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Exempt from filing fee
Government Code § 6103

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City of Lancaster and Rosamond Community
Services District
6

7
8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
9 FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
10

11 **ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER**
CASES
12 Included Actions:
13
14 Los Angeles County Waterworks District
No. 40 v. Diamond Farming Co.
Superior Court of California, County of
15 Los Angeles, Case No. BC325201;
16 Los Angeles County Waterworks District
No. 40 v. Diamond Farming Co.
17 Superior Court of California, County of Kern,
Case No. S-1500-CV-254-348
18 Wm. Bolthouse Farms, Inc. v. City of
19 Lancaster, Diamond Farming Co. v. City of
Lancaster, Diamond Farming Co. v. Palmdale
20 Water Dist., Superior Court of California
County of Riverside, consolidated actions; Case
21 Nos. RIC 353 840, RIC 344 436, RIC 344 668.
22
23

LASC, Case No. BC 325201
Judicial Council Coordination
Proceeding No. 4408
Santa Clara Case No. 1-05-CV 049053
Assigned to The Honorable Jack Komar

**OPPOSITION OF CITY OF
LANCASTER AND ROSAMOND
COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
TO MOTION FOR AN AWARD
FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES,
REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES;
AND CLASS REPRESENTATIVE
INCENTIVE AWARD**

DATE: March 22, 2011
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
DEPT: 1

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1 **I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT.**

2 The First Cause of Action for Declaratory Relief contained in the Willis Class Second
3 Amended Complaint (“SAC”) states “Plaintiff and the Class further seek a judicial determination as
4 to the priority and amount of water that *all parties in interest* are entitled to pump from the Basin.”
5 (Emphasis added.) The Willis Class settlement, however, does not achieve this result, as many issues
6 remain unresolved, including the Class’ right *vis a vis* other landowners. Instead, the Willis Class
7 “settlement” merely resolves one limited issue -- partial settlement of yet to be proven claims of
8 prescription by the Public Water Suppliers.¹ Moreover, the case settled on terms favorable to the
9 Defendants and the Class did not prevail on its multiple causes of action requesting monetary
10 damages. Lancaster and the Rosamond Community Services District (“Rosamond”) respectfully
11 request the motion be denied in its entirety or, alternatively, fees significantly reduced *by up to*
12 *five times* for the following reasons:²

13 1. The Class settlement does not achieve a “significant benefit” for the Class members
14 within the meaning of Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5. While the settlement does impose a
15 limit on the prescriptive rights that the settling Defendants will seek against the Willis Class, it does
16 not resolve the Class members’ rights in the Basin, as one of several issues left unresolved is
17 whether the dormant landowners’ rights may be subordinated.

18 2. Fees may only be awarded for time “reasonably spent.” Class counsel entered the
19 case in furtherance of the objective of the Court and Public Water Suppliers to achieve a
20 comprehensive adjudication within the meaning of the McCarran Amendment -- but then once
21 involved, Class counsel ran amok and ran up the bills. The amount of fees requested by Class counsel
22 is excessive, unwarranted and outrageous. As just one example, Class attorneys appear to have spent
23 nearly 1,000 hours in connection with written discovery and reviewing documents -- discovery that
24 was not required to effectuate the limited settlement and documents the Class attorneys did not
25 need to review.

26
27 ¹ The City of Lancaster (“Lancaster”) is not a Public Water Supplier. On September 17, 2008, Lancaster
affirmatively dismissed the First Cause of Action for Prescription contained in the Public Water Suppliers’
First Amended Cross-Complaint.

