most days in July and August, sea-ice levels were above the 10-year average and significantly more than the previous few years."

Digging further into arctic ice loss, over the past 40 years, the summertime retreat of ice has become more significant, while the wintertime maximum has dropped slightly. So let's assume the planet is warming. How serious is the problem?

To answer this, you can go to the IPCC's own reports, which are routinely misread by governments and media to hype the worst case scenarios. Michael Shellenberger, an environmental writer and activist, and author of the book *Apocalypse Never*, in a recent essay he published on *Substack*, referenced IPCC reports among others to refute the idea of a climate crisis. Here are excerpts:

Since the end of the Cold War, policymakers, journalists, and activists have pointed to melting glaciers, dying coral, and deadly floods as signs of the apocalypse. But people misread the signs. Scientists in 2022 measured more coral on the Great Barrier Reef than at any point since they began monitoring them in 1986. And, not only have deaths and damages from flooding declined significantly worldwide, for the first time in 25 years, there were no Atlantic hurricanes in August.

Climate change is real and having real world impacts, to be sure. But none of those environmental changes are the end of the world. While warmer temperatures increase bleaching, corals can survive bleaching; scientists find that corals are adapting and evolving to warmer water; and people are breeding coral that can survive hotter temperatures. And the main factor preventing flood damage and death remains water management to channel stormwater through upgraded drain systems, not modestly higher rainfall. As for hurricanes, NOAA estimates that they will become 25% less frequent.

In truth, there is no scientific basis for any claim of climate apocalypse. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization and others forecast that farmers in the world's poorest regions, like sub-Saharan Africa, could see a 40% increase in crop yields if they gain access to fertilizer, irrigation, and mechanization, even at high levels of warming. There is no science supporting the alarmist claims of an imminent collapse of the North Atlantic Ocean currents, which bring warm water north, and cool water south, an oft-repeated 'tipping points' scenario. Indeed, it is hard to come up with any scenario where temperature changes of 4°C could be world-ending.

So whether it's mild or severe, what is causing climate change?

First, as climate skeptics are fond of pointing out, the earth's climate has always been changing. Many of the variables at work today are identified as causing major climate shifts in previous epochs. For much of the last 2.5 million years, the earth has been a snowball. What we are living in today is known as the Holocene interglacial, a warm period that has lasted for 11,000 years. Based on geologic history, another ice age is past due.

Clearly it wasn't anthropogenic CO₂ that drove these profound episodes of climate change in Earth's past. Other causes include how the shape of Earth's orbit fluctuates on a 96,000 year cycle, how the tilt of the Earth's axis fluctuates on a 41,000 year

cycle, and how that axis wobbles on a 26,000 year cycle. The combinations in which these cycles converge impact how much sun hits the polar latitudes, possibly triggering warming or cooling.

These orbital phenomena are not believed to be enough to trigger the beginning or the end of an ice age on their own, but instead start a feedback loop in the Earth's climate system. In that regard, anthropogenic CO₂ may actually be postponing the next ice age. From [LiveScience.com](https://www.livescience.com/58117-ice-age-triggered.html), "Scientists at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) in Germany have shown that the onsets of past ice ages were triggered mainly by decreases in carbon dioxide and that the dramatic increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, because of human-caused emissions, has likely suppressed the onset of the next ice age for up to 100,000 years."

More immediate variables affecting climate include solar cycles, as well as major fluctuations in ocean currents such as the 20 to 30 year Pacific Decadal Oscillation. Climate is also affected by volcanic activity which releases CO₂ and aerosols into the atmosphere. The climate may be affected by deforestation or desertification, urban heat islands, and other changes in land use. The climate is greatly affected by water vapor in ways that are still poorly understood.

The multidisciplinary nature of climate science, the infinitely complex assortment of variables impacting climate, the uncertain and often conflicting measurements, the dichotomy between predictive modeling and actual events, combined with relentless pressure on scientists to always reinforce the "consensus," ought to call into question all alarmist proclamations. But weather has always been capable of wreaking havoc on civilization. What should be done to mitigate its extremes?

This is where the doomsday coalition, with the globalist ESG lobby in the vanguard, are themselves the most dangerous people on Earth. Their solution, preposterous on its face, is to halt further development of fossil fuel resources and, within 30 years, eliminate use of fossil fuel entirely.

