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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

**ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER  
CASES**

RELATED CASE TO JUDICIAL COUNCIL  
COORDINATION PROCEEDING NO. 4408

This Pleading Relates to Included Action:  
REBECCA LEE WILLIS and DAVID  
ESTRADA, on behalf of themselves and all  
others similarly situated,

**[PROPOSED] ORDER DENYING WILLIS  
CLASS' MOTION TO WITHDRAW BASED  
ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST OR, IN THE  
ALTERNATIVE, FOR CONTINUANCE OF  
PHASE VI/PHYSICAL SOLUTION TRIAL**

*Plaintiffs,*

v.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY WATERWORKS  
DISTRICT NO. 40; CITY OF LANCASTER;  
CITY OF PALMDALE; PALMDALE  
WATER DISTRICT; LITTLEROCK CREEK  
IRRIGATION DISTRICT; PALM RANCH  
IRRIGATION DISTRICT; QUARTZ HILL  
WATER DISTRICT; ANTELOPE VALLEY  
WATER CO.; ROSAMOND COMMUNITY  
SERVICE DISTRICT; PHELAN PINON  
HILL COMMUNITY SERVICE DISTRICT;  
and DOES 1 through 1,000;

*Defendants.*

1 Plaintiff Willis Class filed a Motion to Withdraw Based on Conflict of Interest or, in the  
2 Alternative, for a Continuance of the Phase VI/Physical Solution Trial. The matter came for  
3 hearing on August 25, 2015. Numerous counsel appeared in Court and telephonically, as further  
4 reflected in the minutes and the hearing transcript.

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6 Having reviewed the filings by the Willis Class, the Wood Class, and the Public Water  
7 Suppliers, this Court finds that, contrary to the interpretations of the Willis Class definition  
8 espoused by Willis Class Counsel and the Public Water Suppliers, the definition of the Willis  
9 Class includes persons who own property(ies) on which they have pumped groundwater in the  
10 Antelope Valley Adjudication Area ("Adjudication") and who also own properties in the area on  
11 which they have never pumped groundwater ("Nonpumpers"). If a person within either the Willis  
12 Class or the Wood Class owns more than one parcel, one parcel pumping groundwater and  
13 another parcel not pumping groundwater, then Willis Class Counsel represents this person's  
14 interest in the non-pumping parcel(s) only. Wood Class Counsel represents this person's interest  
15 in the pumping parcel(s) only ("Small Pumpers"). It is undisputed that 2,400 Members of the  
16 3,400-Member Small Pumper Wood Class also own property(ies) on which they have never  
17 pumped groundwater. This Court finds that those 2,400 Members of the Wood Class are also  
18 Members of the Willis Class.

19  
20 Although the Court recognizes that there are conflicts of interest between and within the  
21 Wood Class and Willis Class, the Court rules that these conflicts of interest are inevitable in the  
22 context of this Adjudication proceeding. This Court does not find that the 2,400 persons who are  
23 Members of both the Willis and Wood Classes need or are entitled to separate representation to  
24 assert their water rights in this Adjudication. Willis Class Counsel shall represent the legal

1 interests of the Nonpumpers' dormant parcel(s) and Wood Class Counsel shall represent the legal  
2 interests of the Small Pumpers' pumping parcel(s) in this Adjudication.

3 The Willis Class' Motion to Withdraw Based on Conflict of Interest or, in the Alternative,  
4 for Continuance of the Phase VI/Physical Solution Trial is hereby denied.

5 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

6 Date:

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8 Judge of the Superior Court  
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