SOUTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
128 S. Fifth Street
Fowler, California 93625

June 2, 2017

Mark Nordberg, GSA Project Manager
Senior Engineering Geologist
Department of Water Resources
901 P Street, Room
213A Post Office Box
942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Delivery via E-Mail
(MarkNordberg@water.ca.gov)

RE: NOTICE OF THE SOUTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY'S ELECTION TO BECOME A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR A PORTION OF THE KINGS SUBBASIN

Dear Mr. Nordberg,

Pursuant to California Water Code Section 10723.8 of the Sustainability Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"), the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("Agency") provides this notice to the Department of Water Resources ("DWR") of its election to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("GSA") and to undertake sustainable groundwater management in the portion of the Kings Subbasin (DWR Bulletin 118 Subbasin 5-22.08) underlying the Agency's boundary as indicated on the map attached hereto as **Exhibit "A."** The Agency is comprised of a number of local agencies that have formed a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) to coordinate this effort. Copies of the Joint Powers Authority Agreement is attached. The local agencies that will comprise the Authority include: City of Fowler, City of Kingsburg, City of Parlier, City of Sanger, and City of Selma (Five Cities).

On May 25, 2017, the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency JPA opened a noticed public hearing in accordance with California Water Code Section 10723(b). The public hearing was closed on May 25, 2017. Proof of publication of notice of the public hearing, in accordance with Government Code Section 6066, is attached hereto as **Exhibit "B."**

After holding the public hearing, the JPA's Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2017-01, attached hereto as **Exhibit "C,"** electing to become a GSA pursuant to SGMA for the portion of the Kings Subbasin within the boundaries of spheres of influence of the Five Cities. The spheres of influence contain the service boundaries for domestic water customers served through extraterritorial water service agreements, as well as primary land use responsibilities in regards to annexations of land into the City limits. The Agency intends to work collaboratively with

other formed GSA's in the Kings Subbasin to jointly manage groundwater and to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("GSP"). The Agency anticipated entering into agreements with other formed GSA's within the Kings Subbasin for the purpose of implementing cooperative, coordinate structure for the management of groundwater and the development of a GSP.

Pursuant to California Water Code Section 10723.2, the Agency shall consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing a GSP. An initial list of stakeholders and interested parties include, but are not limited to, the following:

a) Holders of overlying groundwater rights, including:

   1) Agricultural users –

      Approximately 70% of the Agency's area is developed urban area (city limits) and 30% is undeveloped area in the cities' spheres of influence. The city limit areas will be represented by the representatives of each agency. The agricultural community in the sphere areas will have an opportunity to be involved in Agency committees and subcommittees. Fresno County will also have an opportunity to participate through a memoranda of understanding and committee activities.

   2) Domestic well owners –

      Domestic well owners will have the opportunity to seek representation as an interested party on a committee of the Agency or through public participation. However, because SGMA excludes "de minimis extractors," it is anticipated that the GSP will exclude domestic wells from such requirements.

b) Municipal well operators

   Four incorporated cities (Fowler, Kingsburg, Sanger, and Parlier) and Cal Water (Selma) are municipal well operators within the Agency's boundary. Each is represented through participation in the Joint Powers Authority and committees.

c) Public Water Systems

   There are no public water system operators within the Agency boundaries except those mentioned in the municipal well operator category above.

d) Local land use planning agencies

   The County of Fresno, the City of Selma, the City of Sanger, the City of Parlier, the City of Kingsburg and the City of Fowler will either have representation on the Joint Powers Authority Board, Technical Committees or through a Memorandum of Understanding.

e) Environmental users of groundwater

At this time, the Agency is not aware of any environmental users of groundwater within the Agency's boundaries.

f) Surface water users, if there is a hydrologic connection between surface and groundwater bodies

It is unknown at this time if such users exist in the Kings Subbasin. The Agency will consider and evaluate whether such users do exist.

g) The Federal Government, including, but not limited to, the military and managers of federal lands

There are no other known lands owned or operated by the Federal Government within the Agency's boundaries.

h) California Native American tribes

The Agency will submit a Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request to the Native American Heritage Commission. A representative from local tribes could seek representation as an interested party on a committee of the Agency or through public participation.

i) Disadvantaged communities, including, but not limited to, those served by private domestic wells or small community water systems

Portions of the area within the Agency's boundaries are categorized as Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) and are within the urban areas of the five cities and therefore will be represented through City membership in the Joint Powers Authority.

j) Entities listed in Water Code section 10927 that are monitoring and reporting groundwater elevations in all or a part of a groundwater basin managed by the groundwater sustainability agency

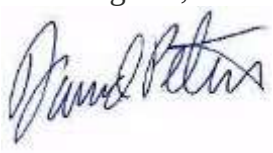
The Kings River Conservation District (KRCD) is the California Statewide Groundwater Monitoring Program (CASGEM) monitoring entity for the Kings Subbasin. KRCD compiles groundwater measurement data from local agencies and inputs the collected data to CASGEM.

