

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS DISCLOSURE**

*Note: This form is intended to assist the public in providing the disclosure required by law. It is design to document meetings and phone calls. Written communications may be disclosed by providing a complete copy of the written document, with attachments. Unless the board member(s) provided you with a different contact person, please send your materials to: **commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov**
Use of this form is not mandatory.*

1. Pending General Order that the communication concerned:

The Environmental Justice Coalition for Water (EJCW) convened an Environmental Justice Tour of the Salinas Valley (Monterey County) that included general discussion of water quality issues that relate to Agricultural Waste Discharge Requirements.

2. Name, title and contact information of person completing this form:

Vicente Lara, MPH
Central Coast Program Coordinator
Environmental Justice Coalition for Water
(831) 296-0375
vicente@ejcw.org

3. Date of meeting, phone call or other communication:

Date/Time: March 7, 2016; 8:45 AM – 4:45 PM
Location: Monterey County

4. Type of communication (written, oral or both):

Both

5. Names of all participants in the communication, including all board members who participated:

State Water Board Members

Frances Spivy-Weber
Tam Doduc

Central Coast Water Board Members

Jean-PierreWolff
Monica Hunter
Michael Johnston

State Water Board and Central Coast Water Board Staff

Katie McNeill
Diane Kukol

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
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Ann Marie Ore
Angela Schroeter
Monica Barricarte
John Robertson
Gita Kapahi
Meghan Tosney
Lisa McCann
Jan Sweigert

**EJCW Staff, Community Members, Castroville
Community Services District, Californians for Pesticide
Reform, and various consultants**

Vicente Lara
Amanda Ford
Daisy Gonzalez
Mark Weller
Horacio Amezquita
Mario Estrada
Roque Martinez
Jose Raul Alcantar
Silverio Perez

6. Name of person(s) who initiated the communication:

Vicente Lara (EJCW) sent invitation
Angela Schroeter and Diane Kukol (Central Coast Water Board) assisted EJCW with logistics

7. Describe the communication and the content of the communication.

EJCW invited Board Members and staff to attend an EJ Tour to provide an opportunity to meet with community members to discuss drinking water contamination and EJ issues, including groundwater nitrate contamination, impacts to private and public drinking water wells, difficulty in obtaining short and long term assistance to obtain safe drinking water, potential funding for replacement water and challenges in receiving grant funds due to eligibility criteria and definitions of disadvantaged community, and challenges related to water system governance.

8. Attach a copy of handouts, PowerPoint presentations and other materials any person used or distributed at the meeting. If you have electronic copies, please email them to facilitate web posting.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE / SAFE DRINKING WATER TOUR - SALINAS VALLEY

Monday, March 7, 2016

(Salinas → Soledad → Castroville → Salinas)

Tour Objective: Meet with community members facing environmental justice issues related to water quality and safe drinking water in the Salinas Valley.

TIME	LOCATION
8:45 AM	Introductions Meet at the Salinas Holiday Inn Express parking lot Address: 195 Kern St., Salinas, CA Leave personal vehicles at the hotel; mini-vans provided for tour. Contact(s): Vicente Lara, EJCW, 831/296-0375 Angela Schroeter, Regional Water Board, 805/542-4644
9:00 AM	Depart Holiday Inn Express parking lot for Santa Teresa Village Driving time to Santa Teresa - approximately 30 min. to south.
9:30 AM	Meet with community members from Santa Teresa and San Jerardo Farmworker Cooperative — Light snack provided Address: Santa Teresa Village - 2825 San Vicente Rd, Soledad, CA 93960 Contact: Vicente Lara, EJCW, 831/296-0375
11:00 AM	Depart Santa Teresa Village for Castroville Community Services District office Driving time approximately 45 min. to north.
11:45 AM	Meet with community members from Royal Oaks and Castroville Addresses: 11499 Geil St, Castroville, CA 95012 Contact: Vicente Lara, EJCW, 831/296-0375
1:15 PM	Depart Castroville Community Services District office for the Harden Foundation - Driving time approximately 30 min. to south.
1:45 PM	Arrive at the Harden Foundation Bunkhouse for lunch and group discussion. Bring \$15 for lunch. Address: 1636 Ercia St, Salinas, CA 93906 Contact(s): Vicente Lara, EJCW, 831/296-0375 Angela Schroeter, Regional Water Board, 805/542-4644
4:45 PM	Return to Salinas Holiday Inn Express parking lot. - Driving time approximately 15 min.

