Bob H. Joyce, (SBN 84607) 1 Andrew K. Sheffield (SBN 220735) LAW OFFICES OF 2 LEBEAU • THELEN, LLP 5001 East Commercenter Drive, Suite 300 3 Post Office Box 12092 4 Bakersfield, California 93389-2092 (661) 325-8962; Fax (661) 325-1127 5 Attorneys for DIAMOND FARMING COMPANY, a California corporation, and CRYSTAL ORGANIC 7 FARMS, a limited liability company 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 10 11 Coordination Proceeding Special Title Judicial Council Coordination No. 4408 12 (Rule 1550 (b)) 13 ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER Case No.: 1-05-CV-049053 CASES 14 DIAMOND FARMING COMPANY'S Included actions: CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE 15 STATEMENT Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 16 40 vs. Diamond Farming Company Los Angeles Superior Court 17 Case No. BC 325201 18 Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40 vs. Diamond Farming Company 19 Kern County Superior Court Case No. S-1500-CV 254348 NFT 20 Diamond Farming Company vs. City of 21 Lancaster Riverside County Superior Court 22 Lead Case No. RIC 344436 [Consolidated w/Case Nos. 344668 & 3538401 23 DATE: November 5, 2007 TIME: 10:00 a.m. 24 AND RELATED CROSS-ACTIONS. DEPT: 1 25 111 26 /// 27 28 ///

DIAMOND FARMING COMPANY'S CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE STATEMENT

28 /

Diamond Farming Company hereby submits its Case Management Conference Statement and addresses the issues as follows:

- 1. Based upon the outcome of the Court's ordered meet and confer, it is Diamond's understanding that a revised and new Motion for Class Certification will be filed to address the proposed two classes of landowners, pumpers, and non-pumpers. Diamond will likely respond to that Motion asserting the objections as it has previously asserted in response to both the Motion to Certify a Defendant Class, as well as earlier Motions for Certification of a Plaintiff Class.
- 2. In order to ensure compliance with the McCarran Act jurisdictional requirements and as previously argued, Diamond believes that the Court must have jurisdiction not only at the commencement of the action but also jurisdiction, ultimately, at the time of judgment. Thus, the probability of the change in ownership of real property within the adjudication boundary during the pendency of this litigation raises significant issues concerning the need to preserve jurisdiction over the res, i.e., the real property. Diamond has previously suggested that a lis pendens would be the appropriate statutorily authorized vehicle to accomplish that objective. Multiple parties have asserted that that would be impractical and the Court appears to have adopted that position. Therefore, some effective means to preserve jurisdiction over the involved real property is needed if jurisdiction is to be maintained through judgment.
- 3. With respect to the phasing of the anticipated trial of the issues in this matter, Diamond would propose two trial phases. The First Phase would involve all competing claims and water rights, including prescription. Of necessity, that First Phase would also involve the overall characteristics of the area within the adjudication boundary, as established by this Court. The Second Phase would appropriately be addressed to the issue of remedy, i.e., physical solution, injunctive orders as required and as necessitated by the findings made in Phase 1. If the Court is disinclined to proceed as suggested, then at most there should be only three phases, the First Phase addressing the overall present and historical conditions and circumstances within the adjudication boundary, the Second Phase addressing all competing claims and water rights, and the Third Phase addressing remedies necessitated as a consequence of the Court's finding in Phase 1 and Phase 2.

In closing, it is imperative that the case be placed at issue as soon as possible. In the absence of an imminent trial date and the at-risk realities attendant thereto, the progress towards a negotiated compromise will stagnate and no ultimate resolution will be forthcoming in the near term since it appears that the parties are content to subsist under the status quo. Dated: October 30, 2007 LeBEAU • THELEN, LLP Attorneys for DIAMOND FARMING COMPANY, a California corporation, and CRYSTAL ORGANIC FARMS, a limited liability company

PROOF OF SERVICE 1 ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER CASES 2 JUDICIAL COUNCIL PROCEEDING NO. 4408 CASE NO.: 1-05-CV-049053 3 I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the county aforesaid; I am over the age 4 5 of eighteen years and not a party to the within action; my business address is: 5001 E. Commercenter Drive, Suite 300, Bakersfield, California 93309. On October 30, 2007, I served the within 6 7 DIAMOND FARMING COMPANY'S CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE 8 **STATEMENT** 9 (BY POSTING) I am "readily familiar" with the Court's Clarification Order. Electronic service and electronic posting completed through www.scefiling.org; All papers filed 10 in Los Angeles County Superior Court and copy sent to trial judge and Chair of Judicial Council. 11 Los Angeles County Superior Court Chair, Judicial Council of California 12 111 North Hill Street Administrative Office of the Courts Los Angeles, CA 90012 Attn: Appellate & Trial Court Judicial Services 13 Attn: Department 1 (Civil Case Coordinator) (213) 893-1014 Carlotta Tillman 14 455 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102-3688 15 Fax (415) 865-4315 16 (BY MAIL) I am "readily familiar" with the firm's practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that practice it would be deposited with the U.S. 17 Postal Service on that same day with postage thereon fully prepaid at Bakersfield, California, in 18 the ordinary course of business. 19 (STATE) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of 20 California that the above is true and correct, and that the foregoing was executed on October 30, 2007, in Bakersfield, California. 21 22 **DONNA M. LUIS** 23 24 25 26

27

28