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ANTELOPE VALLEY

MICHAEL T. FIFE (State Bar No. 203025) BRADLEY J. HERREMA (State Bar No. 228976) BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP 21 East Carrillo Street Santa Barbara, California 93101 Telephone No: (805) 963-7000 Facsimile No: (805) 965-4333

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FOR THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

GROUNDWATER CASES
Included Actions:
Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40 v. Diamond Farming Co. Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles, Case No. BC 325 201 Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40 v. Diamond Farming Co. Superior Court of California, County of Kern, Case No. S-1500-CV-254-348Wm. Bolthouse Farms, Inc. v. City of Lancaster Diamond Farming Co. v. City of Lancaster Diamond Farming Co. v. Palmdale Water Dist. Superior Court of California, County of Riverside, consolidated actions, Case No. RIC 353 840, RIC 344 436, RIC 344 668
'

Judicial Council Coordination Proceeding No. 4408

Santa Clara Case No. 1-05-CV-049053 Assigned to The Honorable Jack Komar

RESPONSE TO PROPOSED CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER

Date: August 11, 2008

Time: 9:00 am

Dept: 1

RESPONSE TO PROPOSED CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER

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The Antelope Valley Groundwater Agreement Association (AGWA) submits the following comments to the August 1, 2008 Proposed Case Management Order ("Proposed Order") submitted by counsel for Richard A. Wood. AGWA wishes to clarify that it agrees with the Proposed Order in all respects, except that it believes that the proposed Phase 2A and 2B Trials should be held within the Antelope Valley, at the Michael Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse in Lancaster.

In 2005, during the proceedings for the coordination of the quiet title actions pending in Riverside County and the Los Angeles County and Kern County proceedings, the question of venue was discussed at length. Given the profound impact that this adjudication could have on the community, it was almost universally agreed that the case should be heard locally, in Lancaster. The preference of all parties was that the case be heard within the community itself at the Lancaster courthouse. (See March 16, 2005 letter of Jeffrey V. Dunn, attached hereto as Exhibit 1; See Judicial Council Coordination Proceeding No. 4408, March 17 2005 Hearing Transcript, 42:15-18, attached hereto as Exhibit 2 [Mr. Weinstock: We do support the idea of having all the hearings of the trial in the case, in Lancaster, in the interests of the convenience of the parties, numerous landowners who are there.]; 44:9-10 [Mr. Dunn: We wish to put on record our support...to have the case venued in Lancaster.])

AGWA believes that these the same concerns that led to the parties' agreement in 2005 exist today, and that all trial phases in this case, including the Phases 2A and 2B described in the Proposed Order, should be heard in Lancaster. The Court's determination in these Phases has the potential to have tremendous impacts on water use within the Basin - particularly on irrigated agriculture - and remains very important to the landowner parties, as evidenced by their regular attendance at the Court's hearings. Conducting the trial phases in downtown Los Angeles may be a tolerable alternative, though it would require that the parties make the 120 mile round trip commute from the Antelope Valley. Conducting these trial phases in San Jose will preclude any attendance by landowner parties, and under no circumstances can AGWA support conducting any trial phases there.

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PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

I am employed in the County of Santa Barbara, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action; my business address is: 21 E. Carrillo Street, Santa Barbara, California 93101.

On August 6 2008, I served the foregoing document described as:

RESPONSE TO PROPOSED CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER

on the interested parties in this action.

By posting it on the website at <u>/o.'30</u> p.m.(a.m. on August 6, 2008. This posting was reported as complete and without error.

(STATE) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.

Executed in Santa Barbara, California, on August 6, 2008.

Hacher Tobles
TYPE OR PRINT NAME

SIGNATURE

EXHIBIT 1

BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP

A CALIFORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL CORPORATIONS

RIVERSIDE (909) 686-1 450

INDIAN WELLS (760) 568-261 I LAWYERS
5 PARK PLAZA, SUITE 1500
IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 926 IA
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ONTARIO (909) 989-8584 SAN DIEGO (819) 525-1300 SACRAMENTO

(916) 325-4000

JEFFREY V. DUNN. (949) 263-2616 JEFFREY DUNN@BBKLAW.COM. FILE No. 26345.00001

March 16, 2005

VIA U.S. MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

All Legal Counsel
In the Antelope Valley
Groundwater Adjudication
Proceedings

Re:

Venue for the Antelope Valley Ground Water Adjudication Proceedings

Dear Counsel:

We are pleased to learn that many of your respective clients now support the County of Los Angeles in its desire to have these proceedings take place within the County of Los Angeles. We appreciate your support for the County's position; and that the parties are willing to have the proceedings take place in Lancaster. We look forward to working with you to keep this matter within Los Angeles County where it was originally filed by the County. As always, if you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call.

