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4		OCT 28 1999 By Lina L. Gulmaste_ Deputy	
5	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
6	FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO		
7	,		
8	CHINO BASIN MUNICIPAL	CASE NO. RCV 51010	
9	Plaintiff,		
10) VS.)	Final RulingSept. 30, 1999 Hrng.	
11	CITY OF CHINO, et al.,		
12	Defendants.		
13)		
14	Background		
15	On February 19, 1998, this Court set aside its previous order appointing the California		
16	Department of Water Resources ("DWR") as Interim Watermaster and instead appointed		
17	a nine-member board consisting of representatives from the Overlying (Agricultural Pool),		
18	the Overlying (Non-Agricultural Pool), the Appropriative Pool, and three municipal water		
19	districts to serve as Interim Watermaster	for a twenty-six month period commencing	
20	March 1, 1998, and ending June 30, 2000. To ensure that DWR is in a position to		
21	assume the duties of Watermaster at the end of the interim appointment should the nine-		
22	member board fail to operate independently and effectively, the Court directed the parties		
23	to engage in negotiations with DWR related to its takeover of Watermaster operations.		
24	The Court further directed the Interim Watermaster to notice a hearing no later than		
_ 25	September 30, 1999, to report on the status of the negotiations. The parties were further		
26	reminded that the Court's order prohibits the Interim Watermaster from entering into any		
27	agreement that DWR will be obligated to assume (i.e., contracts wherein payment and/or		
28	performance of any kind whatsoever will be required after June 30, 2000). Current Interim		
	Watermaster employees were reminded that if DWR were appointed as Watermaster at		
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the end of the interim appointment, Watermaster employee positions would terminate on
June 30, 2000, without further order of the Court. Further, DWR will not be required to
hire current Interim Watermaster employees upon its appointment; rather, Watermaster
employees may be rehired at the discretion of DWR and on such terms as DWR deems
appropriate.

On February 19, 1998, the Court also ordered the Interim Watermaster to notice a 6 7 hearing on or before October 28, 1999, to consider all parties' input as to the continuance of the nine-member board as Watermaster after June 30, 2000. The 8 9 Court noted that the timely filing of all reports with the Court and the development of an 10 optimum basin management program are of significant interest to the Court in the continuation of the nine-member board as Watermaster. The Court directed the Interim 11 12 Watermaster to develop an optimum basin management program and to submit the 13 optimum basin management program first to the Advisory Committee for review and/or 14 action, then to the Court no later than September 30, 1999, or show cause why it 15 could not do so. The Court also set a hearing on October 28, 1999, at 1:30 p.m., to 16 consider whether to approve and order full implementation of the program or consider 17 why the program has not been completed.

18 In partial compliance with the Court's order requiring the Interim Watermaster to 19 develop and to submit an optimum basin management program first to the Advisory 20 Committee for review and/or action, then to the Court no later than September 30, 21 1999, the Interim Watermaster has filed with the Court: (1) Optimum Basin 22 Management Program Phase I Report, dated August 19, 1999, and (2) Appendix A 23 Public Comments to the Report. The Interim Watermaster requests these documents 24 be filed and accepted by the Court only as reports and that the Interim Watermaster 25 be given an additional six months to prepare an implementation plan-- Phase II of the 26 Optimum Basin Management Program Report. The Interim Watermaster further 27 requests that the Court adopt a revised schedule for approval of the final Optimum 28 Basin Management Program (presently set for approval on October 28, 1999) and for input and consideration as to the continuance of the nine-member board as

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Watermaster after June 30, 2000 (also set for October 28,1999). The City of Pomona,
 Monte Vista Water District, and the State of California have filed responses to the
 motion by the Interim Watermaster.

