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August 14 2008

VIA POSTING TO COURT WEBSITE

Hon. Jack Komar Judge of the Superior Court 161 North First Street, Department 17 San Jose, California 95113

Counsel of Record and Parties in Propria Persona

Re: Antelope Valley Groundwater Adjudication

Dear Judge Komar and Counsel and Parties in Propria Persona:

The Public Water Suppliers have reviewed the various objections filed to the proposed Case Management Order for Phase 2 Trial ("CMO"), and respectfully offer this response.

First, as to Bolthouse Farms, the CMO is not intended to be an order merely reflecting the Court's rulings at the August 11, 2008 hearing. It is, rather, a CMO prepared in response to the Court's request at the July 21, 2008 Case Management Conference, that the parties attempt to develop an agreed CMO for the Phase 2 trial. After "meeting and conferring" with counsel for the Wood small pumper class, who graciously took the lead in conferring with other landowner counsel concerning the proposed CMO, the Wood small pumper class and the City of Palmdale posted their separate proposed CMOs on August 1st and 4th, respectively.

During the course of the proceedings on August 11, 2008, the Court made decisions that affected the earlier draft of the CMO, including the location and scope of the Phase 2 trial. We there offered to modify our proposed CMO to reflect these and other indications of the Court. That document is now before the Court.

Second, as to A.V. United, the creation of a Liaison Committee will not affect anyone's due process rights. The only point of such a committee is to seek to promote efficient case management, not to control who appears at trial.

Third, as to Sheep Creek Water Company, we simply disagree with the points raised therein. It is just as important to depose the percipient witnesses as to depose the expert witnesses. Identifying the percipient witnesses after it is too late to notice a deposition makes no sense, and invites mischief and delay.

RICHARDS WATSON GERSHON ATTORNEYS AT LAW - A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

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Fourth, the CMO is designed to create a schedule that is fair to all parties and that is consistent with a trial commencing on October 6, 2008 – 53 days hence. Inasmuch as the CMO provides for a telephonic scheduling conference on August 18, 2008, and notice needs to be provided by Los Angeles County Waterworks District on August 15, 2008, the Public Water Suppliers respectfully request the Court to issue a CMO at its earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Orr

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