Derek R. Hoffman, SBN 285784 Derek.Hoffman@greshamsavage.com Christopher M. Carrillo, SBN 289463 2 Chris.Carrillo@greshamsavage.com GRESHAM SAVAGE NOLAN & TILDEN, PC 3 550 East Hospitality Lane, Suite 300 San Bernardino, CA 92408-4205 4 (909) 890-4499 Telephone: (909) 890-9877 Facsimile: Attorneys for Malwa 165 Street LLC 6 7 8 9 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 10 11 **Judicial Council Coordination** 12 Coordination Proceeding Special Title (Rule 1550(b)) Proceeding No. 4408 13 ANTELOPE VALLEY Santa Clara Case No. 1-05-CV-049053 **GROUNDWATER CASES** Assigned to the Honorable Jack Komar 14 Department 17C Including Consolidated Actions: 15 MALWA 165 STREET LLC NOTICE OF **Los Angeles County Waterworks District**) MOTION AND MOTION FOR LEAVE TO 16 No. 40 v. Diamond Farming Co. INTERVENE IN JUDGMENT: Superior Court of California, County of Los) MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND 17 Angeles, Case No. BC 325 201 **AUTHORITIES** 18 **Los Angeles County Waterworks District**) [Declarations of Chris Carrillo and Harjit Singh; 19 No. 40 v. Diamond Farming Co. and [Proposed] Order filed concurrently] Superior Court of California, County of Kern, Case No. S-1500-CV-254-348 September 29, 2020 20 Date: 9:00 a.m. Time: Wm. Bolthouse Farms, Inc. v. City of 1 – Appearance By CourtCall 21 Dept.: Lancaster Judge: Hon. Jack Komar, Judge 22 Diamond Farming Co. v. City of Lancaster [Hearing to be conducted by CourtCall] Diamond Farming Co. v. Palmdale 23 Water Dist. Superior Court of California, County of 24 Riverside, consolidated actions, Case Nos. RIC 353 840, RIC 344 436, RIC 344 668 AND RELATED ACTIONS. 26 -1-

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TO THE COURT, ALL PARTIES AND TO THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on September 29, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. or as soon as the Santa Clara County Superior Court [for above-entitled court located at 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, California] may hear the matter telephonically by CourtCall, with the parties to appear by CourtCall, Malwa 165 Street LLC ("Malwa"), will and hereby does move the Court for an order granting it leave to intervene in the December 23, 2015 Judgment and Physical Solution ("Judgment") in the above-captioned Antelope Valley Groundwater Adjudication, pursuant to Section 20.9 of the Judgment and Section 387 of the California *Code of Civil Procedure*. This notice and motion is based on the attached Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the concurrently-filed Declarations of Chris Carrillo and Harjit Singh, on all papers filed and records in this action, and on any evidence received at the hearing.

The grounds for granting this Motion are as follows:

- 1. As set forth in the Judgment, this Court retained continuing jurisdiction over the groundwater adjudication action to make such further supplemental orders or directions as may be necessary or appropriate to implement the Judgment for the proper management of the Antelope Valley Area of Adjudication's ("Basin") water resources. (Judgment § 6.5.)
- 2. The Judgment provides that any person or entity, who is not a Party or successor to a Party and who proposes to Produce Groundwater from the Basin, to acquire a Production Right or to otherwise take actions that may affect the Basin's Groundwater is required to seek to become a Party subject to the Judgment through a noticed motion to intervene in this Judgment prior to commencing Production, following consultation with the Antelope Valley Watermaster ("Watermaster") Engineer ("Engineer") and requesting the Watermaster's stipulation to the proposed intervention. (Judgment § 20.9.)
- 3. Malwa's Motion to intervene and become a party to the Judgment is proper under Section 20.9 of the Judgment because Malwa completed all prerequisite steps under the Judgment and Watermaster Rules and Regulations to qualify for New Production prior to filing this Motion. Malwa procured, through Antelope Valley Engineering, Inc., a projection of its estimated annual water demand of 3.53 acre-feet for the property located at the northeast corner

of Pearblossom Highway (Highway 138) and 165th Street East in the unincorporated community of Llano, CA 93544 which bears Los Angeles County Assessor's Parcel Number 3036-011-033. Malwa submitted a *New Production Application* to the Watermaster Engineer in accordance with Judgment Section 18.5.13 and the applicable Watermaster Rules and Regulations. The Application was recommended by the Engineer and approved by the Watermaster on July 22, 2020 in accordance with Judgment Section 18.4.9. Malwa has filed this Motion within the thirty (30) day time period following Watermaster approval, as required by the Watermaster.