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Order Re Status of Negotiations with DWR

5 The Interim Watermaster reports that on November 18, 1998, the Chief of 6 Watermaster Services wrote to DWR regarding an implementation plan for the 7 transfer of Watermaster operations. DWR responded to the letter on January 15, 8 1999, stating that DWR is ready to resume negotiations but in view of the fact that the 9 Interim Watermaster has been working adequately DWR believes it is in the parties' 10 best interests that negotiations should not be resumed until directed by the Court. 11 The Court notes that the Interim Watermaster and several other parties have 12 expressed concern regarding significant funding issues to be resolved in connection 13 with the development of an implementation plan for the OBMP. It might be the case 14 that DWR is in a superior position to obtain available federal and state funding for the 15 implementation plan; hence, it is crucial that the Interim Watermaster and DWR have 16 in place a plan for the orderly transfer of operations from the nine-member board to 17 the DWR at the end of the interim appointment SHOULD Watermaster or relevant 18 responsible organizations, among other things, experience obstacles to obtaining 19 necessary financing concerning implementation of the OBMP. Accordingly, the Court 20 hereby orders the Interim Watermaster to prepare and submit to DWR and file with 21 the Court no later than March 2, 2000, a proposed plan for the orderly transfer of 22 operations at the end of the interim appointment. DWR is invited to prepare a 23 response to the Interim Watermaster's proposal by no later than April 27, 2000, which, 24 if prepared, shall also be filed with the Court. Assuming DWR is still interested in 25 becoming Watermaster, the Interim Watermaster and DWR shall thereafter meet to 26 develop a joint proposal for the orderly transfer of operations, which shall be 27 submitted to the Court no later than July 13, 2000. This is not an appointment; 28 instead, it is a contingency plan, with no commitment regarding appointment of DWR or any agency and/or person as Watermaster.

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1 On July 13, 2000, at 1:30 p.m., the Court will conduct a hearing on the 2 continuance of the nine-member board. Interested parties are requested to file briefs no later than June 29, 2000. The interim appointment of the nine-member board may 3 4 be extended to December 31, 2000. Thus, if the court determines not to continue the 5 nine-member board the new appointment will take effect on January 1, 2000. An 6 expressed reason for adjusting the timeline, among others, was the Court's concern 7 regarding adequate notice to Watermaster employees; however, the Court is 8 concerned that the timeline adjustment might be misinterpreted as an invitation to 9 procrastinate, which would be a miscalculation of the Court's concern regarding 10 timeliness of Watermaster responsibilities. On the contrary, the Court is concerned 11 whether or not the Watermaster is adequately staffed to perform its administrative 12 functions, evidenced by the tardiness of draft minutes posted on the Watermaster 13 Web Site, among other things. (As one might recall, there has been problems in the 14 past filing annual reports in a timely fashion-true, with the prior Watermaster 15 composition.) It seems as though an additional employee or the addition of a part-16 time employee might be beneficial, assuming that it is contemplated that the posting 17 of minutes will continue to be untimely or priorities will have to be adjusted to get 18 current on matters not yet current. On balance, though, the Court finds that the 19 Watermaster is making positive progress toward achieving its stated goals, and it is 20 not the Court's function to order the number of employees of Watermaster, although it 21 is the Court's function to measure the effectiveness of the Interim Watermaster.

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Order Re Status of Optimum Basin Management Plan

The Court commends the parties on the achievements accomplished to date on the preparation of the OBMP and their commitment to complete a draft implementation program report by February 15, 2000. The Optimum Basin Management Program Phase I Report describes the issues that need to be addressed. The Phase I Report describes the goals for management of the Basin, impediments to those goals, and possible solutions to achieve the goals described. The focus of the Interim Watermaster and the interested parties must now turn to choosing the solutions that

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will best achieve the goals described and to determining how the solutions will be
 implemented. The Court recognizes this requires further significant work by all of the
 parties and encourages the parties to stay focused on solving the outstanding
 implementation issues.

Comments received by the Court regarding the Optimum Basin Management 5 6 Program Phase I Report indicate parties may want to edit the Report some time in the 7 future and/or have continuing objections to some of the facts and conclusions in the 8 report. The Court, therefore, accepts the Phase I Report, including the Appendix A, as 9 a provisional report in conformance with the Court's Order to show cause why the 10 OBMP has not been submitted. Any discrepancies in the Report have been noted by 11 the comments to the Report submitted simultaneously to the Court as Appendix A and 12 any further comments submitted by Pomona, Monte Vista Water District and State of 13 California. A Supplement to Appendix A consisting of all written comments submitted 14 as part of the September 15, 1999 hearing will be filed with the Court and served on 15 all parties by the Watermaster. Any further issues that may arise in the course of 16 Phase II implementation discussions can be addressed in Phase II. The Court 17 recognizes that the parties reserve their rights to comment on and/or object to the 18 Phase I Report during the development of Phase II of the OBMP, and at the time the 19 final OBMP is considered. Receipt of the Phase I Report as provisional is not meant 20 to encourage further delay in Phase II implementation.

