

# Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Sub-Basin Committee Member Responsibilities

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## **Charge**

The purpose of the Sub-Basin Committees (SBC) is to provide information and advice to the Integrated Plan Committee (IPC). The purpose of the IPC is to review and integrate Sub-Basin Planning Committee work into a product that would be provided in the form of recommendations to the Advisory Committee of the of the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). The Advisory Committee in turn makes recommendations to Board of Directors of GSA regarding Sub-Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plans (“GSP”). The intent of this Committee structure is to provide community perspective and inclusive participation in the GSA the development of GSPs.

The Sub-Basin and Integrated Plan Committees will review and/or provide recommendations on groundwater-related issues that may include:

- Development, adoption or amendment of the GSPs for each Subbasin including:
  - Sustainability goals and objectives
  - Monitoring programs
  - Annual work plans and reports (including mandatory 5-year milestone reports)
  - Modeling scenarios
  - Inter-basin coordination activities
  - Implementation framework including feasibility and timeline

## **Brown Act, Open Process and Conflicts of Interest**

1. Committee meetings are subject to the Brown Act. All meetings of the Committees are open to the public. Committees shall adopt a schedule and location for regular meetings, and meeting agendas shall be posted in compliance with the Brown Act.
2. Members of the Committees are subject to all applicable conflict of interest laws including Government Code section 1090 and the California Political Reform Act.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

Committee members represent the diverse interests of GSA-eligible agencies and groundwater users. The criteria for Committee members are to:

- Serve as a strong effective advocate
- Work collaboratively with others
- Commit time needed for ongoing discussions

- Collectively reflect diversity of interests
- Maintain Committee size to support focused deliberations

### **Decision Making**

To inform the Board's decision-making, the Committee's will provide written recommendations on subjects to the IPC and the AC. These recommendations will identify areas of agreement and disagreement.

Committees will be consensus seeking. The Committees will strive to reach consensus on recommendations. The definition of consensus spans the range from strong support to neutrality, to abstention, to "I can live with it," to "I will let this go forward." When unable to reach consensus on recommendations, the Committees will outline the areas of agreement and areas in which it does not agree, providing explanation to inform the decision-making process. Then, the Committee will forward this summary via the Agency staff to the appropriate committee or Board. To comply with the Brown Act, the position of each Sub-Committee member on the points of consensus or summary will be noted in the Committee's records.

Because meetings are subject to Brown Act requirements, once consensus is arrived at, it will be followed by a motion, second and a majority vote. This decision will determine if a recommendation is forward to the IPC or AC.