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Attorneys for Littlerock Creek Irrigation District

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

**ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER
CASES**

**Judicial Council Coordination
Proceeding No. 4408**

Included Actions:

Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40
v. Diamond Farming Co. Superior Court of
California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. BC
325201; Los Angeles County Waterworks District
No. 40 v. Diamond Farming Co., Superior Court
of California, County of Kern, Case No. S-1500-
CV-234348; Wm. Bolthouse Farms, Inc. v. City
of Lancaster Diamond Farming Co. v. City of
Lancaster v. Palmdale Water District, Superior
Court of California, County of Riverside,
consolidated actions, Case Nos. RIC 353840,
RIC 344436, RIC 344668

**ANSWER BY LITTLEROCK CREEK
IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

Cross defendant Littlerock Creek Irrigation District (herein "Littlerock") answers the cross-complaint of Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency ("AVEK") as follows:

1. Littlerock admits the allegations contained in paragraph 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 46, 47, 48 and 49 are true.

2. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 8 of the cross-complaint, Littlerock denies but for cross-complainant's importation of State Project water into the basin, Littlerock would need to pump additional groundwater from the basin each year. Except as denied herein, Littlerock admits the allegations contained in paragraph 8 of the cross-complaint are true.

3. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 11 of the cross-complaint, Littlerock denies that Littlerock's pumping reduces basin water tables and contributes to the deficiency of the basin water supply as a whole and that this deficiency creates a public water shortage. Except as denied above, Littlerock admits the allegations contained in paragraph 11 are true.

4. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 15 of the cross-complaint, Littlerock denies that Littlerock's continued and increasing extraction of basin water has resulted in or will result in the diminution, reduction or impairment of the basin's water supply and land subsidence.

5. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 16 of the cross-complaint, Littlerock denies that Littlerock's continued and increasing extraction of basin water has and will deprive AVEK of its rights to provide water for public health, welfare and benefit.

6. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 17 of the cross-complaint, Littlerock denies that Littlerock's methods of water use and storage are unreasonable or wasteful or violative of Article X, Section 2 of the California Constitution.

7. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 32 of the cross-complaint, Littlerock denies that Littlerock's rights are limited to the native supply of the basin and its own imported water supply. Except as denied herein, Littlerock admits the allegations contained in paragraph 32 are true.

8. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 38 of the cross-complaint, Littlerock denies that Littlerock's rights are limited to the native supply of the basin or its own imported water. Littlerock further alleges that its rights extend to surface water tributary to the basin. Except as denied herein, Littlerock admits the allegations contained in paragraph 38 are true.

9. In response to the allegations contained in paragraph 45 of the cross-complaint, Littlerock denies that Littlerock produces or threatens to produce more water from the basin than it has a right to produce or that this production interferes with the rights of AVEK.

1 DATED: October 3, 2006

LEMIEUX & O'NEILL

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3 By: *Wayne K. Lemieux*

4 Wayne K. Lemieux, Attorneys for
5 Littlerock Creek Irrigation District
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