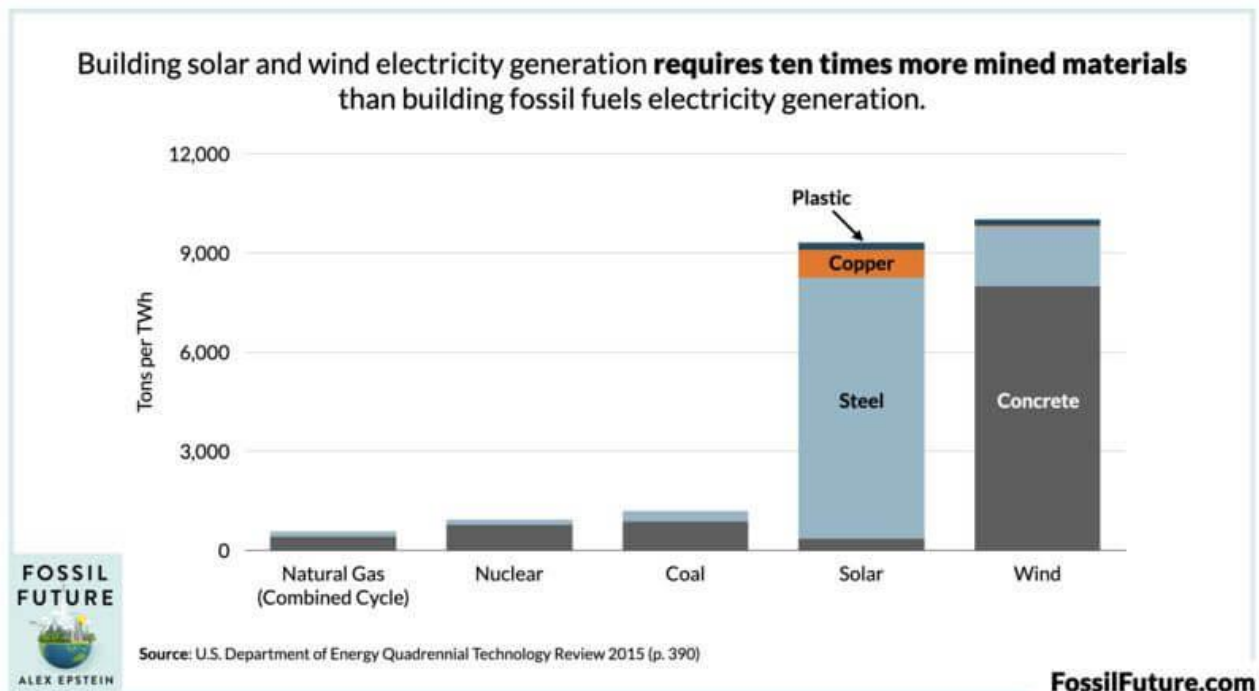
This is nihilistic, tyrannical oppression. It is horrendously unsustainable. It is an impossible goal to achieve. To even approach accomplishing this objective in a matter of a few decades would cause famine, depression, and war—impoverishing if not killing billions of people.

In his remarks at the Clinton Foundation, Unilever CEO Alan Jope also said this, "In 1939, George Orwell wrote that we have sunk to such depths that stating the obvious is the first responsibility of every person." He went on to say "stating the obvious, that we are having a climate emergency, is becoming an unpopular thing to do."

To state the obvious, however, is to state that we are *not* having a climate “emergency.” And while we have reason to hope that a tipping point is near, *that* remains the unpopular sentiment. Equally obvious is that the globalist climate agenda, among other things, aims to control and ration all energy in the world.

Alan Jope, and others like him pushing this death wish, are themselves the most dangerous people in the world. They may claim to be high-minded altruists, but if they get their way, the destruction they unleash will make the last century’s tyrants seem amateur by comparison.

One must wonder how anyone can be so delusional in the face of overwhelming evidence. Alex Epstein, author of *The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels*, and an energy expert who is becoming a powerful voice for sanity on this topic, recently produced the following chart showing the resources required to produce renewable power:



Epstein’s revealing chart—using data taken from the U.S. Department of Energy—shows, per unit of energy produced, how much goes into building solar and wind generating plants compared to natural gas, nuclear, and coal. This illustrates one of the biggest lies being told by the renewables lobby. Wind and solar energy provide less than 5 percent of all energy currently consumed worldwide. It isn’t even close. Imagine the footprint of this many solar farms and wind farms, if fossil fuel, nuclear power, and hydroelectric power were phased out. Renewable energy is *not* “sustainable.”

The architects of the globalist climate agenda are well aware of these facts. They also know that for everyone on Earth, per capita, to consume *half* as much energy as Americans consume per capita, energy production worldwide will have to *double*. That should be the shared objective of all nations, and the idea that this can be accomplished without further development of fossil fuels is a blatant, outrageous lie.

What are these obscenely wealthy, inordinately powerful people thinking? How can they possibly believe they're going to make the world a better place, if their plan is to force billions of people into starvation and poverty while carpeting millions of square miles with wind and solar farms? How is this a good thing?

If the world gets a little warmer, we can adapt, as will most species of wildlife. More CO2 means higher crop yields and faster growing forests. More energy means more prosperity, and history has proven that prosperity is the fastest way to induce people to have fewer children. Indeed in most industrialized nations we already face population decline. The footprint of civilization is not destined to expand forever. The situation is not dire. The biosphere will endure.

The globalist climate agenda is more than a misguided but well-intentioned mistake. It is a monstrous crime against humanity, promulgated by some of the most dangerous people who have ever lived. It is a brazen lie for any of them to claim that we are dangerous if we do *not* think the world is coming to an end, are *not* promoting panic and fear, and wish to see citizens of all nations achieve prosperity.

We are not the dangerous ones, Alan Jope. You are.

Edward Ring is a senior fellow of the Center for American Greatness. He is also a contributing editor and senior fellow with the California Policy Center, which he co-founded in 2013 and served as its first president. Ring is the author of Fixing California: Abundance, Pragmatism, Optimism (2021) and The Abundance Choice: Our Fight for More Water in California (2022). This article first appeared in the October 4, 2022 American Greatness.



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