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8	District and Agricultural Association	
9	SUPERIOR COURT OF CAL	IFORNIA
10	COUNTY OF LOS ANG	FLES
11		
12		
13	Coordination Proceeding Special Title (Rule 1550(b))	Judicial Council Coordination
	ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER	Proceeding No. 4408
14	CASES	ANSWER OF STATE OF
15	Included Actions:	CALIFORNIA, SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS
16	Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40 v.	CONSERVANCY AND STATE OF CALIFORNIA 50 TH
17	Diamond Farming Co. Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles,	DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL
18	Case No. BC 325 201	ASSOCIATION TO CROSS- COMPLAINT OF
19	Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40 v. Diamond Farming Co.	MUNICIPAL PURVEYORS FOR DECLARATORY AND
	Superior Court of California, County of Kern,	INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND
20	Case No. S-1500-CV-254-348	ADJUDICATION OF WATER RIGHTS
21	Wm. Bolthouse Farms, Inc. v. City of Lancaster Diamond Farming Co. v. City of Lancaster	
22	Diamond Farming Co. v. Palmdale Water Dist.	
23	Superior Court of California, County of Riverside, consolidated Actions, Case Nos. RIC 353 840, RIC 344	
24	436, RIC 344 668	
	ROSAMOND COUNTY SERVICES DISTRICT:	
25	LOS ANGELES COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 40;	
26	PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT; CITY OF LANCASTER;	
27	CITY OF PALMDALE;	
28	LITTLEROCK CREEK IRRIGATION DISTRICT; PALM RANCH IRRIGATION DISTRICT;	

ANSWER OF STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ET AL. TO CROSS-COMPLAINT

1	CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY;
2	Cross-Complainants.
3	DIAMOND FARMING COMPANY, et al.,
5	Cross-Defendants.
6	Defendants State of California and its agencies owning land overlying the Antelope Valley
7	Groundwater Basin or pumping water from the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin, and the Santa
8	Monica Mountains Conservancy, and the State of California 50th District Agricultural Association
9	("State defendants") hereby answer the Cross-Complaint of Municipal Purveyors for Declaratory
10	and Injunctive Relief and Adjudication of Water Rights filed by Rosamond Community Services
11	District, Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40 et al. ("Public Water Suppliers"), filed
12	January 18, 2006.
13	<u>INTRODUCTION</u>
14	1. State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the allegations
15	in paragraph 1, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.
16	CROSS-COMPLAINANT'S
17	2. State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the allegations
18	in paragraph 2, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.
19	3. State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the allegations
20	in paragraph 3, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.
21	4. State defendants admit the allegations of the first sentence of paragraph 4. State
22	defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the allegations of the second sentence of
23	paragraph 4, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.
24	5. State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the allegations
25	in paragraph 5, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.
26	6. State defendants admit that the City of Palmdale is a municipal corporation in
27	the County of Los Angeles. State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the
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allegations of the second sentence of paragraph 6, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.

- State defendants admit based on information and belief that the City of Lancaster 7. is a municipal corporation located in the County of Los Angeles. Except as expressly admitted, State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the allegations in paragraph 7, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.
- Based on information and belief, State defendants admit that Littlerock Creek Irrigation District is a public agency. Except as admitted, State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the allegations in paragraph 8, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.
- State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the allegations in paragraph 9, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.
- 10. State defendants admit that California water Service Company is a California corporation. State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the remaining allegations in paragraph 10, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.

CROSS-DEFENDANTS

- 11. State defendants admit that the State of California and some of its agencies, including but not limited to named cross-defendants the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and State of California 50th District Agricultural Association, are owners of and/or beneficial interest holders in real property within the geographic boundaries of the Basin. State defendants admit that they claim overlying rights to extract water from the Basin whether or not they have heretofore exercised such overlying rights. As to the other named cross-defendants, State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the allegations in paragraph 11, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.
- 12. State defendants affirmatively allege that one or more as-yet-unnamed state agencies are the owners, lessees or other persons or entities holding or claiming to hold ownership 28 or possessory interests in real property within the boundaries of the Basin; extract water from the

