

Recommended Board of Supervisors Response to the San Luis Obispo
Grand Jury's 2014-15 report
"Energy Used, Time Lost, Results Missing"

Grand Jury Findings and Recommended Board Responses

F1: The EnergyWise Plan commits the County to a 15% reduction of GHG by its own facilities by 2020.

Recommended Response: The Board of Supervisors adopts the response from the County Administrator as the Board's response and disagrees partially with this finding (see the attached response from the County Administrator).

F3: Fully implementing the EWP has been delayed because the County has not provided adequate funding, staff, or priority.

Recommended Response: The Board of Supervisors adopts the response from the County Administrator as the Board's response and disagrees partially with this finding (see the attached response from the County Administrator).

F4: The County's utility coordinator/energy manager position has been vacant for three years.

Recommended Response: The Board of Supervisors adopts the response from the County Administrator as the Board's response and agrees with this finding (see the attached response from the County Administrator).

F5: The computer software currently used by the County to track its energy usage is incapable of providing the information necessary for timely implementation of the EWP.

Recommended Response: The Board of Supervisors adopts the response from the County Administrator as the Board's response and agrees with this finding (see the attached response from the County Administrator).

F7: The EWP calls for periodic review and updating of the plan. The County has not reviewed and updated the EWP since August 2012.

Recommended Response: The Board of Supervisors adopts the response from the County Administrator as the Board's response and agrees with this finding (see the attached response from the County Administrator).

F8: Reaching the 2020 GHG reduction goals and associated cost savings will have to be accomplished over a shorter, five-year period rather than the original eight years.

Recommended Response: The Board of Supervisors adopts the response from the County Administrator as the Board's response and disagrees with this finding (see the attached response from the County Administrator).

F9: The County can realize considerable energy cost savings if the EWP goals are accomplished by 2020.

Recommended Response: The Board of Supervisors adopts the response from the County Administrator as the Board's response and agrees with this finding (see the attached response from the County Administrator).

Grand Jury Recommendations and Recommended Board Responses

R1. The Board of Supervisors should allocate sufficient funds to implement the EWP ensuring the planned reduction in energy usage by County facilities as outlined in the EWP is realized within the set timeframe.

Recommended Response: The recommendation requires further analysis to determine if current funding levels are sufficient to implement the EWP within the set timeframe. The plan is being implemented through numerous efforts including but not limited to those listed above, in finding #8. In addition, Water Systems Consulting (WSC) currently has two active contracts with the County, one with General Services - that began in November 2014 - to support energy and water efficiency efforts and one with Planning and Building – that began in October 2014 and was renewed in April 2015 - to support the Energy Watch Partnership and its County Energy Management program. With the use of utility funds and the support of WSC, Energy Watch has initiated a County Facility Inventory project with the goal of creating a comprehensive and verified database of all County facilities and infrastructure – and their related energy use and costs. In addition, work under the County's facility condition assessment program is currently underway and General Services has a goal of assessing 20% of facilities in FY 2015-16.

As outlined in the County Administrator's response to Recommendation 2, the Administrative Office will direct Planning and Building to work with departments involved in supporting implementation of the EWP and provide an analysis of any potential additional resources needed to complete the EWP within the established timeframe. This analysis shall be presented to the Administrative Office within 6 months of the date on this Grand Jury response. If the analysis indicates additional resources are necessary, the Department of Planning and Building shall incorporate such resource requests into the FY 2016-17 Budget Augmentation Requests and the Administrative Office will review as part of the FY 2016-17 Budget process.

R3. County Administration should make the data produced by the IGAs and FCAs available for action by the Board of Supervisors within 60 days of receipt of such data.

Recommended Response: The recommendation to make data produced by the IGA available for action by the Board of Supervisors within 60 days of receipt of such data has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the near future. The recommendation to make data produced by the FCAs available for action by the Board of Supervisors within 60 days of receipt of such data will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The Board of Supervisors adopts the response from the County Administrator as the Board's response to this recommendation (see the attached response from the County Administrator).

R4. The Board of Supervisors should fund purchase of, and training for, utility usage and billing of software capable of providing the data necessary for effective implementation of the EWP.

Recommended Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The Board of Supervisors adopts the response from the County Administrator as the Board's response to this recommendation (see the attached response from the County Administrator).