The Agency intends to work cooperatively with stakeholders to develop and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by collaborating with other GSA's in the Kings Subbasin. The Agency will maintain a list of interested parties to be included in the formation

of a GSP. Interested parties will have opportunities, both formal and informal, to provide input to the Agency throughout the process of developing, operating, and implementing the GSA and GSP. Such opportunities may include, but are not limited to, public comment during the Agency's regular and special meetings and committee meetings, and at other times to be determined and noticed pursuant to Water Code section 10727.8(a). By this notification, the Agency has provided DWR with all applicable information in California Water Code section 10723.8(a).

Please contact me if you have any questions at (559) 299-1544 x 111 or at dpeters@peters-engineering.com.

Best Regards,



David Peters, PE
Secretary
South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency JPA

Attachments:

Exhibit "A'' — GSA Map
Exhibit "B" – Proof of publication of the notice of public hearing
Exhibit "C" – Resolution 2017-01

EXHIBIT A

MADERA SUBBASIN
New Stone W.D.
Madera I.D.
Root Creek W.D.
Garfield W.D.
International W.D.
Pine Flat Reservoir
Millerton Lake
Friant
Firebaugh
Columbia Canal Co.
Central California I.D.
Gravelly Ford W.D.
Aliso W.D.
Firebaugh Canal W.D.
Farmers W.D.
Mendota
Biola
Clovis
NORTH KINGS GSA
Fresno I.D.
Fresno
Kerman
Calwa
Squaw Valley
Dunlap
DELTA MENDOTA SUBBASIN
Mid-Valley W.D.
Sanger
Kings River W.D.
Tri-Valley W.D.
Hills Valley I.D.
Miramonte
Fresno Slough W.D.
Tranquility
Tranquillity I.D.
KINGS SUBBASIN
Easton
Del Rey
MCMULLIN GROUP
Fowler
Orange Cove
Orange Cove I.D.
WESTSIDE SUBBASIN
San Joaquin
JAMES ID GSA
Raisin City
Raisin City W.D.
CONSOLIDATED ID GSA
Parlier
Reedley
Burrel Ditch Co.
Monmouth
Selma
Stinson Canal & Irrigation Co.
Caruthers
Consolidated I.D.
Dinuba
East Orosi
Orosi
Cutler
Alta I.D.
Kingsburg
Cantua
Stinson W.D.
KINGS RIVER EAST GSA
Liberty W.D.
Liberty Canal Company
NORTH FORK KINGS GSA
London
Stone Corral I.D.
Reed Ditch Company
Liberty Millrace Company
Riverdale I.D.
Traver
Five Points
Lanare
Riverdale
Laton
Crescent Canal Company
Laguna I.D.
Peoples Ditch Co.
Ivanhoe I.D.
Woodlake
Westlands W.D.
Lemoore Canal & Irrigation Co.
Lemoore
Kings County W.D.
St. Johns W.D.
Ivanhoe
Lemon Cove
Goshen
Upper San Jose Water Co.
Clark's Fork Reclamation District
TULARE LAKE SUBBASIN
KAWEAH SUBBASIN
LEMOORE NAVAL AIR STATION
Armona
Hanford
Visalia
Farmersville
John Heinlen MWC
Lemoore
Hanford
Exeter

N
W
E
S

Groundwater Subbasin - adjusted
KRCD Boundary
South Kings GSA

Miles
0 2.5 5 10

CITY OF FOWLER
128 S 5TH STREET
FOWLER, CA 93625
0003074791

The Fresno Bee
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Central Valley
The Valley's Lifestyle Magazine
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PROOF OF PUBLICATION

COUNTY OF FRESNO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

The undersigned states:

McClatchy Newspapers in and on all dates herein stated was a corporation, and the owner and publisher of The Fresno Bee. The Fresno Bee is a daily newspaper of general circulation now published, and on all-the-dates herein stated was published in the City of Fresno, County of Fresno, and has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Fresno, State of California, under the date of November 28, 1994, Action No. 520058-9.
The undersigned is and on all dates herein mentioned was a citizen of the United States, over the age of twenty-one years, and is the principal clerk of the printer and publisher of said newspaper; and that the notice, a copy of which is hereto annexed, marked Exhibit A, hereby made a part hereof, was published in The Fresno Bee in each issue thereof (in type not smaller than nonpareil), on the following dates.