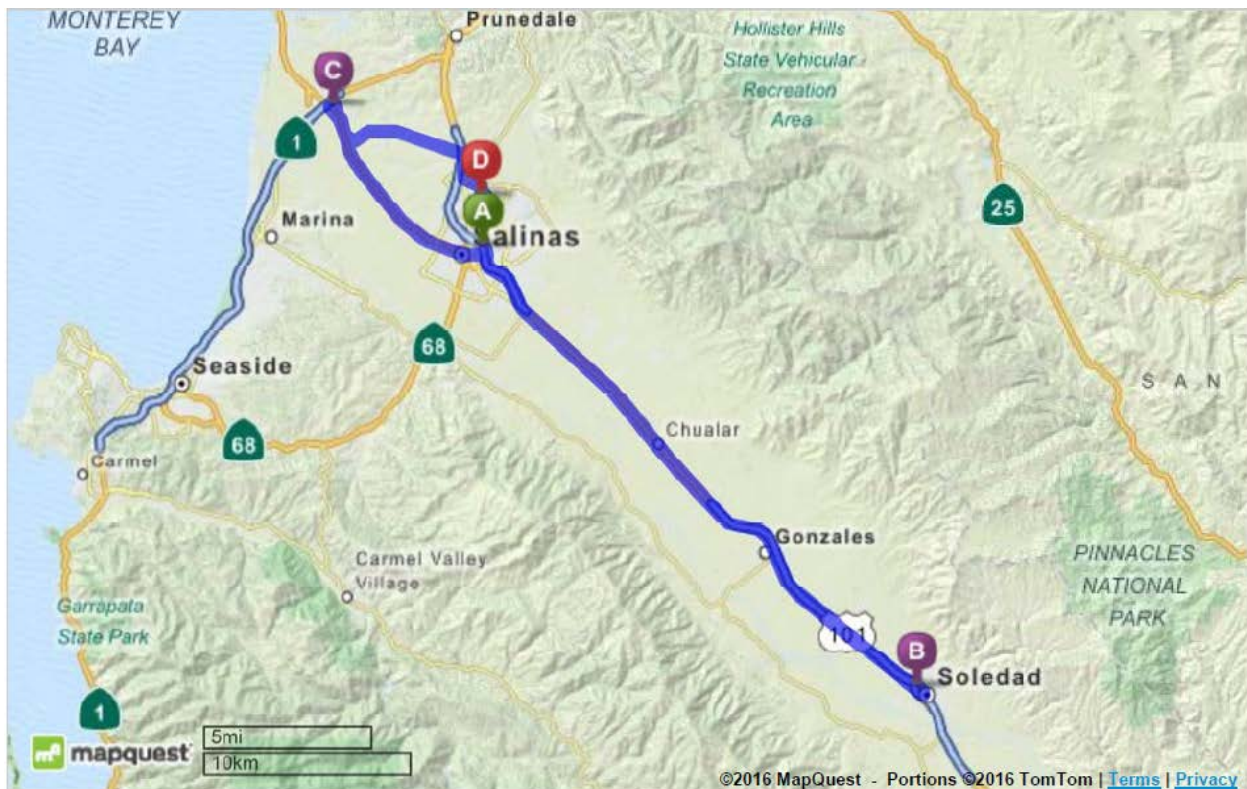
References:

- Environmental Justice Coalition for Water - <http://ejcw.org/>
- Central Coast Water Board - Environmental Justice
http://waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/enviro_justice/enviro_justice.shtml
- Water Code Section 106.3, Human Right to Water Law
<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=wat&group=00001-01000&file=100-113>
- CalEPA - Environmental Justice - <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/envjustice/>
- Californians without Safe Water and Sanitation, California Water Plan Update 2013
<http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/>

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Monday, March 7, 2016

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Start: Holiday Inn Express Salinas, 195 Kern Street, Salinas

