

Exhibit A

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

DEPARTMENT NO. 4 HON. JACK KOMAR, JUDGE

COORDINATION PROCEEDING	)	
SPECIAL TITLE (RULE 1550B)	)	
	)	JUDICIAL COUNCIL
ANTELOPE VALLEY GROUNDWATER CASES)	)	COORDINATION
	)	NO. JCCP4408
	)	
PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT AND	)	SANTA CLARA CASE NO.
QUARTZ HILL WATER DISTRICT,	)	1-05-CV-049053
	)	
CROSS-COMPLAINANTS,	)	
	)	
VS.	)	
	)	
LOS ANGELES COUNTY WATERWORKS,	)	
DISTRICT NO. 40, ET AL,	)	
	)	
CROSS-DEFENDANTS.	)	
	)	

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2011

APPEARANCES:

(SEE APPEARANCE PAGES)

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1 CASE NUMBER: JCCP 4408
2 CASE NAME: ANTELOPE VALLEY
3 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2011
4 DEPARTMENT NO. 2D HON. ELIA WEINBACH
5 REPORTER GINGER WELKER, CSR #5585
6 TIME: 8:38 A.M.
7 APPEARANCES: (SEE TITLE PAGE)
8

9 THE COURT: WE HAVE A NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO ARE ON
10 COURT CALL. HAVE THEY BEEN IDENTIFIED?

11 THE CLERK: YES, THEY HAVE, YOUR HONOR.

12 THE COURT: IF ANYBODY ON COURT CALL WISHES TO
13 ARGUE, COMMENT, OR ADDRESS THE COURT, MAKE SURE YOU
14 STATE YOUR NAME EACH TIME YOU SPEAK SO THAT THE REPORTER
15 AND I WILL KNOW WHO YOU ARE.

16 WE HAVE SEVERAL ACTIONS AND MATTERS TO TAKE
17 CARE OF THIS MORNING. THE PRIMARY ONE IS THE MOTION FOR
18 PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF THE WOOD'S CLASS SETTLEMENT
19 PROPOSED. AND THE COURT HAS READ AND CONSIDERED THAT
20 APPLICATION AS WELL AS A NUMBER OF PARTIES WHO HAVE
21 FILED WRITTEN OPPOSITION TO THAT.

22 I WILL TELL YOU I HAVE SOME CONCERNS. AND I
23 THINK WE NEED TO ADDRESS THOSE HERE THIS MORNING.
24 BEFORE I DO THAT, IS THERE SOMETHING AS MOVING PARTY,
25 MR. MCLACHLAN, THAT YOU WANT TO STATE?

26 MR. MCLACHLAN: NO. I THINK MAYBE THE TIME IS
27 BEST SPENT ADDRESSING WHATEVER CONCERNS THE COURT IS
28 ALLUDING TO.

1 THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. THE FIRST CONCERN I HAVE
2 RELATES TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CLASS
3 MEMBERS AND THE DEFINITION THAT THE ALLOCATION FOR EACH
4 MEMBER WILL BE AS TO PER HOUSEHOLD RATHER THAN TO THE
5 CLASS MEMBERS AS THEY WERE DEFINED IN THE ORDER
6 ESTABLISHING THE CLASS.

7 IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THERE IS POTENTIAL HERE
8 FOR SOME CONTRADICTIONS IN TERMS. FOR EXAMPLE, A
9 HOUSEHOLD MAY OWN SEPARATE PARCELS. EACH PARCEL OF
10 WHICH WOULD HAVE OVERLYING RIGHTS. THAT IS MY FIRST
11 CONCERN BECAUSE IT IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE DEFINITION
12 OF THE CLASS.

13 AND AS I UNDERSTAND IT -- AND WE WILL TALK
14 ABOUT THIS IN A FEW MOMENTS -- PART OF THE REASON FOR
15 THAT IS TO ESTABLISH DOMESTIC USE. AND THAT IS ALSO NOT
16 PART OF THE CLASS DESCRIPTION. AND IT IS NOT A
17 LIMITATION OF THE CLASS DESCRIPTION. SO IT IS A
18 NARROWER DESCRIPTION, IT SEEMS TO ME, THAN THE CLASS
19 DESCRIPTION.

20 AND I GUESS WHAT I CAN DO IS JUST GO THROUGH
21 THESE AND TELL YOU WHAT MY CONCERNS ARE, AND WE CAN
22 START ADDRESSING THEM SERIATIM.

23 ON PAGE 11 OF THE AGREEMENT STARTING AT LINE
24 FOUR, "THE SETTLING PARTIES AGREE THAT THE WOOD CLASS
25 MEMBERS MAY EACH PUMP UP TO 3 ACRE-FEET PER HOUSEHOLD
26 FOR REASONABLE AND BENEFICIAL USE ON THEIR OVERLYING
27 LAND," ET CETERA, ET CETERA. AND THAT IF THE COURT DOES
28 NOT APPROVE THIS PROVISION, THIS AGREEMENT IS VOID.

1 THE PROBLEM THAT I HAVE WITH THAT IS NOT
2 THAT THE PARTIES WHO ARE SETTLING THE CASE CANNOT AGREE
3 AMONG THEMSELVES. THE DIFFICULTY IS THAT WHAT YOU ARE
4 DOING IS ATTEMPTING TO ESTABLISH, AS I READ THIS
5 AGREEMENT, THE 3 ACRE-FEET PER YEAR ALLOCATION AS A --
6 AS A STANDARD THAT IS GOING TO BIND ALL THE NONSETTLING
7 PARTIES. AND I DON'T THINK YOU CAN DO THAT.

8 YOU HAVE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE FACT THAT AS TO
9 OTHER PARTIES THE COURT HAS TO MAKE FINDINGS BASED UPON
10 EVIDENCE. I CAN'T DO THAT BASED UPON AN AGREEMENT OF
11 SOME OF THE PARTIES, BUT NOT ALL OF THE PARTIES.

12 AND I UNDERSTAND THAT THE CONCERN THAT YOU
13 HAVE IS THAT YOU CAN'T SETTLE THIS CASE WITHOUT THAT
14 KIND OF A FINDING BINDING EVERYBODY, BUT I CAN'T MAKE
15 THAT KIND OF A FINDING WITHOUT EVIDENCE AND AN
16 OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PARTIES TO DISPUTE IT. IT MAY WELL
17 BE REASONABLE, BUT I HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING THAT AT THIS
18 POINT.

19 LET ME JUST GO THROUGH HERE: YOU ARE
20 ATTEMPTING TO BIND A WATER MASTER AND A WATER MASTER
21 DECISION AND DETERMINATION OF ALLOCATION OF WATER RIGHTS
22 AND PREVENTING THE COURT AND THE WATER MASTER FROM DOING
23 ANYTHING OTHER THAN WHAT YOU HAVE AGREED AMONG
24 YOURSELVES.

25 WELL, AS TO YOURSELVES, THAT IS FINE. AND
26 IF YOU WANT TO AGREE THAT THE WATER PRODUCERS, PURVEYORS
27 HERE, WILL NOT TAKE A POSITION THAT YOU ARE NOT ENTITLED
28 TO A 3 ACRE-FEET PER YEAR, THAT IS FINE. THEY CAN DO