28 ² Lancaster and Rosamond join in the opposition briefs filed by the other Public Water Suppliers.
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1 3. The Class is requesting fees in an amount that can only be described as shocking.
2 Class counsel made no attempt to “prune” fees to what is reasonable, but instead padded hours and
3 used block billing entries. The trial court should not simply reduce the Class’ lodestar hours to
4 “what they should have asked for in the first place.” (*Christian Research Institute v. Alnor*, 165
5 Cal.App.4th, 1315, 1329 (2008) [affirmative reduction in time from over 600 hours to 71 hours].)
6 Instead, case law holds that to discourage such greed, a trial court would be acting within its
7 discretion if it denied an inflated fee request outright. Case law further provides that if any fees
8 are awarded, the court would be acting within its discretion if it reduced the lodestar by up to five
9 times -- which in this case equals a total award of \$450,000.

10 4. Any request for a positive multiplier should be denied. In fact, the court should apply
11 a negative multiplier because the quality of legal representation is already accounted for in counsel’s
12 lodestar hourly rate, payment of any fees will fall upon rate-payers and will be paid out of limited
13 public funds, and Class counsel did not prevail on seven of the eight causes of action set forth in the
14 SAC. Thus, if the court decides to award fees, the lodestar should be decreased significantly to
15 (i) reflect the Class’ limited success in a settlement that could have been negotiated with limited
16 participation of Class counsel, (ii) the outrageous number of hours claimed, and (iii) the fact that
17 public agencies will be required to pay the bills. (*See San Diego Police Officers’ Association v. San*
18 *Diego Police Department*, 76 Cal.App.4th 19, 24 (1999) [affirming trial court’s reduction of lodestar
19 by five times the amount requested based in part on the fact that “award of fees would ultimately be
20 borne by the taxpayers”].)

21 5. The Motion should be denied in its entirety as it relates to Lancaster for three reasons:
22 (1) Lancaster does not claim prescriptive rights and dismissed its claim for prescription long ago,
23 (2) Lancaster has not signed the settlement agreement and therefore the Class cannot be considered a
24 “prevailing party” on any claim *vis a vis* Lancaster, and (3) requiring Lancaster to pay any portion of
25 the award will result in its taxpayers having to effectively pay twice, as rate-payers of Public Water
26 Suppliers operating within Lancaster will be called upon to pay any fee award -- and these Public
27 Water Supplier rate-payers are also Lancaster taxpayers.

1 **II. CLASS-COUNSEL IS NOT ENTITLED TO ANY ATTORNEYS' FEES UNDER**
2 **CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE SECTION 1021.5.**

3 **A. This Case Did Not Confer a Significant Benefit Justifying an Award of**
4 **Attorneys' Fees.**

5 The outcome of the SAC did not confer a "significant benefit" justifying an award of any
6 attorneys' fees. Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5 gives the trial court discretion to award fees
7 to a successful party if that party's action (1) vindicated an important public right, (2) conferred a
8 significant benefit on the general public or a large class of persons, and (3) was necessary.
9 (*Concerned Citizens v. City of La Habra*, 131 Cal.App.4th 329, 334 (2005).) "The award of fees
10 under Section 1021.5 is an equitable function, and the trial court must realistically and pragmatically
11 evaluate the impact of the litigation to determine the statutory requirements have been met." (*Id.*) An
12 important right affecting the public interest and a significant public benefit are not synonymous. The
13 burden is on the fee claimant to establish each prerequisite to an award of attorneys' fees under
14 Section 1021.5. (*Ryan v. California Interscholastic Federation*, 94 Cal.App.4th 1033, 1044 (2001).)

15 The Willis Class has not met its burden to establish that this lawsuit has conferred a
16 "significant benefit" upon its members. One of the central legal issues associated with the Willis
17 Class is whether, in a basin-wide adjudication, the rights of dormant landowners have been
18 subordinated. While the approved Willis Class settlement imposes a limit on the prescriptive right
19 that the Defendants will seek against the Willis Class if prescription is ultimately proved to the
20 satisfaction of the court, it also acknowledges that the issue of subordination of the rights of the
21 dormant landowners is not resolved by the settlement. Section IV.D.2(a) provides:

22 "If there is a subsequent Court decision whereby the Court determines that the
23 Willis Class Members do not have overlying rights, this agreement shall not require
24 settling defendants to give the Willis Class Members any right to pump from the
25 native safe yield." (10:27-11:2.)

