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Via Email and U.S. Mail

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RE: SSJID - Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Dear Mr. Nordberg:

This letter serves as the notice of intent to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) that South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID or District) has elected to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency pursuant to Water Code section 10723.8. As represented by its election, SSJID intends to undertake sustainable groundwater management as defined by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) for the portion of the Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater subbasin (DWR Basin No. 5.22.01) that is designated on the attached map delineating the Basin, the SSJID service area, and the proposed management area. (See Attachment A – GSA Map.) Note that the southern boundary of the map has slight differences with the existing boundary for the Basin. The District's understanding is that DWR is currently making corrections to the exact boundary lines of various subbasins due to improved mapping data; the District expects that after these corrections are made the boundary lines in the attached map will be consistent with the boundary lines of the Basin.

The District has collaborated in groundwater management with other agencies overlying the Eastern San Joaquin County subbasin (Basin) through its membership in the Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Basin Authority. In addition, SSJID has historically worked toward sustainable management and developed a groundwater management plan in 1994. As a GSA, the District plans to continue to collaborate and work to build groundwater management through partnerships and outreach. Currently, the only other GSA election in the Basin has been from Stockton East Water District and

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therefore the District's election does not overlap with any other GSA boundaries. However, there are several other agencies that could elect to manage groundwater within the Basin. (See Attachment B – Potential GSA Entities.)

Pursuant to Water Code section 10723(b), SSJID held a public hearing prior to its election on October 13, 2015. A copy of the SSJID Resolution electing to become a GSA is attached pursuant to Water Code section 10723(a). (See Attachment C – GSA Resolution.) The District did not adopt any new bylaws, ordinances, or other authorities in support of its election. Per section 10723(a), if any such authorities are later adopted, the District will notify DWR and provide copies upon adoption.

As required by Water Code section 10723.8(a)(4), SSJID developed a list of interested parties it will include in the development of a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP). The list will be amended as necessary as the GSP process develops. In its development of the GSP, SSJID will consider all beneficial uses and users of groundwater within the Basin. The District will solicit input and work collaboratively with interested parties through committees, advisory groups, public meetings, and public hearings, to the extent necessary to facilitate a GSP that appropriately represents sustainable management in the GSA region and Basin. The current list of interested parties is attached hereto. (Attachment D – Interested Parties.)

The District looks forward to working with local agencies in the Basin and collaborating on the sustainable management of groundwater. Through this notification, the District has provided DWR with all applicable information in Water Code Section 10723.8(a). However, to the extent DWR would like additional information or has questions regarding this notice, please feel free to contact me directly.

