

WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

JULIA D. BERRY
DIRECTOR

200 W. Fourth St.
Suite 3100
Madera, CA 93637
(559) 675-7821
FAX (559) 675-6573
mcwater@madera-county.com

January 27, 2017

Via Email & U.S. Mail

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
Mark.Nordberg@water.ca.gov

Mr. Dane Mathis
Sup. Engineering Geologist
3374 East Shield Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726
Dane.Mathis@water.ca.gov

Mr. Mike McKenzie
Senior Engineering Geologist
3374 East Shields Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726
Charles.McKenzie@water.ca.gov

RE: *Notice of Madera County's Intent to Serve as Groundwater Sustainability Agency for a portion of the Chowchilla Subbasin*

To Whom it May Concern,

This letter constitutes notice to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) of the County of Madera's (County) intent to undertake sustainable groundwater management in the Chowchilla Subbasin (Basin) as a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) pursuant to the Sustainability Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Madera County is a political subdivision of the State of California established under the state Constitution, and is eligible to serve as a GSA. This notice of intent is timely filed within 30 days of the date Madera County's Board of Supervisor's (Board) approved its January 24, 2017 resolution electing to serve as a GSA.

This notice also includes all information required to be submitted pursuant to Section 10723.8(a) of the Water Code. This notice encloses a map depicting the County's proposed GSA management area. (Water Code, § 10723.8, subd. (a)(1).) The County's proposed management area is within the County's service area. It is not the intention of Madera County to overlap any neighboring agencies which have formed or are in the process of forming GSAs. Groundwater Sustainability Agencies in the Chowchilla Subbasin will include: (1) Chowchilla Water District/City of Chowchilla, (2) Merced County and the (3) County of Madera/Clayton Water District.

The County's resolution electing to form a GSA is also enclosed. Also, attached to the resolution is the "Proof of Publication" for public noticing. No new bylaws, ordinances, or other new authorities were adopted in connection with this resolution to serve as a GSA.

Pursuant to Section 10723.8(a)(4) of the Water Code, the following is a list of "interested parties developed pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.2 and an explanation of how their interests will be considered in the development and operation of the groundwater sustainability agency and the development and implementation of the sustainability plan."

Specifically, Section 10723.2 of the Water Code requires a GSA to "consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing GSPs," including the following interests:

(a) *Holders of overlying groundwater rights, including:*

(1) *Agricultural users.*

- The area to be managed by Madera County is comprised of many agricultural users of groundwater who rely on groundwater solely for irrigation purposes. The County will engage agricultural groundwater users in the process through public outreach, including the Madera County Water Association and the Madera County Farm Bureau.

(2) *Domestic Well owners.*

- The area includes domestic well users. The County intends to reach out and engage this portion of groundwater users.

(b) *Municipal well operators.*

- There are no municipal well operators.

(c) *Public water systems.*

- There are two (2) Public Water Systems and one Mutual Water Company in the Madera County Responsible Area, which will be considered and engaged in the process.

(d) *Local land use planning agencies.*

- Madera County is the local land use authority in the boundary to be managed by the Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

(e) *Environmental users of groundwater.*

- Not applicable.

(f) *Surface water users, if there is a hydrologic connection between surface and groundwater bodies.*

- There is no hydrologic connection between surface water and groundwater flows. The surface water features in and near the County's service area: the San Joaquin River, the Fresno River, and the Chowchilla Bypass.

(g) *The federal government, including, but not limited to, the military and managers of federal lands.*

- Not applicable.

(h) *California Native American Tribes.*

- Not applicable.

(i) *Disadvantaged communities, including, but not limited to, those served by private domestic wells or small community water systems.*

- Alview School is a Disadvantaged Community which will be engaged in this process.

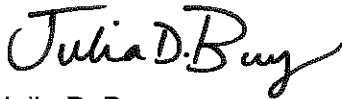
(j) *Entities listed in Section 10927 that are monitoring.*

- The Madera-Chowchilla CASGEM Group currently covers the County service area, and Madera County participates in the reporting.

Interested parties will have several opportunities, both formally and informally, to provide input to Madera County throughout the process of developing, operating, and implementing the GSA including, but not limited to, comment during regularly scheduled County Board of Supervisor's hearings, and at other times to be determined and noticed pursuant to Water Code section 10727.8(a).

Should you have any further questions, feel free to contact me at (559) 675-7821.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julia D. Berry".

Julia D. Berry
Director, Madera County
Water and Natural Resources Department