26 Because the Defendants have agreed in the settlement to only enforce any prescriptive rights
27 to the extent of 15% of the Basin's Federally Adjusted Native Safe Yield, a situation is created where
28 the Willis Class will of necessity seek to share in the other 85% correlatively with the other

1 landowners. This may well force the issue of whether dormant landowners are subordinated under
2 *In Re Waters of Long Valley Creeks Stream System*, 25 Cal.3d 339, 355 (1979). In *Long Valley*, the
3 California Supreme Court indicated that at least in the context of a State Water Resource Control
4 Board adjudication, priority rights could be de-prioritized and quantified to create a sense of certainty.
5 The fact that continuing to recognize a priority in unexercised overlying rights would impede
6 management of groundwater resources was subsequently recognized by the California Supreme Court
7 in a groundwater adjudication in the *City of Barstow v. City of Adelanto, et al.*, 23 Cal.4th, 1224,
8 1249, fn. 13 (2000).

9 Because the rights of the Class have not been firmly and finally resolved in the context of
10 the adjudication, and because many issues as to the Class are left unresolved, a significant benefit has
11 not been conferred upon them. An award of fees under these circumstances and at this time would
12 be inappropriate.

13 **III. CLASS COUNSEL’S HOURS ARE UNREASONABLE AND EXCESSIVE.**

14 “A trial court may not rubberstamp a request for attorneys’ fees, but must determine the
15 number of hours *reasonably* expended.” (*Donahue v. Donahue*, 1982 Cal.App.4th 259, 271 (2010);
16 *italics original.*) The lodestar should not be turned into a windfall, and a trial court should
17 “consider whether the case was overstaffed, how much time the attorneys spent on particular claims,
18 and whether the hours were reasonably expended.” (*Christian Research, supra*, 165 Cal.App.4th
19 at 1320.) “Attorneys fees may be awarded only for *hours reasonably spent.*” (*Ketchum v. Moses*,
20 24 Cal.4th 1122, 1137 (2001); *italics original.*) “Trial courts must carefully review attorney
21 documentation of hours expended; ‘padding’ in the form of inefficient or duplicative efforts is not
22 subject to compensation.” (*Id.* at 1132; *Serrano v. Unruh* (Serrano IV) 32 Cal.3d 621, 635 (1982)
23 [“a fee request that appears unreasonably inflated is a special circumstance permitting the trial court to
24 reduce the award or deny one all together.”])

25 The United States Supreme Court cautioned against overbilling in public interest litigation:

26 “[The trial court should] exclude . . . hours that were not “reasonably expended.” . . .

27 Cases may be overstaffed . . . Counsel for the prevailing parties should make a good

28 faith effort to exclude from a fee request hours that are excessive, redundant, or

1 otherwise unnecessary, just as a lawyer in private practice ethically is obligated to
2 exclude such hours from his fee submission. In the private sector, billing judgment is
3 an important component in fee setting. It is no less important here. Hours that are not
4 properly billed to *one's client* are also not properly billed to *one's adversary* pursuant
5 to statutory authority." (*Hensley v. Eckerhart*, 461 U.S. 424, 434 (1983); *italics*
6 *original*.)

7 In one case, a court of appeal upheld a trial court's reduction in attorneys fees from
8 \$137,459 to \$30,000 because the time claimed to be spent by the prevailing parties' attorneys was
9 excessive where four attorneys and five paralegals worked on the case. (*Levy v. Toyota Motor Sales*,
10 4 Cal.App.4th 807, 815-816 (1992).) The trial court in *Levy* aptly summed up the problem as follows:

11 "There is a growing practice in this community of which I am aware, for attorneys to
12 take advantage of cases in which attorneys fees are permitted by statute . . . [by]
13 exaggerat[ing] the amount of their fees because they realize they are going to be
14 awarded attorneys' fees." (*Levy, supra*, 4 Cal.App.4th at 812, fn. 1.)