May 15, 2017, May 22, 2017

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated May 22, 2017

Holly Zarate

PUBLIC NOTICE

#3074791

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER

FORMATION OF A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority

Notice is hereby given that the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority ("South Kings GSA JPA"), whose membership is comprised of Cities of Sanger, Parlier, Fowler, Selma, and Kingsburg, will hold a public hearing regarding the adoption of a Resolution of Intent to form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("GSA") as set forth in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, Part 2.74 of Division 6 of the California Water Code (commencing with Section 10720). The proposed GSA is within the Kings Sub-basin (Sub-basin no. 5-22.08) of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin, all as described in California Department of Water Resources Bulletin 118 (2016 update). The boundaries of the proposed GSA consist of the city spheres of influence of the members of the South Kings GSA JPA. The public hearing is for the purpose of reviewing and providing explanation of the proposal, and allowing public input on the formation of the proposed GSA.

The public hearing will be held on the following date and time, and at the following location:

Thursday, May 25, 2017
6:00 p.m.
City of Fowler Council Chambers
128 S. 5th St., Fowler, CA 93625

Individuals with a disability requiring a modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, or require the services of an interpreter in order to participate in the public meeting may make these requests to the Clerk of the Fowler City Council (559) 834-3113. The Clerk will make every effort to accommodate requests for assistance. Requests should be made in advance of the public hearing if possible.

EXHIBIT B

EXHIBIT C

SOUTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-001

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO BECOME A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY PURSUANT TO THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT FOR THE PORTIONS OF THE KINGS SUBBASIN WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE AGENCY

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2014, the Governor signed into law, three bills (SB 1168, AB 1739, and SB 1319) collectively referred to as the "Sustainable Groundwater Management Act" ("SGMA"), effective on January 1, 2015, and amended from time-to-time thereafter; and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires all high and medium priority groundwater basins, as designated by Bulletin 118 issued by the California Department of Water Resources ("DWR"), to be managed by Groundwater Sustainability Agencies ("GSAs"); and

WHEREAS, the Kings Subbasin (Subbasin 5-22.08 of the San Joaquin Valley Basin as defined by Bulletin 118) has been designated by DWR as a high priority basis; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code section 10723(a) authorizes a local agency with water supply, water management, or local land use responsibilities, or a combination of such local agencies, overlying a groundwater basis to elect to become a GSA; and.

WHEREAS, the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency is a joint powers authority formed pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Gov. Code, §§ 6500, et seq.), consisting of the cities of Sanger, Parlier, Fowler, Selma, and Kingsburg, who are are qualified local agencies under SGMA, and thus is eligible to serve as a GSA within the Kings Subbasin; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code section 10723.2 requires that a GSA consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing Groundwater Sustainability Plans ("GSPs"), and

WHEREAS, California Water Code section 10723.8 requires that a "local agency" electing to become a GSA notify DWR of its election and intention to undertake sustainable groundwater management within a subbasin; and

WHEREAS, the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency held a public hearing on May 25, 2017, after publication pursuant to California Government Code section 6066, to consider the adoption of this Resolution and its election to become a GSA within the Kings Subbasin; and

WHEREAS, the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency desires to exercise the powers and authorities of a GSA granted by SGMA.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY does hereby resolve, declare, and order as follows:

1. The South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency hereby elects to become a GSA and to undertake sustainable groundwater management in the portion of the Kings Subbasin underlying the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency's boundaries.

2. The South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency shall develop a program for stakeholder outreach to ensure that all beneficial uses and users of groundwater within the agency's boundaries are considered.

3. The South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency intends to negotiate memorandums of understanding, and other necessary agreements with other agencies or entities managing groundwater in the Kings Subbasin so as to provide for the coordinated management of groundwater within the Kings Suibbasin.

4. The Board of Directors of the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency is authorized to submit to DWR a notice of intent to undertake sustainable groundwater management in accordance with SGMA.

5. Staff is directed to send to DWR the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency's notification of its election to become a GSA. Such notification shall include:

(a) The boundaries of the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency as set forth on the map attached hereto as Exhibit 1. The boundaries of the agency shall be the spheres of influence for the five cities that are the members of the joint powers authority, or to the extent allowable by law.

(b) A copy of this Resolution.

(c) A list of the interested parties developed pursuant to Water Code section 10723.2, and an explanation of how their interests will be considered in the development and operation of the GSA and the development and implementation of the GSP.

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The foregoing resolution was approved and adopted at a meeting of the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency held on the 25th day of May, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

CHAIR OF THE BOARD

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

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