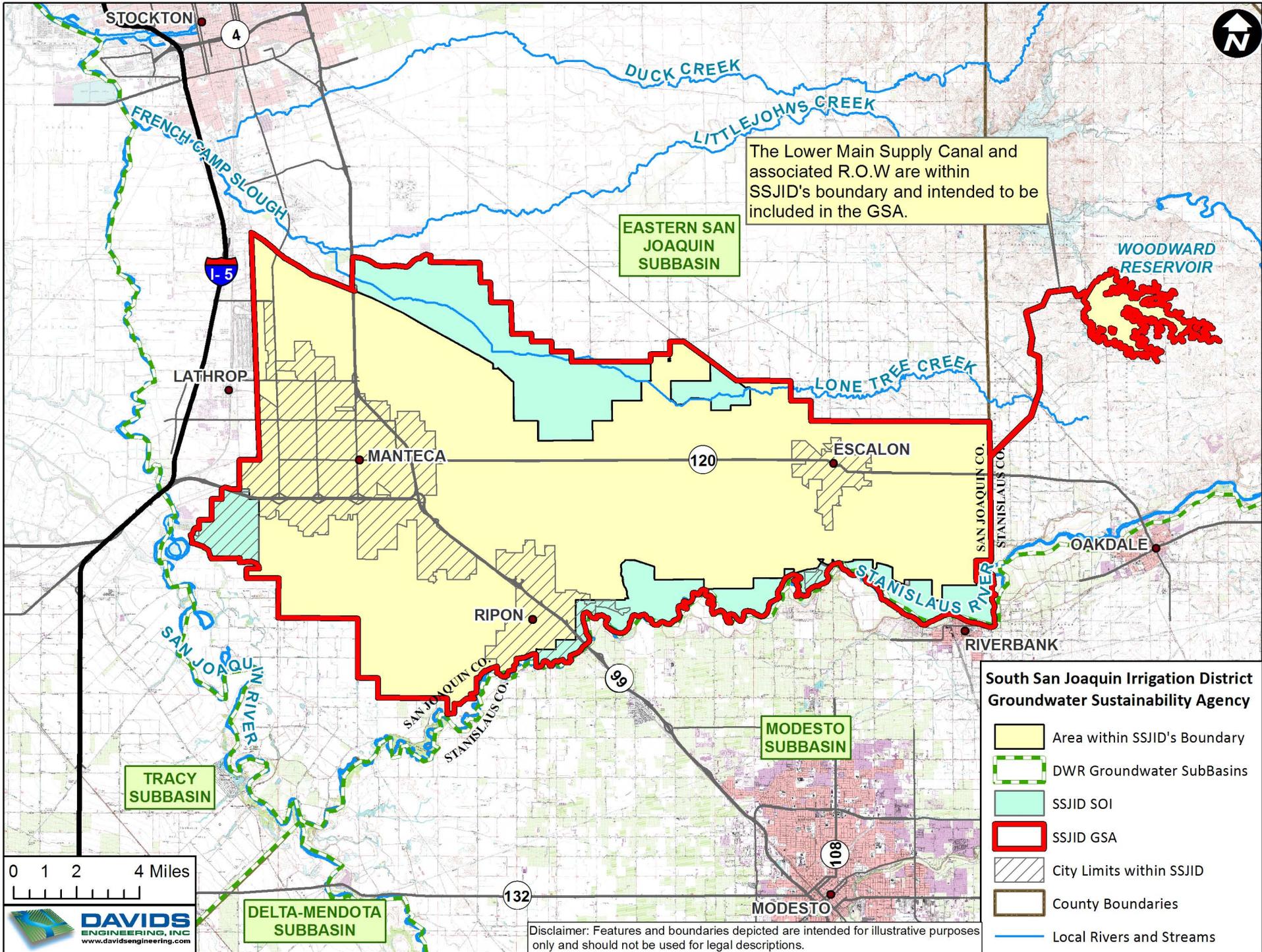
Sincerely,

O'LAUGHLIN & PARIS LLP



Valerie C. Kincaid

Attachments: Attachment A – GSA Map
Attachment B – Potential GSA Entities
Attachment C – GSA Resolution
Attachment D – Interested Parties



The Lower Main Supply Canal and associated R.O.W are within SSJID's boundary and intended to be included in the GSA.

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN SUBBASIN

TRACY SUBBASIN

MODESTO SUBBASIN

DELTA-MENDOTA SUBBASIN

South San Joaquin Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency

- Area within SSJID's Boundary
- DWR Groundwater SubBasins
- SSJID SOI
- SSJID GSA
- City Limits within SSJID
- County Boundaries
- Local Rivers and Streams

Disclaimer: Features and boundaries depicted are intended for illustrative purposes only and should not be used for legal descriptions.

0 1 2 4 Miles



Attachment B – Potential GSA Entities in Eastern San Joaquin Basin

1. South San Joaquin Irrigation District
2. Lockeford Community Services District
3. North Delta Water Agency
4. North San Joaquin Water Conservation District
5. Oakdale Irrigation District
6. City of Lathrop
7. City of Lodi
8. City of Manteca
9. City of Ripon
10. Calaveras County
11. Central Delta Water Agency
12. Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District
13. City of Escalon
14. Reclamation District No. 828
15. Reclamation District No. 2064
16. Reclamation District No.2075
17. Reclamation District No. 2094
18. Reclamation District No.17
19. Reclamation District No.404
20. Reclamation District No.1614
21. Reclamation District No.2074
22. Reclamation District No.2119
23. Reclamation District No.1608
24. Reclamation District No.2126
25. Reclamation District No.2115
26. Reclamation District No.2037
27. Reclamation District No.2042
28. Reclamation District No.2114
29. Reclamation District No.2044
30. Reclamation District No.2029
31. Reclamation District No.2023
32. Reclamation District No.548
33. Reclamation District No.756
34. Reclamation District No.2033
35. Reclamation District No.348
36. Reclamation District No.2086
37. Reclamation District No.38
38. Rock Creek Water District
39. South Delta Water Agency
40. Stockton East Water District
41. Valley Springs Public Utility District
42. Woodbridge Irrigation District
43. Woodbridge Water Users Conservation District
44. City of Stockton
45. Stanislaus County
46. San Joaquin County
47. San Joaquin County Flood Control & Water Conservation District
48. Northeastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Banking Authority

**SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 15-10-W
RESOLUTION ELECTING TO BE THE GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY
AGENCY FOR ALL PORTIONS OF THE SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN IRRIGATION
DISTRICT SERVICE AREA AND AREAS OTHERWISE OWNED, CONTROLLED, OR
WITHIN THE SPHERE OF INFLUENCE OF SSJID**

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was signed into law on September 16, 2014 and adopted as California Water Code, section 10720, et. seq.; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of SGMA is to provide sustainable management of groundwater basins and enhance local management of groundwater through empowering local management agencies with authority, technical, and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater; and

WHEREAS, Water Code section 10723(a) authorizes any local agency with water or land management authority overlying a basin to elect to be the groundwater sustainability agency for that basin; and

WHEREAS, the South San Joaquin Irrigation District service area is located in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin as defined in the California Department of Water Resources Bulletin 118; and

WHEREAS, the South San Joaquin Irrigation District is the local agency with exclusive water supply authority within its service area; and

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) has designated the probable physical boundary and service areas of South San Joaquin Irrigation District as its sphere of influence; and

WHEREAS, the South San Joaquin Irrigation District owns the lands surrounding and encompassing Woodward Reservoir; and

WHEREAS, the South San Joaquin Irrigation District holds fee title and easements on the lands upon which the main distribution canal runs from the Woodward Reservoir to the South San Joaquin Irrigation District service boundary; and

WHEREAS, the South San Joaquin Irrigation District is committed to sustainable management of its groundwater resources; and

WHEREAS, retaining local jurisdiction and control over groundwater management is beneficial to the health, safety, and water supply reliability of the South San Joaquin Irrigation District and its customers and constituents; and

WHEREAS, adoption of this Resolution does not constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act because it does not result in any direct or indirect physical change in the environment; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Water Code section 10723 and Government Code section 6066, notices of a public hearing regarding the adoption of a resolution to elect to become a groundwater sustainability agency were published on September 21, 2015 and September 28, 2015; and

WHEREAS, on October 13, 2015 South San Joaquin Irrigation District held a public hearing to consider electing to be a Groundwater Sustainability Agency and this Resolution; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The South San Joaquin Irrigation District elects to be the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for its service area, the area within its sphere of influence, and other lands to which SSJID has a legal interest, including the land upon which the Woodward Reservoir and the Main Supply Canal lie, within the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Basin; and
2. The Board authorizes the General Manager or his designee to provide a copy of this Resolution to the California Department of Water Resources within 30 days and otherwise comply with the requirements of Water Code section 10723.8(a).

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the South San Joaquin Irrigation District Board of Directors at its meeting on October 13, 2015, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	HOLBROOK HOLMES KUIL ROOS
NOES:	KAMPER
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

ATTEST:



Jeff Shields, Secretary

Attachment D – Interested Parties

(a) Holders of overlying groundwater rights, including:

(1) Agricultural Users.

The District provides surface water to support much of the agricultural demand within the proposed GSA boundary. However, there are a small number of individual landowners that rely on groundwater in dry years to support agriculture. Agricultural water users are well represented on the SSJID Board. Further, SSJID already has an established relationship with agricultural water users in the District. The District will continue to collaborate and communicate with these interests in the development of the GSP.

(2) Domestic Well Owners.

There are few domestic well owners that rely on groundwater to support their domestic supply in the GSA bounded area. The District has existing relationships with these domestic well owners. The District is represented by five (5) Board members, each of whom represents specific divisions, some of which include domestic well owners. Through this representative process and existing relationships, SSJID will continue to collaborate with domestic well owners during the development of the GSP.