1	Basin; claim some right, title or interest to water located within the Basin; or that they have or			
2	assert claims adverse to the Public Water Suppliers' rights and claims. State defendants are			
3	continuing to investigate the nature and extent of these unnamed state agencies' interests, and will			
4	seek leave to amend this answer when the full extent of the unnamed state agencies' interests is			
5	known. Except as affirmatively alleged, State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to			
6	answer the allegations in paragraph 12, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every			
7	allegation thereof.			
8	THE UNITED STATES			
9	13. Paragraph 13 of the cross-complaint presents a legal conclusion, to			
10	which no answer is required.			
11	14. Based on information and belief, State defendants admit the allegations			
12	of Paragraph 14.			
13	15. Paragraph 15 of the cross-complaint presents a legal conclusion, to			
14	which no answer is required.			
15	16. Paragraph 16 of the cross-complaint presents a legal conclusion to			
16	which no answer is required.			
17	17. Paragraph 17 of the cross-complaint presents a legal conclusion to			
18	which no answer is required.			
19	HISTORY OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN			
20	18. Paragraph 18 of the cross-complaint presents legal conclusions to which			
21	no answer is required. To the extent an answer is required, State defendants deny the allegations of			
22	Paragraph 18.			
23	19. State defendants admit the allegations of the first and third sentences			
24	of Paragraph 19. State defendants admit that the basin is partially located in Los Angeles and Kern			
25	Counties. Except as expressly admitted, State defendants deny the allegations of the second sentence			
26	of Paragraph 19. State defendants admit that the communities of Lancaster, Palmdale and Rosamond			
27	and part of Edwards Air Force Base lie over the basin, and except as expressly admitted, the State			
28	defendants deny the allegations of the fourth sentence of Paragraph 19.			

1	20. State defendants admit the allegations of the first sentence of paragraph				
2	20 of the cross-complaint. With regard to the second sentence of paragraph 20, State defendants lack				
3	information or belief sufficient to answer the allegations in paragraph 20, and basing their denial				
4	on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.				
5	21. State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the				
6	allegations in paragraph 21, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation				
7	thereof.				
8	22. State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the				
9	allegations in paragraph 22, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation				
10	thereof.				
11	23. State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the				
12	allegations in paragraph 23, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation				
13	thereof.				
14	24. State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the				
15	allegations in paragraph 24, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation				
16	thereof.				
17	25. State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the				
18	allegations in paragraph 25, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation				
19	thereof.				
20	PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIERS' ACTIVITIES				
21	(HEADING IN CROSS-COMPLAINT DENIED BASED ON LACK OF INFORMATION AND BELIEF)				
22	26. State defendants admit that the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water				
23	Agency is a State Water Contractor, and as such has a contract with the State of California,				
24	Department of Water Resources, to purchase water from the State Water Project. State defendants				
25	admit that State [Water] Project water originates in northern California. Except as expressly				
26	admitted, State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the allegations in				
27	paragraph 26, and basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.				

or alleged, State defendants deny the allegations of the first sentence of paragraph 31. Answering

1	the second and third sentences of paragraph 31, State defendants specifically deny that their own				
2	pumping reduces Basin water tables and contributes to any deficiency of the Basin water supply as				
3	a whole. With regard to pumping by other Cross-defendants, State defendants lack information or				
4	belief sufficient to answer the allegations in the second and third sentences of paragraph 31, and				
5	basing their denial on this ground deny each and every allegation thereof.				
6	32. State defendants deny the allegations of paragraph 32 as they relate				
7	to State defendants, and lack information and belief sufficient to answer the allegations as they				
8	relate to other cross-defendants, and on that basis, deny each and every allegation of paragraph 32.				
9	33. State defendants expressly deny that their continued or increasing				
10	extraction of Basin water has or will deprive the Public Water Suppliers of their rights to provide				
11	water for the public health, welfare and benefit. State defendants affirmatively allege that their				
12	water rights are paramount to the rights of Public Water Suppliers.				
13	DISPUTE AMONG THE PARTIES				
14	34. Based on information and belief, State defendants admit that there are				
15	conflicting claims of rights to the Basin and/or its water.				
16	35. Answering the first sentence of paragraph 35, State defendants admit				
17	that State defendants who own real property in the Basin clairn an overlying right to pump Basin				
10	ryoter. The second sentence of paragraph 35 is a legal conclusion to which no answer is required.				

18 water. The second sentence of paragraph 35 is a legal conclusion to which 19 State defendants deny the allegations of the third sentence of paragraph 35 as they relate to State 20 defendants' pumping of water. With respect to the pumping by other cross-defendants, State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the allegations, and on that basis, deny each

State defendants deny that the Public Water Suppliers have prescriptive 36. 24 rights to groundwater in the Antelope Valley Basin against State defendants. As to the other 25 allegations of paragraph 36, State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the 26 factual allegations in paragraph 36, and basing their denial on this ground, deny each and every 27 allegation thereof.

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and every allegation of the third sentence of paragraph 35.

The allegations of paragraph 42 are not alleged against the State

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28 defendants, and thus no answer is required.