21 The Court hereby schedules a hearing at 1:30 p.m. on March 16, 2000, to 22 review the status of the OBMP and related CEQA matters. Interested parties are 23 requested to file briefs on or before March 2, 2000. The Court also hereby adopts 24 and incorporates herein by this reference the timeline attached as "Exhibit A". The 25 timeline includes a June 30, 2000, completion date for the Final OBMP. The Court 26 recognizes the efforts of the Chino Basin Watermaster over the past two years and 27 the demanding schedule that the process has required. The timeline for completion of 28 the Final OBMP requires a continued, focused effort. The Court would like to point out, however, that the filing on February 15 includes a draft Phase II Implementation

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Plan and draft MOAs. The parties then have an additional four months to prepare and
submit the Final Phase II Implementation Plan and Final MOAs as the Phase II Report
on the OBMP. Thus, the drafts submitted in February may be substantially modified
before being resubmitted in June. The Court has slightly modified the timeline to
provide for agency, board, and city council approvals of the final MOAs, subject to
Court approval, a comment period, and approval of the final OBMP.

Environmental Concerns

8 An issue has been raised as to the applicability of the California Environmental 9 Quality Act ("CEQA") and the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") to the 10 adoption of the OBMP. For purposes of CEQA, a state court is not a public agency 11 and, thus, is exempt from its requirements. However, an argument may be made that, 12 although state courts are exempt from CEQA, state courts do not have the authority to 13 issue orders that would excuse a public agency from complying with CEQA. The Court 14 is mindful of the underlying purpose of CEQA, to ensure the maintenance of a quality 15 environment for the citizens of California. The Court is also mindful of the 16 Legislature's expressed policy that the state take all action necessary to provide its 17 citizens with, among other things, clean air and water, and to ensure that the long-18 term protection of the environment is the guiding criterion in public decisions. To 19 facilitate resolution of the issue of the application of CEQA and NEPA to the adoption 20 of the OBMP, the Court hereby orders the Interim Watermaster and all other 21 interested parties to appear on November 18, 1999, to show cause why the Court 22 should not order the preparation of an environmental document in compliance with 23 CEQA and NEPA and direct Inland Empire Utilities Agency to proceed as the lead 24 agency to ensure timely preparation of an environmental document, to avoid delay in 25 adoption and implementation of the OBMP.

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DATED: October 28,1999

Marka ICHAEL GUNN

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Exhibit A

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TIMELINE*

DUE DATE	DESCRIPTION
July, 1999 to May, 2000	Throughout the process, subcommittees on Artificial Recharge and Basin Yield Maintenance are meeting on a regular basis regarding recharge, basin yield maintenance, and conjunctive use.
Oct. 28, 1999, 1:30 P.M.	CEQA/NEPA Brief Submitted to Court.
Nov.18, 1999, 1:30 P.M.	Hearing on CEQA/NEPA & Proposed Timeline.
Feb. 15, 2000	Submit Draft Implementation Plan (comment period begins). Complete initial draft of MOA's re: Recharge, Yield Maintenance (including treatment), and Conjunctive Use.
Feb. 29, 2000	Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) completed (public comment period begins).
Mar. 02, 2000 Interim Watermaster submits its contingency plan for transfer operations to DWR.	
Mar. 03, 2000 to May 17, 2000	Joint Pool & Advisory Committees meetings to discuss MOA's, DEIR, and Draft Implementation Plan.
Mar. 16, 2000, 1:30 P.M.	Status Hearing OBMP and related CEQA matters.
Apr. 27, 2000	DWR submits response to Interim Watermaster contingency plan for transfer of operations.
May 11, 2000	Joint Pool & Advisory Committees final discussions to complete MOA's, and Implementation Plan.
May 17, 2000	IEUA Hearing to certify Final EIR.
May 25, 2000	Watermaster Board hearing to consider final EIR, MOA's, and Implementation Plan for submission to Court.
June 15, 2000	Final OBMP (Final Phase One, Final Phase Two comprised of Final Implementation Plan and Final MOA's) and Resolution by agencies indicating readiness to participate in OBMP, subject to Court approval, filed with the Court.
June 23, 2000	Comments to Final OBMP filed with the Court (Final Phase One, Final Phase Two (Final Implementation Plan and Final MOAs).
June 29, 2000, 1:30 P.M.	Hearing on OBMP & Final EIR.
July 13, 2000, 1:30 P.M.	Hearing on continuance of nine-member Board.

