

# Essential Elements

## for the Future of the San Joaquin Valley

*2015 Public and Private Policy Series*



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## Shifting Ground: Adapting the San Joaquin Valley Economy to a Changing Climate

October 8, 2015

Harris Ranch Inn and Conference Center

Garden Ballroom

Coalinga, California

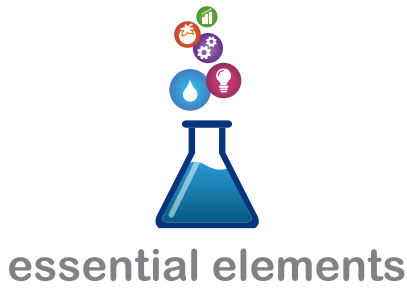
8:00 a.m.

[www.essentialelementsseries.com](http://www.essentialelementsseries.com)

Presented by the West Hills Community College District



**WEST HILLS**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT



### Information

Series:..... *Shifting Ground: Adapting the San Joaquin Valley Economy to a Changing Climate*  
*4th Essential Elements for the Future of the San Joaquin Valley series*  
Presented by the West Hills Community College District  
[www.essentialelementsseries.com](http://www.essentialelementsseries.com)

Theme: ..... Water, Food, Energy, Goods Movement and Career & Technical Education: Powering sustainable economic development

Program intent: ..... Organizing hands-on partnerships and creating action steps to chart and deploy a regional job creation and economic development course for the future of the San Joaquin Valley.

### Dates and Times

Pre-series social gathering: Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at 5:00pm, Harris Ranch Restaurant  
Series Thursday, October 8, 2015  
8:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. Registration  
8:15 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Program (incl. hosted luncheon)  
5:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Hosted reception  
Attire: Business Casual

### Host Site

Harris Ranch Inn and Conference Center, Coalinga, CA  
24505 W. Dorris Avenue, Coalinga, California 93210

Discounted Room Reservations  
October 7-8, 2015, Harris Ranch Inn & Restaurant. Call 559.935.0717. Reference code: 2SY99P.

### Host

West Hills Community College District

### Partners and Contributors

Chevron, The Gualco Group, West Hills Community College District/West Hills College Coalinga, West Hills College Lemoore, West Hills College Foundation, The Wonderful Company, Harris Woolf, West Hills Community College District Westside Institute of Technology (WIT), Central Valley Power Connect, PG&E, Central Mother Lode Region Consortium, Recurrent Energy, California Community Colleges Jobs and the Economy, CA Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, Office of Community and Economic Development, California State University, Fresno.

## Welcome

On behalf of the West Hills Community College District, it is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to *Essential Elements for the Future of the San Joaquin Valley*, a premier public policy series converging California's public policy and private sector leaders to confront the challenges in the Valley. In March 2014, we launched the series with *The Very Last Drop: Managing Water and Food Production*. In June, we turned our attention to *Energizing the Valley and Generating Jobs: Energy Development and Transmission*. In November 2014, we hosted *Trading Partners: Export Evolution, Logistics and Valley Economic Development*. The series resulted in action outcomes and I invite you to review those by visiting our dedicated website at [www.essentialelementsseries.com](http://www.essentialelementsseries.com). You can also follow us on Twitter @whccdworkforce.

Today, we shift our focus to *Shifting Ground: Adapting the San Joaquin Valley Economy to a Changing Climate*. The purpose of *Shifting Ground* is to gather California's leading sector experts to determine emerging trends and events and to develop action that will help use this information to create good-paying jobs in one of the nation's largest disadvantaged areas. Our series focuses on creating a platform that contributes integrated, linked actions and alliances with greater coordination and accelerated implementation and identify potential future workforce training programs. The series is designed to stimulate those alliances.

What should be those alliances? What actions can we initiate and deploy now to help our Valley? What partnerships need to be crystallized? How can we solve the challenges facing our Valley in the 21st Century? How can we empower sustainable economic development?

We are grateful to the donors and sponsors of Essential Elements. The partners include: Central Mother Lode Region Consortium, Central Valley Power Connect, Chevron, The Gualco Group, Harris Woolf, Jobs and the Economy, The Wonderful Company, PG&E, Recurrent Energy, West Hills College Coalinga, West Hills College Lemoore, West Hills Community College District, West Hills Community College Foundation, Westside Institute of Technology. If your organization is interested in partnering with us to assist in underwriting some of the event management costs, please review the information listed on the inside back cover of this convention program booklet.

Thank you for joining us today!



Dr. Frank Gornick  
Chancellor  
West Hills Community College District



# Shifting Ground: Adapting the San Joaquin Valley Economy to a Changing Climate

Thursday, October 8, 2015

**Purpose:** The San Joaquin Valley must comprehend, grab and advance accelerated change. Agribusiness – the leading SJV industry and historical adapters confronts ground shifting drastically. The weather, emerging technologies, regulatory realities, and more aware consumers. Logistics jobs are evolving, technology is digging a foothold, and energy may well energize employment. What are the region’s opportunities and challenges?

**Objective:** The objective is to gather agribusiness, technology, logistics executives, educators and nonprofits, elected and regulators to assess the SJV’s shifting ground and determine what can be done together now to recalibrate and grow the regional economy.