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1	43. The allegations of paragraph 43 are not alleged against the State				
2	defendants, as this cause of action is "Against All Cross-Defendants Except the United States and				
3	Other Public Entity Cross-Defendants," and thus no answer is required. State defendants further				
4	allege that paragraph 43 is Cross-complainants' contention to which no answer is required.				
5	SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION				
6	44. State defendants incorporate by reference their answers to the				
7	allegations in each and all of the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.				
8	45. Paragraph 45 of the cross-complaint contains legal conclusions to				
9	which no answer is required. State defendants specifically deny that Public Water Suppliers have				
0	any prescriptive rights against State defendants.				
1	46. Paragraph 46 of the cross-complaint contains legal conclusions to				
2	which no answer is required.				
3	47. Paragraph 47 of the cross-complaint contains legal conclusions to				
4	which no answer is required.				
5	48. Paragraph 48 of the cross-complaint contains legal conclusions to				
6	which no answer is required.				
7	49. State defendants admit that an actual controversy has arisen. Except				
8	as expressly admitted, State defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 49.				
9	50. Paragraph 50 contains Cross-complainants' characterization of the				
20	relief they seek, and does not require an answer.				
21	THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION				
22	51. State defendants incorporate by reference their answers to the				
23	allegations in each and all of the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.				
24	52. Answering paragraph 52, State defendants admit that they claim an				
25	interest or right to Basin water and further claim that they can increase their pumping and State				
26	defendants affirmatively allege that their rights are paramount and superior to those of the Public				
27	Water Suppliers. Except as admitted, State defendants deny each and every factual allegation of				
28	paragraph 52.				

	61 Personal 61 is areas complements' abarestarization of the relief					
1	61. Paragraph 61 is cross-complainants' characterization of the relief					
	they seek, and no answer is required. State defendants specifically deny that cross-complainants'					
3	rights are prior and paramount to the rights of State defendants to the use of Basin water for					
4	irrigation purposes, or any other purpose.					
5	FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION					
6	62. State defendants incorporate by reference their answers to the					
7	allegations in each and all of the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.					
8	63. State defendants admit that cross-complainants Littlerock Creek					
9	Irrigation District and Palmdale Water District are State Water Contractors, and as such, have a					
10	contract with the State of California, Department of Water Resources, to purchase water from the					
11	State Water Project and State defendants admit that State Water Project water is not native to the					
12	Antelope Valley Basin. Except as expressly admitted, State defendants lack information or belief					
13	sufficient to answer the remaining allegations of paragraph 63, and basing their denial on this					
14	ground, deny each and every remaining allegation of paragraph 63.					
15	64. State defendants lack information or belief sufficient to answer the					
16	allegations of paragraph 64, and basing their denial on this ground, deny each and every allegation					
17	of paragraph 64.					
18	65. Paragraph 65 contains legal conclusions, to which no answer is					
19	required.					
20	66. Answering paragraph 66, State defendants admit that an actual					
21	controversy has arisen between the Public Water Suppliers and cross-defendants. State					
22	defendants admit that they dispute many of the factual contentions in Paragraphs 1 through 39 to					
23	the extent shown in the answers to those paragraphs. With regard to legal contentions, no answer					
24	is required.					
25	67. Paragraph 67 contains cross-complainants' characterization of the					
26	relief they seek, to which no answer is required. To the extent an answer is required, State					
27	defendants deny that Public Water Suppliers are entitled to the relief they seek.					

