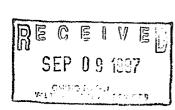
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> Attorney for Jurupa Community Services District

CITY OF CHINO, et al.,



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# SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

CHINO BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER Case No. RCV 51010 DISTRICT, (Specially Assigned to the Honorable J. Michael Gunn) Plaintiff, JURUPA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT'S v. REPLY BRIEF ON POINTS AND

AUTHORITIES CONCERNING MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF NINE MEMBER WATERMASTER BOARD

Defendants.

Date: October 21, 1997 Time: 10:00 a.m.

Jurupa Community Services District (JCSD) submits the following points and authorities in reply to the August 18, 1997 briefs filed by various interested parties concerning the motion for appointment of a nine member Watermaster board.

THERE IS NO DISAGREEMENT BY THE PARTIES SUPPORTING AND OPPOSING A NINE MEMBER WATERMASTER BOARD THAT THE JUDGMENT REQUIRES SEPARATION OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND WATERMASTER.

The August 18, 1997 briefs filed on behalf of parties supporting a nine member Watermaster board support separation of the Advisory Committee and Watermaster (CCWD, et al. brief, p. 10; Chino Basin

Advisory Committee brief, p. 4; Three Valleys Municipal Water District brief, p. 5; and, City of Ontario brief by implication, p. 4). If the parties supporting and opposing the nine member Watermaster board are in agreement with respect to the Judgment's requirement for this separation, the determination of whether the nine member board is consistent with this requirement turns on if the composition of the board as proposed maintains this separation. Clearly, the proposed composition of the nine member board does not accomplish this.

The referenced parties supporting the nine member Watermaster board attempt to distinguish the proposed board from the Advisory Committee by focusing on the diversity of representation by members of the various pools (CCWD, et al. brief, p. 11; Chino Basin Advisory Committee brief, p. 10-11; and, Three Valleys Municipal Water District brief, p. 6); and suggesting that despite "inchoate fears" the nine member board be given a chance (City of Ontario brief, p. 4). The fundamental flaw, however, with respect to the nine member proposal is that six of the nine members (67%) would be interested producers who collectively would control the Watermaster board and thus obviate the separation, which all agree is required by the Judgment, between the Advisory Committee and Watermaster.

Attempts to justify the nine member Watermaster board by reference to a similar composition in the <u>San Gabriel</u> case fail to indicate if the <u>San Gabriel</u> case involves parties with dissimilar interests with respect to water quality and production rights as in the Chino Basin and/or if a comprehensive and agreed to basin management program exists in the former which is clearly presently lacking in the latter. (Three Valleys Municipal Water District brief,

p. 6).

2. THERE IS NO DISAGREEMENT BY THE PARTIES SUPPORTING AND OPPOSING A NINE MEMBER WATERMASTER BOARD THAT MERGER OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND WATERMASTER WOULD REQUIRE AN AMENDMENT OF THE JUDGMENT.

Parties supporting the nine member board note that the Judgment would have to be amended in order to merge the Advisory Committee and Watermaster (CCWD, et al. brief, p. 11; Chino Basin Advisory Committee brief, p. 4; Three Valleys Municipal Water District brief, p. 6; and, City of Ontario brief, p. 4). Consequently, if the composition of the Watermaster board functionally merges the Advisory Committee and Watermaster, this would be tantamount to an amendment of the Judgment.

The Court clearly had an opportunity to populate Watermaster with interested producers but purposefully avoided doing so in order to retain Watermaster as a neutral and objective entity (Owen Declaration supporting Monte Vista Water District brief, p. 2). The Court's approval of the motion to appoint a nine member Watermaster with interested producers comprising 67% of the board is not only inconsistent with the original intent of the parties (which intent is noted by the CCWD, et al. brief, p. 10), but would constitute an amendment of the Judgment.

3. ACTIONS AND INACTIONS BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE WITH RESPECT TO THE MANAGEMENT OF THE BASIN HAVE CLEARLY CONTRIBUTED TO WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION.

Parties supporting the nine member Watermaster board artfully attempt to distinguish between the <u>reasons</u> for water quality degradation in the Basin and <u>management</u> of the degradation (see CCWD, et al. brief, p. 6-9). The valid premise is that actions or inactions

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contributing to water quality degradation by the Advisory Committee, which would control the nine member Watermaster board, constitute a compelling reason not to approve the motion for the nine member board.

There is no disagreement that irrigated agriculture and dairy waste management practices have set the stage with respect to water quality degradation independent of the Advisory Committee and Watermaster, however, the <u>management</u> of this degradation in connection with the development of an optimum basin management program (Judgment, Paragraph 41) pursuant to Section 2 of Article X of the California Constitution (Judgment, Paragraph 39) is clearly required by the Judgment.