15 **A. Hours Billed by Class Counsel are Excessive and Unreasonable.**

16 While most of the work by the Willis Class counsel was performed by Mr. Kalfayan and
17 Mr. Zlotnick, a total of eight attorneys, three "clerks," a paralegal and a staff member billed a total of
18 5,990.5 hours from November 2006 through December 2010 -- an average of 120 hours per month
19 for each month that counsel has been involved in the case. This is nothing short of outrageous. As
20 stated by one appellate court, quoting the California Supreme Court:

21 "If the Court were required to award a reasonable fee when an outrageously
22 unreasonably one has been asked for, claimants would be encouraged to make
23 unreasonable demands, knowing that the only unfavorable consequence of such
24 misconduct would be a reduction of their fee to what they should have asked for in the
25 first place. *To discourage such greed, a severer reaction is needed.*" [Quoting
26 *Serrano v. Unruh* (1982) 32 Cal.3d 621, 635; emphasis added.] Similarly, counsel may
27 not submit a plethora of non-compensible, vague, block billed attorney time entries and
28 expect particularized, individual deletions as the only consequence. The trial court

1 can reasonably conclude counsel made no effort to prune the fee request to comply
2 with the law. Counsel erred grievously by attempting to transfer that responsibility
3 onto the trial court. The trial court can reasonably conclude counsel's disregard for the
4 law undercut the credibility of their fee request and as officers of the court, *warranted*
5 *a severe reaction.*" (*Christian Research, supra*, 165 Cal.App.4th at 1329; emphasis
6 added.)

7 Specific evidence and examples of overbilling are detailed in the Opposition Brief filed by
8 Los Angeles County Water Works District No. 40 and are incorporated herein by reference. Other
9 instances of overbilling and/or where fees should be significantly reduced are discussed below.

10 **1. The Zlotnick Declaration and Billings.**

11 The Zlotnick Declaration indicates that "over the past 51 months, I have personally
12 spent 1,363.75 hours working on this matter; my lodestar for this case is \$613,687.50." (Zlotnick
13 Decl., ¶ 8.) This means on average, Mr. Zlotnick spent 27 hours each month working on this case.
14 Mr. Zlotnick was billing these hours while seven other lawyers for the Class billed away.

15 Moreover, Mr. Zlotnick's declaration claims that he spent 1,363.75 hours working on
16 the matter, but the billings/invoices submitted in support of the motion only identified 670.25 hours.
17 Mr. Zlotnick's bills also included significant "block billing" entries, which is frowned upon by the
18 courts when reviewing fee claims.

19 **2. The Kalfayan Declaration and Billings.**

20 Paragraph 10 of the Kalfayan Declaration reflects that he spent countless hours on
21 written discovery, reviewing technical documents, and assembling a data base. The question is
22 "why?" Mr. Kalfayan is not a hydrologist, hydrogeologist or other expert, and therefore spent
23 countless and unnecessary hours reviewing the documents. The same holds true for the countless
24 hours spent on propounding written discovery. The settlement agreement now approved by this court
25 could and should have been negotiated and finalized without any written discovery.

26 The Kalfayan Declaration further reflects that Mr. Kalfayan spent endless hours on
27 unnecessary and unsuccessful efforts: the original complaint was defective and subject to a
28 successful demurrer (Kalfayan Decl., ¶ 15.); Mr. Kalfayan brought an unsuccessful motion to strike

1 or enter judgment on the pleadings (Kalfayan Decl., ¶ 19.); the court denied Mr. Kalfayan's request
2 for a jury trial (Kalfayan Decl., ¶ 20.); a motion to dismiss was unnecessary and wasteful (Kalfayan
3 Decl., ¶ 21.); Mr. Kalfayan brought an unsuccessful motion for a court appointed expert when there
4 was no authority for a civil litigant to pay for an opposing party's expert (Kalfayan Decl., ¶¶ 22-26.);
5 Mr. Kalfayan spent hundreds of hours reviewing almost 90,000 pages of technical material -- a
6 wasteful and unnecessary effort (Kalfayan Decl., ¶ 32.) The settlement that was ultimately approved
7 could have been drafted and negotiated without Mr. Kalfayan performing any of the above work.
8 Class counsel should not be rewarded for "running up the tab," bringing failed motions and
9 performing unnecessary discovery.