*Notes:

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1. This timeline does not reflect deadlines for comments, hearings, etc. planned in compliance with the CEQA process.

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8	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA				
9	FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO				
10	CHINO BASIN MUNICIPAL) CA	SE NO. RCV 51010			
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13 14		ITA ANA RIVER RULING			
14	CITY OF CHINO, et al.,				
16					
17	The Motion by Defendant Monte Vista Water District for an "Order Scheduling				
18	Periodic Status Conferences and Directing Inland Empire Utilities Agency to Pro-				
19 20 21 22	Periodic Reports to the Court, at the Status Conference Concerning the Proceeding				
	Before the State Water Resources Control Board Involving the Santa Ana River"				
	came on for hearing at the time and place above noted, the Hon. J. Michael Gunn,				
23	presiding. Appearances of the parties by counsel were Arthur G. Kidman for Monte				
24	Vista Water District; Jean Cihigoyenetche for Inlar	nd Empire Utilities Agency (formerly			
25	Chino Basin Municipal Water District); Tari Cody for Chino Basin Watermaster; James				
26 27 28	E. Erickson for City of Chino; Gene Tanaka and Jim Morris for Cucamonga Water				
	District and Western Municipal Water District of Riverside County; Thomas Bunn, III				
	for City of Pomona; Marilyn Levin for the State of California (appearance expressly				
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limited to exclude representation of the State Water Resources Control Board);
Steven Kennedy for Three Valleys Municipal Water District; Dan McKinney for Chino
Basin Watermaster, Overlying Agriculture Pool Committee. Upon review of the papers
submitted by the parties and upon hearing arguments from counsel, the Court, being
fully apprised of the matters before it, rules as follows:

The "recommendation" by Chino Basin Watermaster that the Court 1. 7 issue an Order to Show Cause to the State Water Resources Control Board 8 9 concerning whether said Board should be enjoined from granting certain applications 10 to appropriate water in a manner which could adversely affect the management of 11 Chino Basin is refused. Aside from questions about whether the Court's 12 jurisdiction over the State of California in this case extends to and includes jurisdiction 13 over the water right administration functions of the State Water Resources Control 14 15 Board, the Court questions whether the matters currently pending before the State 16 Water Resources Control Board are ripe for judicial review or intervention and 17 whether a case can be made, showing irreparable harm, sufficient to even consider 18 injunctive relief. 19

The Court agrees with the concerns raised by Monte Vista Water District 2. 20 21 and the Chino Basin Watermaster that proceedings currently pending before the State 22 Water Resources Control Board concerning appropriations from the Santa Ana River 23 create the appearance that possible determinations by that Board could affect water 24 resources in the Chino Basin. The Court believes that it and the parties before it 25 26 should be kept fully apprised of the matters pending before the State Water 27 Resources Control Board concerning appropriations from the Santa Ana River. The 28 Court, therefore, grants the motion for Status Conferences and Status Reports. The

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Court reserves for further order the questions of how frequently and over what period of time the Status Conferences and Status Reports will be required.

WHEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

4 In addition to other matters in this case that have been scheduled before the 5 Court on that date, this Court shall hold a Status Conference on November 18, 1999, 6 at 1:30 p.m. in Department R-8. The purpose of the Status Conference shall be to 7 apprise the court concerning the status of proceedings pending before the State 8 9 Water Resources Control Board involving water appropriations from the Santa Ana 10 River. Not later than five Court days before said Status Conference, the Inland Empire 11 Utilities Agency and the Western Municipal Water District of Riverside County each 12 shall file with the Court and the Chino Basin Watermaster, and serve upon 13 counsel of record in this case, a written Report concerning the status of proceedings 14 15 pending before the State Water Resources Control Board involving water appropriations from the Santa Ana River.

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DATED: November 1, 1999

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Michael GUNN

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8	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
9	FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO			
10 11	CHINO BASIN MUNICIPAL) CASE NO. RCV 51010			
12				
12	Plaintiff,) vs. CEQA RULING			
14				
15	CITY OF CHINO, et al.,			
16				
17	Background			
18	On November 18, 1999, the Chino Basin Watermaster and other parties			
19	appeared before the Court regarding the application of the California Environmental			
20	Quality Act ("CEQA") to the Chino Basin Optimum Basin Management Program			
21	("OBMP") process. The Watermaster represented that the parties substantially agree			
22	that it is necessary to prepare an Environmental Impact Report ("EIR"), and provided			
23	a timeline for completion of the report. Monte Vista Water District is the only party			
24	appearing that contends CEQA may not apply because of the possible nature of the			
25	OBMP and the potential delay that may be caused by the preparation of the EIR.			
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Discussion

CEQA applies when an agency approves a "project". A project is an activity that may cause direct or indirect physical environmental change and is an activity undertaken by a public agency, supported by a public agency, or involving the issuance of some form of entitlement or permit. (Pub. Resources Code § 21065; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15378). The OBMP is likely to involve numerous public agencies undertaking activities that may cause direct as well as indirect physical environmental harm.

The Chino Basin Watermaster is developing and approving the OBMP, which 9 10 sets forth a long-term program for Basin management. Because certain programs 11 within the OBMP will necessitate further project-specific CEQA evaluation, such as 12 the desalter program, a Program Environmental Impact Report ("PEIR") has been 13 suggested by the Watermaster. A PEIR is prepared when an activity is composed of 14 a series of actions that are related geographically, a logical part in a chain of 15 contemplated actions, connected as part of a continuing program, carried out under 16 the same authorizing statute or regulatory authority, and have similar environmental 17 impacts that can be mitigated in similar ways. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15168).

Ruling

The Court approves the Watermaster's decision to prepare a PEIR and the Inland Empire Utilities Agency's agreement to serve as the CEQA lead agency. The draft PEIR is scheduled to be completed by February 28, 2000, and the final PEIR is scheduled to be completed by May 17, 2000. Thus, it does not appear that the preparation of the PEIR will cause any delay in the OBMP process.

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DATED: November 18, 1999

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PROOF OF SERVICE

I declare that:

I am employed in the County of San Bernardino, California. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within action. My business address is Chino Basin Watermaster, 8632 Archibald Avenue, Suite 109, Rancho Cucamonga, California 91730; telephone (909) 484-3888.

On November 22, 1999, I served the attached:

FINAL RULING-SEPTEMBER 30, 1999 HEARING

- 1. Status of Negotiations with DWR, Status of the Optimum Basin Management Program and Environmental Concerns
- 2. Santa Ana River Ruling
- 3. CEQA Ruling

in said cause, by placing a true copy thereof enclosed with postage thereon fully prepaid, for overnight delivery by United States Postal Service mail at Rancho Cucamonga, California, address as follows:

See attached service lists:

Mailing List A Attorney Service List

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed at Rancho Cucamonga, California, on November 22, 1999.