(b) Municipal well operators.

The District works very closely with the Cities of Manteca, Ripon, Escalon, and Lathrop, which operate municipal wells to provide limited municipal groundwater. These cities were originally served exclusively by groundwater. However, over the past few decades, SSJID has worked with these cities through a collaborative effort to develop a state-of-the-art water treatment plant whose technology allows SSJID to provide low-cost domestic drinking water to the cities of Tracy, Lathrop, Manteca, and in the future, Escalon and possibly Ripon. The District will continue to develop these existing relationships in order to collaborate on a GSP that represents the interests of the cities.

(c) Public water systems.

The District will work with San Joaquin County to identify any public water system within the GSA region that relies on groundwater supplies.

(d) Local land use planning agencies.

(1) City of Manteca

The City of Manteca is within the District service area and sphere of influence. The District has an existing working relationship with Manteca and represents the area as part of the District's service area. In addition, the District provides treated surface water to the city of Manteca and will continue to foster its close working relationship with Manteca in the development of the GSP.

(2) City of Ripon

The City of Ripon is within the District service area and sphere of influence. The District has an existing working relationship with Ripon and represents the area as part of the District's service area. In

addition, the District provides surface irrigation water and water for recharge to the city of Ripon and will continue to foster its close working relationship with Ripon in the development of the GSP.

(3) City of Escalon

The City of Escalon is within the District service area and sphere of influence. The District has an existing working relationship with Escalon and represents the area as part of the District's service area. In addition, the District does not currently provide treated surface water to the city of Escalon, but Escalon is a capital partner in the original development of the District's Nick C. DeGroot Water Treatment Plant, and plans on receiving treated surface water from the plant in the future. The District will continue to foster its close working relationship with Escalon in the development of the GSP.

(4) San Joaquin County

The District has a history of groundwater management planning with the San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, as fellow members in the Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Basin Authority. The District will continue to work closely with San Joaquin County, as it overlies the portion of the Basin for which SSJID has elected to be the GSA.

(5) Calaveras County

Although Calaveras County does not overlie any portion of the proposed GSA boundary for which SSJID will manage, the District will work with Calaveras County to the extent it plans to participate in management of groundwater in the Basin.

(6) Stanislaus County

Stanislaus County does overlie a small portion of the East San Joaquin Subbasin within the proposed GSA boundary for which SSJID will manage. The District will work with Stanislaus County to the extent it plans to participate in management of groundwater in the Basin.

(e) Environmental users of groundwater.

The District has worked with environmental groups in several surface water and habitat restoration project. The District plans to continue this approach and collaborate with American Rivers, Friends of the River, the Nature Conservancy, the Bay Institute, along with state and federal regulatory agencies.

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

The District provides surface water within the proposed GSA boundaries. The District has a strong background in recharging water to the groundwater basin and promoting conjunctive use programs. The District will continue in these efforts and also work with other surface water suppliers in the Basin, including Oakdale Irrigation District, Calaveras County Water District, Woodbridge Irrigation District, North San Joaquin Water Conservation District, Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District, and Stockton East Water District.

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

The District enjoys a close working relationship with the United States Bureau of Reclamation in the managing the operations of New Melones and the Stanislaus River pursuant to historic agreements. The District will continue to work closely with the Bureau and solicit its input on the development of groundwater management in the proposed GSA area.

(h) California Native American Tribes.

There are no native tribes within the proposed GSA boundary area.

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

The District has identified the disadvantaged communities using the DWR disadvantaged communities mapping tool in the proposed GSA boundary area. The District plans to work with San Joaquin County and the cities to incorporate input from these communities and develop collaboration with these groups.

(j) Entities listed in Section 10927 that are monitoring and reporting groundwater elevations in all or a part of a groundwater basin managed by the groundwater sustainability agency.

The District has an existing groundwater management plan that outlines monitoring and reporting for the proposed GSA boundary area. In addition, SSJID works with San Joaquin County and the San Joaquin County Groundwater Basin Authority, which is the CASGEM monitoring entity, to collect and report groundwater data. The District will continue to work with the County and the GBA on the development of the GSP.