4. Malwa's intervention in the Judgment is also proper under California *Code of Civil Procedure* section 387 because it owns property subject to the Judgment, because intervention is necessary to protect Malwa's interest in that property and its ability to produce groundwater in accordance with the Judgment, and because Malwa's interests are not adequately represented by existing parties to the Judgment.

DATED: August 19, 2020 Respectfully submitted,

GRESHAM SAVAGE NOLAN & TILDEN, PC

DEREK R. HOFFMAN, ESQ.

CHRIS CARRILLO, ESQ.

Attorneys for Malwa 165 Street LLC

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MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

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Malwa 165 Street LLC ("Malwa"), brings this Motion to Intervene ("Motion") in the December 23, 2015 Judgment and Physical Solution ("Judgment") in the above-captioned action

pursuant to Section 20.9 of the Judgment. That section provides that any person or entity, who is not a Party or successor to a Party and who proposes to Produce Groundwater from the Basin, to

acquire a Production Right or to otherwise take actions that may affect the Basin's Groundwater is required to seek to become a Party subject to the Judgment through a noticed motion to

intervene in this Judgment prior to commencing Production, following consultation with the

Antelope Valley Watermaster ("Watermaster") Engineer ("Engineer") and requesting the Watermaster's approval of the proposed intervention. (Judgment §§ 18.4.9, 18.5.13, 20.9.)

Malwa seeks an order of the Court allowing it to intervene in the Judgment and establish its right

for New Production of groundwater under the Judgment and become subject, in all material

II. STATEMENT OF FACTS

respects, to the Judgment as an intervenor.

INTRODUCTION

Malwa owns approximately thirteen (13) acres of land located at the northeast corner of Pearblossom Highway (Highway 138) and 165th Street East in the unincorporated community of Llano, CA 93544 which bears Los Angeles County Assessor's Parcel Number 3036-011-033 ("Property"). Malwa plans to construct a gas station and convenience store ("Project") that will consist of 4,800 total square feet with a convenience store and a sandwich shop which will consist of approximately 2,000 square feet. (Singh Decl., ¶ 2; Carrillo Decl., ¶ 3.)

demands for the Project will include commercial usage (including handwashing/sanitation, food preparation, restrooms), slight landscaping, cooling and fire protection. The amount of New Production is estimated to be 3.53 acre-feet per year (2.97 acrefeet proposed for commercial use and .56 acre-feet per year for irrigation). There is an existing well on the property that Malwa plans to use for irrigation of the Project landscaping. Malwa will construct a new well for the commercial water usage for the building and improvements. (Singh Decl., ¶ 3; Carrillo Decl., ¶ 4.)

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On May 28, 2020, Malwa's engineer, Antelope Valley Engineering, Inc., submitted an Estimate of Annual Water Demands for the Project, which demands are projected to be 3.53 acre feet per year. (Singh Decl., ¶ 4, Ex. "A"; Carrillo Decl., ¶ 5.)

Malwa submitted a *New Production Application* ("Application") to the Antelope Valley Watermaster on June 8, 2020. (Singh Decl., ¶5. Ex. "A"; Carrillo Decl., ¶ 6.)

In order to ensure that this Project does not cause a Material Injury to the Basin, Malwa agreed to meter the wells, pay Replacement Assessments, and abide by the terms of the Judgment applicable to the Property and the Project. (Singh Decl., ¶ 6; Carrillo Decl., ¶ 7.)

On July 1, 2020 Todd Groundwater, the Watermaster Engineer, found and informed the Watermaster that the Project's potential for Material Injury as defined by the Judgment is negligible. (Singh Decl., ¶ 7, Ex. "B"; Carrillo Decl., ¶ 8.)

The Watermaster approved Malwa's Application on July 22, 2020, through Watermaster Resolution No. R-20-23. (Singh Decl., ¶ 8, Ex. "C"; Carrillo Decl., ¶ 9.)

Intervention is appropriate under the Judgment because Malwa has acquired property that is within the jurisdiction boundaries of the Judgment, has applied for and obtained the Engineer's recommendation and the Watermaster's approval for intervention in accordance with Judgment Sections 18.4.9 and 18.5.13, and seeks an order of the Court making it an intervenor under and subject to the Judgment in accordance with Judgment Section 20.9. Malwa's intervention will not cause a Material Injury to the Basin. (Singh Decl., ¶ 9; Carrillo Decl., ¶ 10.)

III. MALWA IS ENTITLED TO INTERVENE IN THIS ACTION

a. Malwa Has Complied with the Requirements of the Judgment.