10 A careful analysis of Mr. Kalfayan's billings is also revealing. As reflected in the
11 opposition filed by County Waterworks District No. 40, hundreds of hours were billed for preparing a
12 single opposition to a demurrer. Perhaps more egregious are the hours billed for written discovery and
13 document review. While precise hours cannot be gleaned due to the block billed entries, it appears
14 that approximately 520 hours were billed for written discovery and document review in 2008, and an
15 additional 440 hours billed in 2009 -- for a total of 960 hours.

16 Class counsel has made an outrageous and unreasonable request for fees believing
17 that the only consequence is a reduction of fees. As noted by our California Supreme Court in
18 *Serrano, supra*, 32 Cal.3d at 621, "a severer reaction is needed" to discourage such greed. Class
19 counsel made no effort to prune its fee request and is attempting to transfer that responsibility to this
20 court. This court should not condone such actions.

21 **3. Class Counsel Cannot Recover Fees for Pursuing Unsuccessful Causes of**
22 **Action.**

23 Trial courts should not award fees for pursuing separate and unsuccessful causes of
24 action. (*Hammond v. Agran*, 99 Cal.App.4th 115, 130, fn. 6 (2002); *see also Hensley, supra*, 461 U.S.
25 at 434-36 [if petitioner has pursued an unsuccessful claim that is unrelated to the successful claims,
26 the trial court can exclude all hours litigating the unsuccessful claims]; *County of San Luis Obispo v.*
27 *Abalone Alliance*, 178 Cal.App.3d 848, 869-70 (1986) [upholding trial court's reduction of fees of
28 \$220,669 to \$82,500 (and denial of 150% multiplier) because the prevailing party was not completely

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1 successful]; *San Bernardino Valley Audobon Society v. County of San Bernardino*, 155 Cal.App.3d
2 738, 757 (1984) [trial court properly deducted the amount of fees on unsuccessful causes of action
3 from the total fees award].)

4 Here, the SAC includes eight causes of action for declaratory relief, quiet title,
5 damages pursuant to the California Constitution Takings Clause, damages pursuant to the United
6 States Constitution Takings Clause, public and private nuisance, trespass, conversion, and injunctive
7 relief -- the latter of which is not a cause of action. The third through seventh causes of action all
8 request monetary damages, and the Class was unsuccessful in pursuing these claims, yet billings
9 submitted by Mr. Kalfayan reference hundreds of hours researching and pursuing these failed causes
10 of action for monetary damages. A significant discount of the lodestar is required under these
11 circumstances.

12 **IV. THE 150% UPWARD MULTIPLIER CLASS COUNSEL HAS REQUESTED IS**
13 **UNREASONABLE AND UNSUBSTANTIATED -- A SUBSTANTIAL NEGATIVE**
14 **MULTIPLIER IS APPROPRIATE.**

15 While courts have upheld multipliers, “the parties seeking the fee enhancement bears the
16 burden of proof” to show that contingent risk, difficulty in the legal questions and quality of
17 representation merit an upward multiplier. (*Ketchum, supra*, 24 Cal.4th at 1138.) The difficulty in
18 the legal questions and the quality of representation are already accounted for in the hourly rate, so
19 any multiplier for these factors would be “improper double accounting.” (*Id.* at 1138.) In addition,
20 the complexity of the issues is already accounted for in the billable hours. (*Blum v. Stenson*, 465 U.S.
21 886, 899 (1984).)

