



CITY OF FILLMORE
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Received
JAN - 3 2024

TO: The Honorable Kevin G. DeNoce, Presiding Judge
FROM: Troy A. Spayd
DATE: December 6, 2023
RE: **Water Availability for Wildfires in Ventura County**

In response to the findings and recommendations of the final report titled "Water Availability for Wildfires in Ventura County" dated June 12, 2023, please find the following responses and explanations:

The City of Fillmore disagrees with **Finding F09** as it pertains to the City's SCADA system. Our SCADA system has had backup power and the recent upgrades to our entire SCADA system only improved the redundancy of backup power for the system.

The City of Fillmore requires further analysis for **Recommendation R09** as the City currently uses the Ventura County Fire standards to conduct weed abatement, however, the City has not officially adopted this into the City's Municipal Code. UPDATE: As previously mentioned, the City has not officially adopted the Ventura County Fire Standards for brush clearance but that is the standard we do use when completing the annual brush clearance. The City has begun the process of passing the ordinance and with noticing requirements and Council schedules we should be able to get the item in front of City Council by June/July 2024

The City of Fillmore will not implement **Recommendation R03** because it is not reasonable. The City of Fillmore is isolated from other Cities and other water agencies, there are no connections available to *any other* water purveyors. If our City needed water, we could not get it from any nearby or adjacent agencies as such interconnections do not exist and would prove extremely costly. Additionally, if other agencies needed water, it would be impossible to provide water to them aside from trucking water in and our water wells can only produce a finite amount of water on a daily basis. The limits of that water production are needed for our community needs on a daily basis. The City of Fillmore does agree with the concern of not having the ability to have water transfers either in or out of our City Limits. The City is open to the coordinated communication protocols if there are other actions we can help to provide.

The City of Fillmore is working on implementation of **Recommendation R01**, which should be completed by December 31, 2024, including the training of the written procedures.

The City of Fillmore will comply with **Recommendation R05** to enroll employees in the FCC Wireless Priority Service and make sure new employees get added as necessary. The application for this is underway and the City is not in control of the timeframe to approve the application, but the anticipated submittal date of the application is December 28, 2023.

The City of Fillmore will comply with **Recommendation R06** to enroll employees in the Government Emergency Telecommunications System if possible. The City uses Voice Over IP telephone service which is not exactly landlines and at this time we are awaiting further clarification from the Department of Homeland Security. The anticipated clarification is estimated by February 15. It would take the City approximately 3 months to enroll in the GETS if applicable.

The City of Fillmore will need to draft a staff report and take a request to City Council to enroll in CalWARN. It is expected that it will take 3 to 6 months to get a decision from City Council on **Recommendation R07**.



COUNTY of VENTURA

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Response to 2022-2023 Ventura County Grand Jury Report Form (Please See California Penal Code Section 933.05)

Report Title: Water Availability for Wildfires in Ventura county

Responding Entity: Public Works Supervisor Jacob Coffman, City of Fillmore Public Works Department

FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the Findings numbered: F01-F08, F10-F14
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the Findings numbered: F09
(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the Findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered R02 have been implemented.
(Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered R01, R05-R08 have not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future.
(Attach a summary indicating the timeframe for implementation.)
- Recommendations numbered R09 require further analysis.
(Attach an explanation to include: scope and parameters of the analysis or study and timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion with the agency or department head. The timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the report.)
- Recommendations numbered R03 will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
(Attach an explanation.)

Date: DECEMBER 6, 2023 Signed: [Signature]

Title: MUNICIPAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

Number of pages attached: 2