As required by Sections 18.4.9, 18.5.13 and 20.9 of the Judgment, and the applicable Watermaster Rules and Regulations, Malwa applied to and secured the approval of the Engineer and Watermaster for Malwa's New Production. The Engineer and Watermaster made findings that Malwa's projected groundwater production would not cause a Material Injury to the Basin as defined by Section 3.5.18 of the Judgment, and that it is appropriate to allow Malwa to intervene in the Judgment. (Singh Decl., ¶ 10; Carrillo Decl., ¶ 11.) Malwa will serve this Motion in accordance with Section 20.7 of the Judgment by e-filing on the Court's website.

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Malwa's Intervention is Necessary and Appropriate. b.

Malwa's intervention is also necessary and appropriate under California Code of Civil *Procedure* section 387. Section 387 provides that a court *shall* permit a nonparty to intervene in an action or proceeding when that person claims an interest relating to the property that is the subject of the action, when the disposition of the action may impair or impede that person's ability to protect that interest, and when that interest is not adequately represented by an existing party. A court may also permit intervention upon timely application by a nonparty that has an interest in the subject matter of the litigation that may be affected, when the intervention will not enlarge the issues in the litigation and when the reasons for the intervention outweigh any opposition by the parties presently in the action. (Code Civ. Proc. § 387, subd. (d); US Ecology, Inc. v. State of California (2001) 92 Cal.App.4th 113, 139; Timberidge Enterprises, Inc. v. City of Santa Rosa (1978) 86 Cal.App.3d 873, 881.) As reflected by Section 20.9 of the Judgment, intervention may be granted at any time, even after judgment has been rendered. (Mallick v. Superior Court (1979) Cal.App.3d 434, 437.) The intervention statute is designed to promote fairness and to ensure maximum involvement by all responsible, interested and affected parties. (Mary R. v. B. & R. Corp. (1983) 149 Cal.App.3d 308, 314.) The statute "should be liberally construed in favor of intervention." (Lindelli v. Town of San Anselmo (2006) 139 Cal.App.4th 1499, 1505.)

Malwa's intervention is necessary to protect its Property and its ability to produce groundwater in accordance with the Judgment. Having acquired all of the rights to the Property within the jurisdiction of the Judgment, Malwa's interests are not now represented by an existing party to the Judgment. Malwa requires water for the Project and intervention is necessary to develop and operate the Project and to accomplish its objectives for the use of the Property overlying the Basin. (Singh Decl., ¶ 11; Carrillo Decl., ¶ 12.)

Neither Section 387 of the Code of Civil Procedure nor Section 20.9 of the Judgment impose a specific deadline for seeking intervention. Section 387 requires a "timely application", which courts have construed broadly and "liberally ... in favor of intervention." (Lindelli v. Town of San Anselmo (2006) 139 Cal.App.4th 1499, 1505.). In its approval of Malwa's

Application, the Watermaster required Malwa file this Motion within thirty (30) days of the July 22, 2020 Watermaster approval. This Motion is timely filed in accordance with that requirement.

Malwa does not seek to modify the Judgment, except to reflect Malwa as a party intervenor to the Judgment for approved New Production. (Singh Decl., ¶ 12; Carrillo Decl., ¶ 13.) Malwa's groundwater production will not cause Material Injury to the Basin. (Singh Decl., ¶ 9; Carrillo Decl., ¶ 10.) For these reasons, no reasonable or good faith basis exists for any opposition to Malwa's Motion to Intervene in the Judgment.

IV. CONCLUSION

Malwa has complied with the prerequisites of the Judgment and the Watermaster Rules and Regulations, and the intervention is necessary and appropriate under Section 387 of the *Code of Civil Procedure*. Malwa respectfully requests that this Court grant Malwa's Motion to Intervene.

DATED: August 192020 Respectfully submitted,

GRESHAM SAVAGE NOLAN & TILDEN, PC

By:

DEREK R. HOFFMAN, ESQ.

CHRIS CARRILLO, ESQ.

Attorneys for Malwa 165 Street LLC

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Re: ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER CASES

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judicial Council Coordinated

Proceedings No. 4408; Santa Clara County Superior Court Case No. 1-05-CV-049053

I am employed in the County of San Bernardino, State of California. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within action; my business address is: 550 East Hospitality Lane, Suite 300, San Bernardino, CA 92408-4205.

On August 19, 2020, I served the foregoing document(s) described MALWA'S NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE IN JUDGMENT; MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES on the interested parties in this action in the following manner:

(X) **BY ELECTRONIC SERVICE** – I caused such document(s) listed above to be electronically served, via One Legal, to all parties appearing on the Santa Clara County Superior Court website, http://www.scefiling.org, in the action of the Antelope Valley Groundwater Cases; proof of electronic-filing through One Legal is then printed and maintained with the original documents in our office. Electronic service is complete at the time of transmission. My electronic notification email address is dina.snider@greshamsavage.com,

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on August 19, 2020 at San Bernardino, California.

DINA M. SNIDER

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