

## Julie Dachtler

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**From:** Jeff Main <jeffreylanmain@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 6, 2025 2:23 PM  
**To:** Clerkoftheboard  
**Subject:** Comments in support of Moratorium Extension  
**Attachments:** Comments to BOS supporting extension of moratorium.docx

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To the Yolo County Counsel and the Yolo County Board of Supervisors,

What is absolutely necessary is a period in which the shifting landscape of groundwater resource use and management is formally put on hold by the Board of Supervisors through the extension of the moratorium put in place 45 days ago. Adequate time is essential to allow our local participants in the process to put into enforceable form a draft document on well permitting procedures and well usage monitoring equal to the task of beginning long term sustainability to specified and limited groundwater extraction regions within Yolo County.

Thank you for your attention on this matter.

Jeff Main

October 6, 2025

To: Board of Supervisors of Yolo County

From: Jeff Main Farmer in the Hungry Hollow, Yolo County

Re: Comments supporting the Extension of the Moratorium on Permitting of New Well Drilling in Specified Areas of Yolo County

To the Honorable Supervisors of Yolo County,

It is apparent to any knowledgeable observer that Boundary Bend/Cobram Olive Company is intent on exploiting all the accessible water resources of the Hungry Hollow area of Yolo County by whatever means; political, legal, financial, or social. They recently approached and received from the international investment community over a hundred million dollars after acknowledging intent for continued investment toward a goal of over 8000 acres of olive groves in California as the basis for growth in the worldwide distribution of high quality olive oil around the world.

The means by which Boundary Bend has insinuated itself into control of the future existence of the citizens of Hungry Hollow through the exploitation of the vulnerability of our region to the speed and focus of the political positioning, legal posturing, financial resource capabilities, and environmental greenwashing is impressive. That this path is available through the resources of worldwide investment have made evident, to all who have followed the issue closely, that Boundary Bend has only their investors returns and their continued growth in mind. The existential threat to a resident culture, the depletion of pre-existing limiting environmental conditions and resources, and the cynical exploitation of a legal and political structure unprepared for this level of callous, bullying intrusion is obviously only a hurdle to be passed, a momentary impediment to a certain future of a land in service to Cobram olive oil.

To be clear, this is not a new scenario. California has been the poster child for national and international investment since the Gold Rush washed mountains to the sea and drowned thousands of acres in a sea of mud. What is new today is the level of power at play and the efficient capability of the forces exploiting extraction of resources that we now realize will not be available to future generations if this mad short term dash to the last of an available resource is not avoided. Make no mistake, the conditions that allow the unimpeded flow and quality of subterranean water are subject to laws of nature that are not as renewable as the water itself.

To those who would ask that we sit tight and wait for the chaotic situation surrounding the absolutely necessary rewrite of our governing laws to reflect the 21<sup>st</sup> century environmental and social conditions, I would in turn ask them to look at the areas of California such as the east and west sides of the southern San Joaquin, the deforested forests of the Sierra, the wildfires of the last decade, and

the laser-like focus of the 21<sup>st</sup> century financial community on the continued extraction of invaluable, irreplaceable, vulnerable resources wherever they exist.

To those who would ask us to return legally and legislatively to the days of our Grandfathers, whose drive, ambition, and limitless use of imagination, limitless hard work and limitless resources brought them the successes of the time, I would say that we would have to go back much further than our Grandfathers' time to find the repurposing necessary to bring us through the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

While no one in their right mind would want the California DWR governing any aspect of our farms, we have no choice, the Groundwater Act of 2015 put our water squarely under their regulatory supervision. Conversely, no one would want to have a neighbor ready and willing to sacrifice everything you have worked all your life to achieve in order to accomplish their own ends. Between these two forces is the area in which we find ourselves today. Since 2015, we have made little to no actual progress in finding a meaningful way out from between this rock and hard spot and into a sustainable groundwater future. Through a drought; through the savage exploitation of the land and water by a disassociated investment community of a politically and legally vulnerable Yolo County; through the waiting period while we all have come to realize that none of us can wait and see any longer; we have come to the time when the research and actions of a motivated citizens group and the brave passing of a controversial 45 day moratorium on specified well drilling by the Board of Supervisors, we have come to the point of being able to take significant steps to meet the challenges finding a locally sourced and implemented sustainable water future for the rural and agricultural community of Yolo County. What is absolutely necessary is a period in which the shifting landscape of groundwater resource use and management is formally put on hold by the Board of Supervisors through the extension of the moratorium put in place 45 days ago. Adequate time is essential to allow our local participants in the process to put into enforceable form and present to the BOS a draft document on well permitting procedures and well usage monitoring equal to the task of beginning long term sustainability to specified and limited groundwater extraction regions within Yolo County

We understand that this is a politically dangerous endeavor for the Board of Supervisors, and requires the caution that has necessarily tempered the decisions in this matter. We ask the Board of Supervisors to recognize that this is a very real and existential threat to the communities and landowners within the Focus Areas. Therefore, the level of anxiety that pervades the potential for additional scientifically unsupported extraction commits us to being a significant resource in reaching a solution that will allow the continued sustainable use of the at-risk aquifers that underlie our homes.

Thank you for considering my perspective and your vote for support for the extension of the moratorium,

Jeff Main