It is also clear that the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region, has not assumed responsibility for management of the Basin's water resources with respect to water quality (CCWD, et al. brief, p. 7, citing Wildermuth Declaration). Rather, the Regional Board states "[t]he severity of the water quality problem now confronting the Region in the Chino Basin demands reconsideration of the [Regional] Board's dairy regulation strategy ... " (Dairies And Their Relationship To Water Quality Problems In The Chino Basin; Stewart Declaration supporting CCWD, et al. brief, Preface, p.i) and that the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority is implementing "the construction and operation of desalters [which] will be absolutely essential" to address water quality problems in the Basin (id., p. I-35). With respect to the latter, it is important to note that the Watershed Project Authority, and not the Advisory Santa Ana Committee, is undertaking the construction of desalters in the Basin to begin addressing water quality degradation (see CCWD, et al.

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brief, p. 9).

If the Regional Board was accountable for the plenary management of water quality degradation, it would have assumed responsibility for Basin management rather than merely referencing its more narrow duty with respect to dairy waste regulation strategy and noting the construction of desalters by another entity such as the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority. If the Court wishes to test the position of the parties to the Judgment with respect to whether the parties or Regional Board is responsible for the management of water quality degradation, it could make a finding in favor of the latter, however, this would undoubtedly precipitate a flurry of motions, briefs and litigation contesting such a finding by those supporting the nine member Watermaster board.

Although it may be true that there is not any "data which concludes most of the water now pumped out of the ground fails to meet Health Department standards for safe drinking water without blending or treatment" (emphasis added; Wildermuth Declaration, p. 4, supporting CCWD, et al. brief), this is certainly true in the southern portion of the Basin where the Jurupa Community Services District is located.

4. PARTIES SUPPORTING THE NINE MEMBER WATERMASTER BOARD SUGGEST THAT SINCE THE COURT IS THE ULTIMATE CHECK AND BALANCE WITH RESPECT TO THE JUDGMENT THIS OBVIATES THE ROLE OF WATERMASTER FOR THIS PURPOSE.

The parties supporting the nine member Watermaster board note that the Court is the ultimate check and balance with respect to the Judgment (CCWD, et al. brief, p. 13; Chino Basin Advisory Committee brief, p. 5; Three Valleys Municipal Water District brief, p. 8; and,

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City of Ontario brief, p. 5). While there does not appear to be disagreement on this point between the parties supporting and opposing the nine member Watermaster board, those in support suggest this obviates or diminishes Watermaster's role in this respect. These points are apparently made for the purpose of arguing that a functional merger of the Advisory Committee and Watermaster, and thus extinguishing checks and balances between the two entities, is not important since parties can always ultimately seek redress from the Court.

This line of reasoning further suggests that there is no point in distinguishing discretionary, administrative and mandatory actions by Watermaster since the Advisory Committee controls Watermaster's actions (CCWD, et al. brief, p. 13). In contrast, some suggest that Watermaster at least provides an "intermediate checkpoint which serves to ultimately bring an issue before the Court" (Chino Basin Advisory Committee brief, p. 5).

Certainly the parties to the Judgment could have avoided the substantial amount of time devoted during the negotiations leading to the Judgment establishing checks and balances between the Advisory Committee and Watermaster by clearly providing for redress by the Court and avoiding reference to discretionary, administrative and mandatory actions involving the two entities. Suggesting that the neutrality of the Watermaster is not an issue (CCWD, et al. brief, p. 13) is also counter to the intention of the parties during the Judgment's negotiation process (Owen Declaration, p. 2, supporting Monte Vista Water District brief).

The ultimate question for the Court is whether it wishes to serve in the role as the threshold and primary means of addressing

	1	disagreements among the parties,
STATE BAR NUMBER 141029	2	separation of power and purpose bet
	3	Watermaster with the Court reserv
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	6	DATED: September 8, 1997
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between the Advisory Committee and serving its exercise of ultimate continued disagreement.

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Attorney for Defendant Jurupa Community Services District

John J. Schatz

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### PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ORANGE

I am employed in the County of Orange, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action; my business. address is: P.O. Box 7775, Laguna Niquel, California 92607-7775.

On September 8, 1997, I served the foregoing document described as JURUPA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT'S REPLY BRIEF ON POINTS AND AUTHORITIES CONCERNING MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF NINE MEMBER WATERMASTER BOARD on the interested parties in this action by placing a true copy thereof enclosed in sealed envelopes addressed as follows:

## SEE ATTACHED SERVICE LIST

- [X] BY MAIL:
- [X] As follows: I am "readily familiar" with the firm's practice of collection and processing of correspondence for mailing. Under that practice it would be deposited with U.S. Postal Service on that same day with postage thereon fully prepaid at Mission Viejo, California in the ordinary course of business. I am aware that on motion of the party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one day after date of deposit for mailing in affidavit. Executed on September 8, 1997, at Mission Viejo, California.
- [X] (STATE) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.

BETTY A. SCHATZ

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