




Planning Department
168 North Edwards Street
Post Office Drawer L
Independence, California 93526

Phone: (760) 878-0263
FAX: (760) 878-0382
E-Mail: inyoplanning@inyocounty.us

MEMO

DATE: February 4, 2016
TO: To Whom It May Concern
FROM: Joshua Hart, AICP, Planning Director 
RE: Interim Ordinance No. 1198
Report Describing Measures Taken to Alleviate Conditions

On January 5, 2016 the Inyo County Board of Supervisors enacted an Interim Ordinance prohibiting new non-groundwater neutral agricultural uses in Pearsonville. The Interim Ordinance was enacted to protect the public health, safety, and welfare pursuant to Government Code Section 65858(a). This memorandum complies with the reporting requirements of Government Code Section 65858(d).

Staff continues to monitor the groundwater situation in the Indian Wells Valley. County representatives have been working with other stakeholders in the region to assess the relevant issues and measures being taken moving forward, including participating in development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014. It is anticipated that the governing body for the Plan's development will be formed in the near future.

County representatives have been contacting property owners regarding the Interim Ordinance seeking input and any concerns that they may have. A postcard was sent to all property owners in Pearsonville on January 13, 2016 advising of the Interim Ordinance and requesting input, including about potentially organizing a community meeting. No response has been received.

Staff continues to explore possible solutions to the situation. It appears that development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan will take some time, and that the County will need to pursue an intermediate solution. Options being considered include a zoning overlay and/or amendments to the zoning map in Pearsonville.

Thank you. Please contact me at (760) 878-0263 or email me at jhart@inyocounty.us if you have any questions.