**Note:** Lunch and panels meet in the **Garden Ballroom**, All networking takes place in the **Foyer**

8:00 a.m.	Registration .....	Harris Ranch, Garden Ballroom
8:15 a.m.	Welcome .....	Frank Gornick Chancellor, <i>West Hills Community College District</i>  William Bourdeau <i>Executive Vice President, Harris Farms</i>  Jim Mayer President and CEO, <i>CA Forward</i>
	Program Introductions .....	Frank Gornick Chancellor, <i>West Hills Community College District</i>  Jack Gualco President, <i>The Gualco Group, Inc.</i>
8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Remarks & Perspectives:	
	Surveying the Ground, Round 1 .....	Joe Del Bosque Farmer and Member, <i>CA Water Commission</i>  Lance Donny CEO, <i>OnFarm Services</i>  Art Sponseller President/CEO, <i>Hospital Council of Northern and Central California</i>
9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Networking Break .....	Foyer



## Panel One: *Breaking New Ground – Adaptations for Today (2015-2020)*

**10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.**

**Jim Houston**, Moderator, Undersecretary, CA Department of Food and Agriculture

### Panelists:

Peter Davis, Statewide Director, *Advanced Transportation and Renewable Energy, California Community Colleges*

Robert Tse, Chief Strategy Officer, *US Department of Agriculture*

Michael Marks, Your Produce Man, *CBS13-TV, CW31-TV*

Davena Witcher, Executive Director, *Alliance for Medical Outreach and Relief*

11:15 - 11:30 a.m. Networking .....

Foyer

11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Remarks & Perspectives  
 Bright Students, Brilliant Futures:  
*Changing the Paradigm of Education in the Central Valley* ..... Lynda Resnick,  
 Vice Chair & Co-Owner, *The Wonderful Company*

12:15 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. Amy Wallace,  
 Assistant Director, *California Workforce Development Board*

12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Networking & Hosted Luncheon Buffet Service ..... Garden Ballroom

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Remarks & Perspectives  
 Surveying the Ground, Round 3 ..... Glenda Humiston,  
 Vice President, *University of California Division of Ag and Natural Resources*



### Panel Two: Road to Higher Ground – Mid-Term Job Creation (2020-2030)

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Joseph Castro, Moderator, President, CSU Fresno

#### Panelists:

Robert Casamento, Energy and Sustainability  
 Management Consultant, *Deloitte*  
 Lance Donny, CEO, *OnFarm Services*  
 Marisa Mitchell, Senior Manager, Site Development,  
*Recurrent Energy*

Amy Wallace, Assistant Director, *California Workforce  
 Development Board*  
 Jeff Dahlberg, Director, *UC Kearney Agricultural Research  
 and Extension Center*

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Break ..... Foyer



### Panel Three: Ground Truth – Transformation (2030>)

3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Jim Mayer, Moderator, President and CEO, CA Forward

#### Panelists:

Jim Houston, Undersecretary, *CA Department of Food  
 and Agriculture*  
 Glenda Humiston, Vice President, *University of California  
 Division of Ag and Natural Resources*

Art Sponseller, CEO, *Hospital Council of Northern and  
 Central CA*  
 Russell Teall, President/Founder, *BIODICO*

4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Break ..... Foyer



### Actions for 2015-16: Design for Shifting Ground

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

#### Facilitators

Frank Gornick, Chancellor, *West Hills Community College  
 District*  
 Jack Gualco, President, *The Gualco Group, Inc.*

#### Commentators

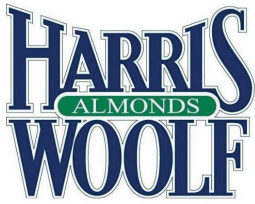
Robert Casamento, Energy and Sustainability  
 Management Consultant, *Deloitte*

### Setting our action agenda for 2015-16

An interactive conversation with panelists and audience ..... Garden Ballroom

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Hosted Reception ..... Courtyard

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Partnering Agencies



A PG&E MidAmerican Partnership



Essential Elements is grateful for the continuing support and leadership of the following agencies:

Association of California Water Agencies

Burlington Northern Railway

California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance

California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Department of Water Resources

California Energy Commission

California Forward

California League of Food Processors

California State University, Fresno

Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

California State Water Resources Control Board

Central Mother Lode Regional Consortium

Fresno County Farm Bureau

Friant Water Authority

Governor's Office of Business & Economic Development (GOBiz)

The Gualco Group, Inc.

Kern County Water Agency

Kings County Farm Bureau

Kings River Conservation District

Latino Water Coalition

Merced County Farm Bureau

Merced Irrigation District

Metropolitan Water District

Meyers Family Farms

Modesto Irrigation District

Pacific Gas and Electric

San Joaquin County Farm Bureau

San Joaquin Valley Partnership

San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority

Western Growers Association

Western States Petroleum Association

Westlands Water District

Union Pacific Railroad

United States Bureau of Reclamation

United States Department of Agriculture

University of California, Merced

University of California, Office of the President

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# Policy Series

## Essential Elements for the Future of the San Joaquin Valley

*A private and public policy series*  
Presented by West Hills Community College District



**E**ssential Elements is a three-part series on the following topics: water and food, energy development and transmission, and trade and logistics. The intent of the series is to organize hands-on partnerships and create action steps for the future of the San Joaquin Valley while coping with climate change. Essential Elements will be held at Harris Ranch Inn and Conference Center. Each session will include guest speakers and panel discussions.

### \$5,000 Premier Sponsorship

**Includes:**

- Full color logo inclusion in policy series program
- Complimentary physical space for exhibit display
- Inclusion of company literature in attendee packet
- Recognition at the welcome and dinner sessions

**For further details please contact:**

**Dr. Stuart Van Horn**

**at [stuartvanhorn@whccd.edu](mailto:stuartvanhorn@whccd.edu) or 559-934-2131.**



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