

Reclamation District 2110 McCormack-Williamson

June 28, 2017

Mr. Mark Nordberg, GSA Project Manager
Senior Engineering Geologist
California Department of Water Resources
901 P Street, Room 213-B
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Subject: Notice of Decision to Join a Groundwater Sustainability Agency for Portions of the South American Subbasin

Dear Mr. Nordberg,

Reclamation District No. 2110 ("District") provides this notice of its decision to join a Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("GSA") pursuant to California Water Code § 10723.8. The District intends to undertake sustainable groundwater management of the portion of the South American groundwater subbasin, part of the Sacramento Valley Basin (DWR Basin No. 5-021.65) located within the Reclamation District's existing service area in Sacramento County. Exhibit A to this letter is a map and shapefile showing the basin boundaries and the District's portion of the GSA.

The District is a California Reclamation District formed and operating under the provisions of the Water Code § 50000, et seq. Under this law, the District provides water delivery, drainage, and water management functions within its service area. As a California Reclamation District, RD 2110 qualifies as an eligible agency for the purposes of GSA formation under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA").

The District is outside of the proposed boundaries of the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority GSA but is within the Alternative Plan area proposed by that entity as reflected on the DWR's GSA maps. If this Alternative is not approved by DWR, a groundwater sustainability plan ("GSP") will be required. In any event, the District has established communication with local officials and will cooperatively work with this local agency as well as other local stakeholders to resolve any GSA overlap and establish a suitable governance structure for the entire subbasin in order to achieve sustainability.

On June 13, 2017, the District held a joint public hearing to solicit input on potential GSA formation and to consider its participation for the portions of the groundwater basin within its boundaries. Notice of this hearing was published in *The Sacramento Bee*, a paper of general circulation in the basin, as required by Water Code § 10723 and Government Code § 6066. Exhibit B to this letter is a copy of this notice. Furthermore, an agenda was posted at the meeting place more than 24 hours prior to the District's meeting pursuant to the Brown Act (Government Code § 54954 et seq.). Following this public hearing, at a District meeting held on June 14, 2017, the District adopted a resolution electing to join the Northern Delta GSA. No other bylaws, regulations, or ordinances relevant to SGMA have been adopted at this time.

The District seeks to join several other independent districts or GSAs in the surrounding region to form the Northern Delta GSA, which would facilitate collaborative management the local groundwater resources, and to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement as contemplated by California Water Code

- Refuge and the Cosumnes Preserve are adjacent to the District's boundaries. Therefore, the District will solicit input from the managers of these areas.
- ***Surface water users, if a hydrological connection between surface water and groundwater resources exists:*** The District's landowner holds surface water rights that are used within the proposed GSA management area. The District will coordinate with any other local surface water users to ensure their interests are considered during the GSP development and implementation process. Many of the surface water users have an existing relationship with the District already.
 - ***The federal government, including, but not limited to, the military and managers of federal lands:*** There are no federal government lands within the District. However, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manages the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, which is adjacent to the District. The managers of the refuge have been in conversations with the District regarding SGMA. This ongoing collaboration will ensure that the refuge's interests are protected during the SGMA implementation process. Similarly, the Cosumnes River Preserve, which is owned and jointly managed by a group of nonprofits and state and federal agencies will be consulted to ensure the Preserve is protected as it is near the District's service area.
 - ***California Native American tribes:*** There are no identified Native American tribes within the District's proposed GSA boundaries.
 - ***Disadvantaged communities, including, but not limited to, those served by private domestic wells or small community water systems:*** The District has not identified disadvantaged communities within the basin using DWR's web-based tools. Even still, the District will cooperate with Sacramento County and San Joaquin County to work with any disadvantaged communities within the surrounding area relying on groundwater supplies.
 - ***Entities listed in Water Code § 10927 that are monitoring and reporting groundwater elevations in all or part of the groundwater basin managed by the GSA:*** The County of Sacramento is currently the CASGEM monitoring entity within the District's service area. The District will continue to collaborate with this entity as well as any other entities within the basin that collect groundwater data in order to coordinate on GSP development and implementation.

The District and other stakeholders' roles and responsibilities will be further defined in the GSP. The District welcomes feedback throughout this process from the state and any other agencies, organizations, or persons that have a vested interest in the management of this groundwater basin. Future meetings will be publicly noticed to encourage greater stakeholder participation and the list of interested parties will be continually updated as additional entities are identified. If the DWR requires any additional information, please contact the undersigned at (916) 776-1701 or email at dzeleke@TNC.org.

Thank You,


Dawn Zeleke
President, Reclamation District 2110