Members of the Commission
Sonoma Local Agency Formation Commission
111 Santa Rosa Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Subject: Reconsideration of the decision to deny the Alexander Valley Water District Application

Dear Commissioners:

Since 1972, the Alexander Valley Association (AVA) has represented families, farmers, and businesses in the Alexander Valley of Sonoma County. The AVA was created by local families to preserve the natural beauty that endows the valley and to strengthen the spirit of community among us. Our continuing efforts include monitoring progress of the Sonoma County General Plan update, being active in the many processes of the City of Santa Rosa and Sonoma County Wastewater plans, alongside other county and regional issues.

We have provided significant funds to help with the formation of an AV Water District. We believe that a landowner voter-based district would provide the fairest governance for the water district.

Many of the landowners in Alexander Valley would be precluded from voting for the district board, as well as any fee-for-service functions within the district if it was a registered voter district. Some are growers or wineries that do not live within the boundaries of the proposed district. Others have parcels in the flood zone and could never build on them. Tribal lands, in the event they are included, have no housing inside the district.

We request that the Commission reconsider the petition to form a water district in Alexander Valley that is based on landowner votes, which provides direct benefit to owners of parcels of land, and who will also provide the money through assessments to fund the water district.

Respectfully,

Alexander Valley Association
By: Edward Dobranski
President
By: Karen Warnelius - Miller
Past President + Current Board Member