Mary Staul

List updated 10/20/99 by request

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ALLAN E GLUCK N AMERICAN COMM REAL EST 123 S. FIGUEROA ST STE 190 B LOS ANGELES CA 90012-5517

JACK HAGERMAN STATE OF CALIFORNIA CIM 4158 CENTER ST NORCO CA 91760

CARL HAUGE DEPT OF WATER RESOURCES 1020 9TH ST 3RD FL SACRAMENTO CA 95814

PAUL HOFER CBWM BOARD 11248 S TURNER AVE ONTARIO CA 91761

JOSEPHINE JOHNSON CBWM BOARD 3635 RIVERSIDE DR CHINO CA 91710

MARK KINSEY MONTE VISTA WATER DISTRICT P.O. BOX 71 MONTCLAIR CA 91763-0071

GENE KOOPMAN 13898 ARCHIBALD AVE ONTARIO CA 91761-7979

MANAGER KRONICK MOSKOVITZ TIEDEMANN & GIRARD 400 CAPITOL MALL 27TH FL SACRAMENTO CA 95814-4417

FRANK LOGUIDICE SANGABRIEL VALLEY WC P.O. BOX 6010 EL MONTE CA 91734 CARLOS LOZANO STATE OF CA YTS P.O. BOX 800 ONTARIO CA 91761-0800

MIKE MCGRAW FONTANA WATER COMPANY P.O. BOX 987 FONTANA CA 92334-0987

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ROBB QUINCEY INLAND PACIFIC WATER COMPANY 8300 UTICA AVE 3RD FLOOR RANCHO CUCAMONGA CA 91730

DAVID RINGEL MONTGOMERY WATSON P.O. BOX 7009 PASADENA CA 91109-7009

WAYNE SALMI PRAXAIR 5735 AIRPORT DR ONTARIO CA 91761

JOHN SCHATZ FOR JURUPA COMM SVS DIST P.O. BOX 7775 LAGUNA NIGUEL CA 92607-7775 MIKE MAESTAS CITY OF CHINO HILLS 2001 GRAND AVE CHINO HILLS CA 91709-4869

CAROLE MCGREEVY JURUPA COMM SVCS DIST 8621 JURUPA RD RIVERSIDE CA 92509-3229

RUBEN MONTES SAN BERNARDINO CTY FLD CONT DIST 825 E THIRD ST SAN BERNARDINO CA 92415

JUAN NESSI STATE OF CA, CIM 18952 BETLEY ST ROWLAND HEIGHTS CA 91748

DANA OLDENKAMP MILK PRODUCERS COUNCIL 3214 CENTURION PL ONTARIO CA 91761

HENRY PEPPER CITY OF POMONA 505 S GAREY AVE POMONA CA 91766

LEE R REDMOND III KAISER VENTURES INC 3633 E INLD EMP BLVD STE 850 ONTARIO CA 91764

ARNOLD RODRIGUEZ SANTA ANA RIVER WATER CO 10530 54TH ST

PATRICK SAMPSON P.O. BOX 660 POMONA CA 91769

JOE SCHENK CITY OF NORCO P.O. BOX 428 NORCO CA 91760-0428 ALAN MARKS CTY OF SAN BERN CTY CNSL 157 W 5TH ST SAN BERNARDINO CA 92415

BILL MILLS ORANGE COUNTY WATER DIST P.O. BOX 8300 FTN VALLEY CA 92728-8300

JIM MOODY CITY OF UPLAND P.O. BOX 460 UPLAND CA 91785-0460

ROBERT NEUFELD CHAIRMAN CBWM BOARD 14111 SAN GABRIEL CT RANCHO CUCAMONGA CA 91739

ROBERT OLISLAGERS CNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 7000 MERRILL AVE BOX 1 CHINO CA 91710-9027

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BILL RICE RWQCB - SANTA ANA REGION 3737 MAIN ST STE 500 RIVERSIDE CA 92501-3339

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MICHAEL SMITH NICHOLS STEAD BOILEAU & KOSTOFF 223 W FOOTHILL BLVD #200 CLAREMONT CA 91711-2708

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BILL STAFFORD MARYGOLD MUTUAL WATER CO 9715 ALDER ST BLOOMINGTON CA 92316-1637

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HAROLD TREDWAY 10841 PARAMOUNT BLVD DOWNEY CA 90241

ERICK VAUGHN ANGELICA RENTAL SERVICE 1575 N CASE ST ORANGE CA 92867-3635

RAY WELLINGTON SAN ANTONIO WATER COMPANY 139 N EUCLID AVE UPLAND CA 91786-6036

MARK WILDERMUTH WILDERMUTH ENVIRONMENTAL INC 415 N EL CAMINO REAL STE A SAN CLEMENTE CA 92672