Jeffrey V. Dunn

of BEST & KRIEGER LLP

EXHIBIT 2

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA THE COUNTY OF ORANGE, CENTRAL JUSTICE CENTER

DEPARTMENT CX - 101

LOS ANGELES COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 40,

PLAINTIFF,

VS.

DIAMOND FARMING COMPANY, A CORPORATION;

WM. BOLTHOUSE FARMS, INC., A
CORPORATION;
CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE
COMPANY;
CITY OF LANCASTER;
CITY OF PALMDALE;
LITTLEROCK CREEK IRRIGATION
DISTRICT;
PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT;
PALM RANCH IRRIGATION
DISTRICT;
QUARTZ HILL WATER DISTRICT;
AND DOES 1 THROUGH 25,000,

DEFENDANTS.

) JUDICIAL COUNCIL) COORDINATION PROCEEDING) NO. 4408

- 1. RIVERSIDE COUNTY
 SUPERIOR COURT
 LEAD CASE
 NO. RIC 344436
 CASE NO. RIC 344668
 CASE NO. RIC 353840
- 2. LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. BC-325201
- 3. KERN COUNTY
 SUPERIOR COURT
 CASE NO.
 S-1500-CV 254348



THE HONORABLE DAVID C. VELASQUEZ, JUDGE PRESIDING

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT

MARCH 17, 2005

APPEARANCES OF COUNSEL:

FOR THE PLAINTIFF:

INCLUSIVE;

BEST, BEST & KRIEGER BY: JEFFREY V. DUNN BY: ERIC L. GARNER

APPEARANCES, CONTINUED

KAY L. PALMER, CSR 4480 OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

COPY

1	APPEARANCES, CONTINUED
2	FOR THE DEFENDANTS: LEBEAU . THELEN BY: BOB H. JOYCE
3	. CLIFFORD & BROWN
4	BY: RICHARD G. ZIMMER
5	TOM BUNN
6	RICHARD, WATSON, GERSHON BY: JAMES L. MARKMAN
7	BY: STEVEN R. ORR
8	HATCH AND PARENT BY: MICHAEL T. FIFE
9	NOSSAMAN, GUTHNER, KNOX
10	& ELLIOTT BY: HENRY WEINSTOCK
11	STRADLING, YOCCA, CARLSON & RAUTH
12	BY: DOUGLAS J. EVERTZ
13	LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER
14	BY: JULIE A. CONBOY DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY
15	
16	APPEARING BY COURT CALL:
17	LEMIEUX & O'NEILL BY: KEITH W. LEMIEUX
18	DI. KUIIII W. HUIIII OZI
19	* * *
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1	SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA - MARCH 17, 2005
2	AFTERNOON SESSION
3	-000-
4	(THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HAD IN OPEN
5	COURT:)
6	THE COURT: NUMBER 8. ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUND
7	WATER CASES.
8	COURT CALL APPEARANCES?
9	MR. LEMIEUX: KEITH LEMIEUX, LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT
10	THE COURT: ANY OTHERS PLEASE?
11	WE HAVE, APPARENTLY, MANY COUNSEL IN COURT.
12	I WILL TAKE YOUR APPEARANCES BY WAY OF BUSINESS CARD.
13	MAKE SURE YOU HAND THAT TO THE BAILIFF.
14	OTHERWISE, STATE YOUR APPEARANCE WHEN YOU
15	ADDRESS THE RECORD.
16	THE MATTER IS HERE, I BELIEVE, TO PETITION
17	FOR COORDINATION. THERE WAS SOME QUESTION ABOUT THAT IN
18	THE PAPERS.
19	I THINK EVERYBODY SUBMITTED ARGUMENTS
20	PERTINENT TO THAT.
21	THE TENTATIVE IS TO GRANT THE PETITION, IN
22	PART; DENY IT, IN PART. IN ESSENCE, TO KEEP THE
23	RIVERSIDE CASE SEPARATE. ORDER COORDINATION OF THE
24	.WATER WORKS CASES PENDING IN LA COUNTY AND KERN AND MAKE
25	LA COUNTY, A LANCASTER DISTRICT, THE TRIAL VENUE.
26	WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE HEARD FIRST?
	i e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e

Profession .