1	77. Paragraph 77 does not contain allegations against the State					
2	defendants because the seventh cause of action is "Against all Cross-Defendants except public					
3	Entity Cross-Defendants," and thus no answer by State defendants is required.					
4	78. Paragraph 78 does not contain allegations against the State					
5	defendants because the seventh cause of action is "Against all Cross-Defendants except public					
6	Entity Cross-Defendants," and thus no answer by State defendants is required.					
7	EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION					
8	91. State defendants incorporate by reference their answers to the					
9	allegations in each and all of the preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.					
10	92. State defendants admit that an actual controversy has arisen					
11	between the Public Water Suppliers and State defendants regarding the actual physical dimensions					
12	and description of the Basin for purposes of determining the parties' rights to water located					
13	therein. State defendants admit that they dispute many of the factual contentions in Paragraphs 1					
14	through 38 to the extent shown in the answers to those paragraphs. With regard to legal					
15	contentions, no answer is required.					
16	93. Paragraph 93 contains cross-complainants' characterization of the					
17	relief they seek, to which no answer is required.					
18	FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE					
19	(Failure to State a Cause of Action)					
20	94. The cross-complaint, and each and every cause of action alleged					
21	therein, fails to state facts sufficient to state a cause of action against the State defendants, or any					
22	of them.					
23	SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE					
24	(Civil Code Section 1007)					
25	95. The relief sought by cross-complainants against State defendants is					
26	barred Civil Code Section 1007. There can be no prescription against State defendants' water					
27	rights. Civil Code section 1007 also prevents Public Water Suppliers or other					
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1	parties from obtaining rights against the State or these State defendants by asserting intervention				
2	of public use.				
3	THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
4	(Uncertainty)				
5	96. The cross-complaint is uncertain and defective in that it has failed to				
6	describe with specificity the groundwater basin or aquifer or aquifers from which plaintiff and				
7	defendants are extracting, or claim the right extract, groundwater.				
8	FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
9	(Failure to Join Necessary and Indispensable Parties)				
10	97. Cross-complainants have failed to join indispensable and necessary				
11	parties, namely other overlying landowners and parties extracting groundwater from the Antelope				
12	Valley Groundwater Basis.				
13	FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
14	(Statute of Limitations)				
15	98. The cross-complaint is barred by applicable statutes of limitations,				
16	including but not limited to sections 318, 319, 321, 338, or 343 of the California Code of Civil				
17	Procedure.				
18	SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
19	(Overlying Rights)				
20	99. State defendants, and each of them, are owners of property				
21	overlying the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin and thus hold overlying rights to the native				
22	water of the Basin. These rights are prior and paramount to the rights claimed by Plaintiffs.				
23	SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
24	(Right to Recapture Imported Water)				
25	100. One or more of State defendants import water from outside the				
26	Basin. They have a prior and paramount right to such imported water and the return flows from it.				
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1	EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
2	(Dedication to Public Use)				
3	101. All the groundwater extracted from the Antelope Valley				
4	Groundwater Basin by State defendants is devoted to public use. Therefore, cross-complainants				
5	cannot obtain relief that would in any way restrain or interfere with State Defendant's rights to				
6	pump or extract such water.				
7	NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
8	(Water Code section 106)				
9	102. Part of the water extracted from the Antelope Valley Groundwater				
10	Basin by State defendants is used for domestic purposes. State defendants are entitled to any				
11	priority granted by Water Code section 106.				
12	TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
13	(Laches)				
14	103. The cross-complaint, and each and every cause of action therein, is				
15	barred by the doctrine of laches.				
16	ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
17	(Public Trust)				
18	104. The State of California holds certain natural resources in trust for				
19	the benefit of the people pursuant to the Public Trust Doctrine.				
20	TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE				
21	(Additional Defenses Unknown at this Time)				
22	105. State defendants own multiple properties overlying the Antelope				
23	Valley Groundwater Basin and presently have insufficient knowledge or information upon which				
24	to form a belief as to whether they may have additional, as yet unstated, affirmative defenses.				
25	State defendants reserve the right to assert additional defenses in the event that the discovery				
26	indicates they would be appropriate.				
27	WHEREFORE, State defendants pray that:				
28	1. Cross-complainants take nothing by the cross-complaint;				
	15				

DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, declare:

I am employed in the Office of the Attorney General, which is the office of a member of the California State Bar at which member's direction this service is made. I am 18 years of age or older and not a party to this matter; my business address is: 1300 I Street, P.O. Box 944255, Sacramento, California 94244-2550.

On August 17, 2006, I served the ANSWER OF STATE OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY AND STATE OF CALIFORNIA 50TH DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION TO CROSS-COMPLAINT OF MUNICIPAL PURVEYORS FOR DECLARATORY AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND ADJUDICATION OF WATER RIGHTS

- X Posting the document(s) listed above to the Santa Clara County Superior Court web site in regard to the Antelope Valley Groundwater matter on August 17, 2006.
- <u>X</u> by placing a true copy of the document(s) listed above in a sealed envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid using the overnight courier, Golden State Overnight Courier Service, addressed as follows:

(served original to Presiding Judge on August 17, 2006)

Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles County Courthouse 111 North Hill Street Los Angeles, CA 90012-3014

Chair, Judicial Council of California Administrative office of the Courts Attn: Appellate and Trial Court Judicial Services (Civil Case Coordination) 455 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102-3688

Honorable Jack Komar Santa Clara County Superior Court 191 North First Street, Department 17C San Jose, Ca 95113

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State o	of Ca	lifo	rnia the	foregoing is	true and
correct and that this declaration was executed on August 17, 2	2006).			
		. /	1-	No.	

Declarant

Julie Gomez

(Signature)