22 A multiplier may not be “imposed for the purpose of punishing the losing party.” (*Ketchum,*
23 *supra*, 24 Cal.4th at 1139.) A 150% multiplier would increase Mr. Kalfayan’s hourly rate of \$400
24 per hour and Mr. Zlotnick’s hourly rate of \$450 per hour to \$600 per hour and \$675 per hour,
25 respectively. These rates would effectively punish the settling public agency Defendants. The
26 California Supreme Court has cautioned that where the attorneys’ fees award would not be paid out
27 by a private wrongdoer, “but would ultimately fall upon the shoulders of California taxpayers,” this
28 factor weighs against a multiplier. (*Serrano v. Unruh*, (Serrano III), 20 Cal.3d 25, 49 (1978); see
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1 also *San Diego Police Officers' Association, supra*, 76 Cal.App.4th at 24 [affirming trial court's
2 reduction of lodestar by five times amount requested based in part on the fact that "award of fees
3 would ultimately be borne by the taxpayer."]; *Andre v. City of West Sacramento*, 92 Cal.App.4th
4 532, 537 (2001) [attorneys to prevailing plaintiff in inverse condemnation cases may be reduced
5 because they impose an unnecessary burden on public funds.]

6 "Needless to say, the trial court may not consider a multiplier when presented with an inflated,
7 unreasonable fee request." (*Christian Research, supra*, 165 Cal.App.4th at 1329.) Furthermore, "the
8 unjustified duplication of work . . . requires a negative multiplier decreasing the lodestar." (*Thayer v.*
9 *Wells Fargo Bank*, 92 Cal.App.4th 819, 834 (2001).) Similarly, in *Californians for Responsible*
10 *Toxics Management v. Kizer*, 211 Cal.App.3d 961, 975 (1989), the court approved a trial court's use
11 of a 35% fractional multiplier because "Plaintiff did not succeed on any of its motions. Likewise, the
12 Court made the factual finding that the result achieved was contributed to by 'many other agencies,
13 political entities and individuals."

14 Here, the court has been presented with an inflated and unreasonable fee request that will be
15 borne by rate payers of public agencies. As in *California for Responsible Toxics Management*, Class
16 counsel failed on all its motions. Similarly, the approved settlement agreement was primarily the
17 work of the settling Defendants. The court would be acting well within its discretion, consistent with
18 the authorities cited above, applying a negative multiplier and reduce the lodestar by five times,
19 resulting in a fee award of \$450,000.

20 **V. NO FEES OR COSTS SHOULD BE AWARDED AGAINST THE**
21 **CITY OF LANCASTER.**

22 At the request of County Waterworks District No. 40, Lancaster joined as a party to the
23 Public Water Suppliers' First Amended Complaint, as it supported and continues to support the
24 concept of a need for a comprehensive physical solution. Lancaster, however, only produces water
25 as a overlyer. Therefore, on September 17, 2008, Lancaster filed a request for dismissal of the first
26 cause of action of the first amended cross-complaint of the Public Water Suppliers' -- the cause of
27 action which alleged prescriptive rights. Lancaster has never claimed prescriptive rights -- a fact
28 that has been known to the Willis Class counsel all along. Given that the settlement only partially

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1 resolves the issue of prescription between the Class and other public water agency/appropriators, no
2 fee should be awarded against Lancaster.

3 The motion should be denied as to Lancaster for two additional reasons. First, as counsel for
4 Lancaster will confirm to the Court, Lancaster, like the City of Los Angeles, State of California, and
5 the Antelope Valley East-Kern Water Agency (none of whom were named in the Willis Class SAC)
6 is an overlyer. Lancaster has repeatedly requested Class counsel dismiss Lancaster from the
7 proceeding, but to date has been unsuccessful in negotiating the dismissal. An appropriate motion
8 will be brought by Lancaster if it is not ultimately dismissed by the Willis Class from its SAC.
9 Lancaster was not privy to the negotiations surrounding the settlement agreement and is not a
10 signatory to the now approved settlement agreement. Because Lancaster is not a signatory to the
11 settlement agreement, the Class cannot be considered a “prevailing party” as against Lancaster for the
12 purpose of a fee award pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5. (*See Graham v. Daimler*
13 *Chrysler*, 34 Cal.4th 553, 566, 575 (2005).)

