



**Planning Department
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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the Inyo County Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, at 224 North Edwards Street, Independence, to consider the following:

EXTENSION OF INTERIM URGENCY ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT NEW NON-GROUNDWATER NEUTRAL AGRICULTURAL USES IN PEARSONVILLE

Inyo County has consistently supported agriculture and provides excellent resources for it and related uses. Recently, several proposals have been described to develop groundwater intensive agriculture in portions of the Pearsonville area within the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Basin within Inyo County. Due to the most severe drought on record, the State of California and Inyo County have declared drought-related emergencies. The Indian Wells Groundwater Basin is in overdraft, and a plan is being developed to address these issues. Development of new groundwater intensive agricultural uses within the Inyo County portion of the Basin could severely exacerbate existing conditions and potentially impact the environment.

On January 5, 2016 the Inyo County Board of Supervisors enacted an Interim Urgency Ordinance pursuant to Government Code Section 65858(a) to prohibit new non-groundwater neutral agricultural uses in Pearsonville. Such an ordinance becomes effective for 45 days, and if not extended, expires. The Board of Supervisors is scheduled to consider extending the ordinance on February 16.

If you challenge any finding, determination, or decision made regarding this project in court, you may be limited to raising only the issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered prior to the hearing.

Written comments and all questions should be addressed to the Inyo County Planning Department, P. O. Drawer "L", Independence, CA 93526 or to: inyoplanning@inyocounty.us. Materials related to the are available for review at the Inyo County Planning Department, 168 N. Edwards Street, Independence, during regular business hours. If you have any questions, please call (760) 878-0263 or visit <http://inyoplanning.org/projects.htm>.