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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

AGWA'S REPLY REGARDING SETTING OF TRIAL

Date: August 17, 2009 Time: 10:00 AM

Department: Santa Clara Superior Court,

Dept. 17C

ANTELOPE VALLEY

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The procedural problems in this case are manifold and appear to be multiplying rapidly. District 40 and several other publicly-funded entities propose to address these issues by ignoring them and, instead, rushing to trial. Only one proposal, made jointly by purveyors and landowners, is in any way productive - take a short break from the litigation and give the principals' settlement process a chance to work in the hope that some form of settlement can be reached that perhaps resolves the adjudication, or at the very least, perhaps, resolves some of the issues in a way that might render the numerous procedural problems moot. AGWA urges the Court to grant the City of Lancaster's Motion.

If the Court is not inclined to grant Lancaster's Motion and to instead set a trial date, then the Court should not utilize the schedule proposed by District 40. The trial schedule proposed by District No. 40 is prejudicial and entirely unrealistic. For example, District 40's schedule allocates only two weeks in early November for expert depositions for a trial which it would have started just after the holidays. 1 In the Santa Maria Groundwater Litigation, expert depositions in preparation for the Phase III trial were conducted over a period of at least a few months in the summer of 2003, for a trial beginning in October of that year. The Phase III trial there involved the same issues as the Phase III trial here, many of the same experts and many of the same lawyers. No reason has been offered why we should not expect the depositions in this case to require a similar length of time to the depositions in that case.

Dated: August 14, 2009

BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP

AEL T. FIFE

DLEY J. HERREMA

ORNEYS FOR AGWA

AGWA intends to participate in any Phase III trial and to offer expert testimony. AGWA's counsel has non-refundable travel plans over the holidays, returning January 5, 2009. If the Court is inclined to accept the District 40 schedule, AGWA requests that the proposed trial start date be extended at least a week or two in order to allow counsel to effectively participate.

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 14, 2009, I served the foregoing document described as:

AGWA'S REPLY REGARDING SETTING OF TRIAL

on the interested parties in this action.

By posting it on the website at 4:00 p.m. on August 14, 2009. 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 14, 2009.

MARIA KLACHKO-BLAIR
TYPE OR PRINT NAME

SIGNATURE