THE COURT: I AM CONCERNED THAT WITH THE DIFFERENT TIME LINES, BECAUSE OF THE DIFFERENT FILING DATES OF THE RIVERSIDE VERSUS WATER WORKS, RIGHT NOW, I AM NOT SEEING HOW THAT WOULD BE A PROBLEM.

YOU TELL ME HOW IT IS GOING TO BE A PROBLEM.

MR. EVERTZ: THANK YOU.

MR. WEINSTOCK: HENRY WEINSTOCK, FOR NOSSAMAN, GUTHNER, KNOW AND ELLIOTT, FOR THE TEJON RANCH CORP.

THERE IS ONE ISSUE NO ONE HAS TALKED ABOUT,
TODAY. I WANTED TO MENTION IT, BRIEFLY.

THAT IS, IN THE TENTATIVE RULING, THE COURT INDICATES THAT THE COORDINATED CASES WOULD BE RECOMMENDED TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT, LANCASTER DISTRICT.

WE DO SUPPORT THE IDEA OF HAVING ALL THE
HEARINGS OF THE TRIAL IN THE CASE, IN LANCASTER, IN THE
INTERESTS OF THE CONVENIENCE OF THE PARTIES, NUMEROUS
LANDOWNERS WHO ARE THERE.

HOWEVER, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT IF THE CASE IS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT, SINCE THE COUNTY AND OTHER PURVEYORS ARE LOCATED THERE, THAT UNDER THE CCP, SOMEONE WITH HUNDREDS, MAYBE THOUSANDS OF PARTIES, IS VERY LIKELY TO MAKE A MOTION TO TRANSFER OUT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY.

THEN WE START THIS PROCEDURAL MERRY-GO-ROUND,

AGAIN. ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE, PERHAPS, THAT OUGHT TO BE

1	ARE GOING TO HAVE HUNDREDS AND HUNDREDS OF PARTIES WITH
2	ALL DIFFERENT LAWYERS ALL WANTING TO FILE MOTIONS FOR
3	CHANGE OF VENUE.
4	I HAVE A FEELING THERE WILL BE SOME KIND OF A
5	UMBRELLA ORDER ON THAT, WAYS OF DEALING WITH THAT.
, 6 ,	LIKE I SAID, PICKING ORANGE COUNTY WOULD NOT
7	END ATTEMPTS TO CHANGE VENUE.
8	MR. DUNN: MOVING PARTY, JEFFREY DUNN.
9	WE WISH TO PUT ON THE RECORD OUR SUPPORT FOR
10	THE TENTATIVE TO HAVE THE CASE VENUED IN LANCASTER. BUT
11	WITH A NEUTRAL JUDGE ASSIGNED BY THE JUDICIAL COUNSEL TO
12	TAKE CARE OF THE CONCERNS RAISED BY MR. WEINSTOCK.
13	THE COURT: THAT IS PROBABLY SOMETHING YOU WOULD
14	HANDLE ONCE YOU GET OVER THERE.
15	UNDER THE RULES FOR COORDINATION, I HAVE TWO
16	BASIC TASKS.
17	ONE, IS TO DETERMINE IF IT IS COMPLEX, OR
18	NOT.
19	THE FACTORS UNDER 401.1, ON HARDSHIP. THEN
20	RECOMMEND THE VENUE AND A COURT OF APPEAL DISTRICT.
21	THAT IS IT.
22	OTHER FINER DETAILS WOULD HAVE TO BE
23	DETERMINED BY THE COURT WHICH EVENTUALLY GETS THE CASE.
24	THERE'S WAYS OF WORKING OUT THESE PRACTICAL
25	CONCERNS. ORANGE COUNTY HAS ALWAYS OPENED ITSELF UP AS
26	A RESOURCE FOR HELPING ON BIG CASES WHETHER IT IS