14 A final reason that fees should not be awarded against Lancaster is that its taxpayers would
15 effectively be hit twice. Both County Waterworks District No. 40 and Quartz Hill Water District
16 provide water service within Lancaster’s jurisdiction. If rate payers of those agencies residing
17 within Lancaster city limits bear the burden of a fee award, those same people would effectively be
18 paying twice -- both as water district rate payers and City taxpayers.

19 **VI. CONCLUSION.**


20 Class counsel became involved in this case solely to address pre-existing McCarran
21 Amendment concerns. If Class counsel perceived its role was to only obtain a settlement or result
22 consistent with the terms of the approved settlement agreement, that result could have been obtained
23 with a fraction of the time or effort allegedly expended by Class counsel.

24 Because no real significant or final benefit has been conferred on the Class, the court would
25 be justified in awarding nothing. Similarly, unreasonably inflated bills, as is the case here, is a special
26 circumstance permitting the court to deny the fee request altogether. (*See Serrano IV, supra*,
27 32 Cal.3d at 635.) Alternatively, if the court awards fees, it would be acting within its discretion, and
28 should in fact reduce the lodestar significantly -- up to five times of the requested lodestar -- because

1 of (1) unsuccessful motions, (2) unsuccessful causes of action, (3) unnecessary discovery, (4) block
2 billed entries, (5) the utilization of eight attorneys, (6) excessive hourly rates, (7) the approved
3 settlement agreement could have been negotiated at a small fraction of the time and costs expended,
4 and (8) public agencies will ultimately be paying the fee award.

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DATED: March 9, 2011 MURPHY & EVERTZ LLP

By: 
Douglas J. Evertz, Attorneys for Defendants
City of Lancaster and Rosamond Community
Services District

1 **PROOF OF SERVICE**

2 **ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER CASES**
3 Judicial Council Coordination, Proceeding No. 4408

4 Santa Clara Case No. 1-05-CV 049053
5 Assigned to the Honorable Jack Komar
6 Los Angeles County Superior Court, Central, Dept. 1

7 I am a resident of the State of California, over 18 years of age and not a party to this action. I
8 am employed in the County of Orange, State of California. My business address is 650 Town Center
9 Drive, Suite 550, Costa Mesa, California 92626. On March 9, 2011, I served the within
10 document(s):

11 **OPPOSITION OF CITY OF LANCASTER AND ROSAMOND COMMUNITY**
12 **SERVICES DISTRICT TO MOTION FOR AN AWARD**
13 **FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES, REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES; AND CLASS**
14 **REPRESENTATIVE INCENTIVE AWARD**

15 by posting the document(s) listed above to the website <http://www.scefiling.org>, a
16 dedicated link to the Antelope Valley Groundwater Cases; Santa Clara Case
17 No. 1-05-CV 049053, Assigned to the Honorable Jack Komar, said document(s) is
18 electronically served/distributed therewith.

19 By transmitting via e-mail the document(s) listed above to the e-mail address(es) and/or
20 fax number(s) set forth below on this date.

21 by placing the document(s) listed above in a sealed Overnight Express envelope/package for
22 overnight delivery at Costa Mesa, California addressed as set forth below.

23 by causing personal delivery by Nationwide Legal of the document(s) listed above, to the
24 person(s) at the address(es) set forth below.

25 I am readily familiar with Murphy & Evertz, LLP's practice for collecting and processing
26 correspondence for mailing. Under that practice it would be deposited with the U.S. Postal Service
27 on the same day that the correspondence is placed for collection and mailing, it is deposited in the
28 ordinary course of business with the United States Postal Service, in a sealed envelope with postage
fully prepaid.

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

Executed on March 9, 2011, at Costa Mesa, California.


LORIN MORENO