



MERCY SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

52027 WEST ALTHEA AVE, FIREBAUGH, CA 93622 • TELEPHONE (209) 364-6136 • FAX (209) 364-6122

August 12, 2022

RECEIVED
AUG 15 2022

CLERK. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Clerk to the Board of Supervisors
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301
Fresno, CA 93721

RE: Mercy Springs Water District: Request to Move Elections of Board of Directors from Odd to Even Years – Comment Notice

Dear Ms. Seidel,

The District is requesting to move elections of the board of directors from odd to even years to maintain in compliance with the state's enactment of Senate Bill 415 (Elections Code sections 14050-14057), which requires special districts to adopt a plan to move the Board of Directors elections to even-numbered years on the same November date as the general state wide elections. Moreover, the effect of the consolidation is to save costs of holding an election in the event that the District holds an election.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at 209-364-6136 or email at lchagoya@panochewd.org.

Thank you,

Lorena Chagoya
Ethics & Compliance Officer

CC: Ara Azhderian, General Manger
Gabriel Delgado, General Counsel



PANOCHÉ WATER DISTRICT

52027 West Althea Ave, Firebaugh, CA 93622 – (209) 364-6136 – panochewd.specialdistrict.org

August 12, 2022

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CLERK. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Clerk to the Board of Supervisors
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301
Fresno, CA 93721

RE: Panoche Water District: Request to Move Elections of Board of Directors from Odd to Even Years – Comment Notice

Dear Ms. Seidel,

The District is requesting to move elections of the board of directors from odd to even years to maintain in compliance with the state's enactment of Senate Bill 415 (Elections Code sections 14050-14057), which requires special districts to adopt a plan to move the Board of Directors elections to even-numbered years on the same November date as the general state wide elections. Moreover, the effect of the consolidation is to save costs of holding an election in the event that the District holds an election.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at 209-364-6136 or email at lchagoya@panochewd.org.

Thank you,

Lorena Chagoya
Ethics & Compliance Officer

CC: Ara Azhderian, General Manger
Phillip Williams, General Counsel



PANOCHÉ DRAINAGE DISTRICT

52027 West Althea Ave., Firebaugh, CA 93622 – (209) 364-6136 – panochedrainage.specialdistrict.org

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CLERK. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Clerk to the Board of Supervisors
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301
Fresno, CA 93721

RE: Panoche Drainage District: Request to Move Elections of Board of Directors from Odd to Even Years – Comment Notice

Dear Ms. Seidel,

The District is requesting to move elections of the board of directors from odd to even years to maintain in compliance with the state's enactment of Senate Bill 415 (Elections Code sections 14050-14057), which requires special districts to adopt a plan to move the Board of Directors elections to even-numbered years on the same November date as the general state wide elections. Moreover, the effect of the consolidation is to save costs of holding an election in the event that the District holds an election.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at 209-364-6136 or email at lchagoya@panochewd.org.

Thank you,

Lorena Chagoya
Ethics & Compliance Officer

CC: Ara Azhderian, General Manger
Phillip Williams, General Counsel



RECEIVED
AUG 19 2022
CLERK. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

State Center Community College District

1171 Fulton • Fresno, California 93721 • (559) 243-7100 • www.sccd.edu

August 19, 2022

Clerk to the Board of Supervisors
County of Fresno
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301
Fresno, CA 93721

RE: Request to Move Elections of Board of Directors from Odd to Even Years

Dear Esteemed Fresno County Board of Supervisors:

This letter is to express our support of the request from our colleagues from the Mercy Springs Water District, Panoche Drainage District, and Panoche Water District to approve the resolution to move from odd year to even year elections.

According to research, odd year municipal elections have experienced low voter turnout. A study published in *The Journal of Politics* found that this lowered turnout may affect the composition of the electorate, noting that “[f]or Latinos and Asian Americans, lower turnout results in less equitable racial and ethnic representation on city councils and less success in the mayor’s office.” The same study suggests that at-large and off-cycle election reform appears to be the best tool for expanding representation of African Americans in city government. This issue is particularly important in Fresno, where people of color make up a majority of the population. A skewed electorate due to low voter turnout undermines the integrity of our democracy and the chance for all communities to be fairly represented.

Additionally, this move would elevate the status of these critical elections, as they would likely be seen as important as state and federal elections if they are on the same ballot. There is an economic rationale for the move as well. Moving from odd year to even year elections would save time and labor of having to conduct multiple elections, thus, saving valuable taxpayer dollars.

We support the districts’ requests to move to even year elections.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carole Goldsmith".

Dr. Carole Goldsmith
Chancellor
State Center Community College District