Stop 1: Santa Teresa Village - 2825 San Vicente Road, Soledad

Stop 2: Castroville Community Services District, 11499 Geil Street, Castroville

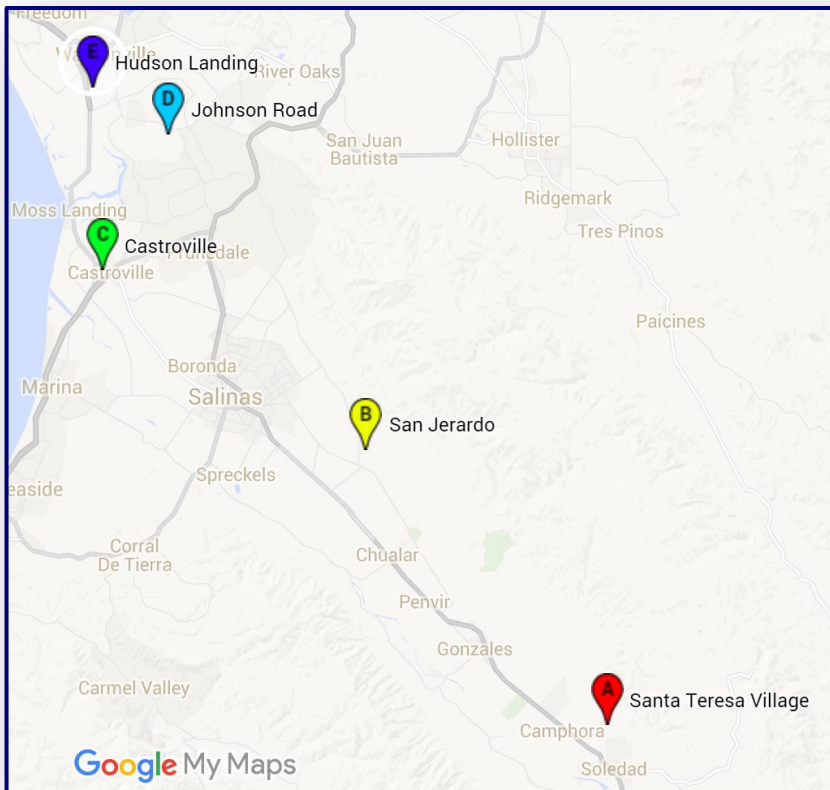
Stop 3: Harden Foundation Bunkhouse, 1636 Ercia Street, Salinas

End: Holiday Inn Express Salinas, 195 Kern Street, Salinas



SALINAS VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TOUR

Community Fact Sheet



The Salinas Valley EJ tour will highlight water justice concerns in five communities in Monterey County. You will visit one site in northern and southern Monterey County, and meet with representative members and advocates from each of the five sites. Please note your observations and insights throughout the tour.

South County Communities

Santa Teresa Village

- Santa Teresa offers housing to eight families that cannot alternatively afford to live in the adjacent city of Soledad. The families in the Santa Teresa Village are long-term tenants living in their individual houses or trailer homes and are able to enjoy the space to house pets and grow gardens. Residents of the Santa Teresa Village are concerned and very interested in making their drinking water safe to drink .

San Jerardo Cooperative

- In its 40 years, San Jerardo has demonstrated an inspiring resiliency in successfully overcoming safe water and adequate sanitation, among other challenges experienced by the housing cooperative. Members present today can speak to their past experiences, their motivation to continue to protect their community, and their current struggle to address affordability and democratic water governance.



North County Communities

City of Castroville

- Castroville is an unincorporated community big enough to be its own little city. Castroville, the artichoke capital of the world, is home to a majority of farm-worker families. These include long-term, multi-generational residents as well as short-term residents that follow the crops in California, Arizona, and other western states. The city's imminent risk of saltwater intrusion is expected to disproportionately impact farmworker communities, which make up most of Castroville.

Johnson Road

- A significant portion of the community includes farm-worker families that are long-term tenants of the Johnson Rd. area. These families cannot imagine moving out of the community despite of their lack of access to safe drinking water, as they would lose their affordable housing, among other valued features of their community.

Hudson Landing Road

- The Hudson Landing Road neighborhood is a small, rural neighborhood in North Monterey County that is home to long-term homeowners and tenants. In the past, some local residents took the initiative in pursuing a long term solution for their community-wide problems with nitrate contamination. Consolidation to the nearest public water system was pursued. Unfortunately, these efforts only discouraged residents as they found the option to consolidate to be unfeasible since the high financial cost that would fall on each homeowner was a major burden.

Observed Community Problems and Environmental Justice Issues

Use this space to capture environmental justice concerns, achievements, and any other observations significant to you.

These are links to a few videos for our EJ tour participants:

-Thirsty for Justice: <https://vimeo.com/87513817>

-Sacramento office: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YiVoWHBCKEM>

-Bay Area office: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0EiuCiiP-u8>

-Salinas office: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQriEflql8c>

-San Jerardo: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xzyMXgfNi0k>

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