



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Sanitation District Reaches Milestone with California Coastal Commission Permit Approval

On May 10, 2017, the South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District (SSLOCSD) reached a milestone when the California Coastal Commission, at their regular meeting in San Diego, unanimously adopted a monumental 30-year Coastal Development Permit for the District's \$20 million Wastewater Redundancy Project (Project). Coastal Commission staff's recommendation was only for a 10-year Permit.

The need for additional secondary treatment units has been discussed since 2005. Currently, the existing wastewater treatment plant cannot meet discharge limits under a permit issued from the State of California Regional Water Quality Control Board if the existing secondary treatment units fail since there are no redundant or backup units.

In 2016, the Board directed staff, and approved funding for the permitting and design phase of the Project. District staff have been working diligently the past year to provide requested studies, data and information to the Coastal Commission staff to obtain a Permit. The first step was to complete the application process, then negotiate reasonable and feasible permit conditions, and finally have the Permit heard and adopted at a Coastal Commission hearing.

The Project, when completed, will allow the District to maintain operations without affecting water quality. This Project will also reduce costs by helping prevent potential violations, while protecting both public health and coastal resources.

The Project's next step is to complete design, and obtain long-term financing. The design phase is expected to take one year, with construction initiated by late 2018. Estimated completion is scheduled for 2020.

The SSLOCSD is committed to maintaining quality services for its customers and the achievement of this milestone with the Project's Permit approval from the Coastal Commission is a big step forward in that effort.

For more information please contact the South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District at [gerhardt@sslocsd.us](mailto:gerhardt@sslocsd.us) or visit [www.sslocsd.org](http://www.sslocsd.org).

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**The Mission of the South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District is to provide the highest level of wastewater collection and facility treatment possible by combining both financially sound and technically proficient District-based services; to provide these services as collective members of the community and to preserve the health and well-being of that community for the generations to come.**