February 17, 2016

Mr. Mark Nordberg, GSA Project Manager
Senior Engineering Geologist
California Department of Water Resources
901 P Street, Room 213A
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, California 94236-0001
Mark.Nordberg@water.ca.gov

RE: NOTICE OF INTENT TO BECOME A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Dear Mr. Nordberg:

This letter serves as notification to the California Department of Water Resources that the West Stanislaus Irrigation District ("**District**") has elected to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("**GSA**") pursuant to Water Code section 10723.8, and its intent to undertake sustainable groundwater management for those portions of the Tracy Subbasin and Northern DMC Subbasin that lie within the boundaries of the District. A map and shapefile showing the Subbasins, the District's service area, and the proposed area of the GSA are attached in **Exhibit A**.

The District is in discussions with other agencies overlying the Subbasins, and is interested in working cooperatively with them. To the best of the District's knowledge, the other entities considering formation of a GSA within the Subbasins' boundaries currently include:

TRACY SUBBASIN

City of Tracy
South Delta Water Agency
Byron-Bethany Irrigation District
San Joaquin County
Banta-Carbona Irrigation District
Del Puerto Water District
The West Side Irrigation District

NORTHERN DELTA MENDOTA CANAL SUBBASIN

City of Patterson
Patterson Irrigation District
Del Puerto Water District
Stanislaus County

A copy of the resolution electing to become a GSA for the Subbasins is attached in **Exhibit B.**

The District did not adopt any new bylaws, ordinances, or new authorities to elect to become a GSA.

Prior to the election to become a GSA, a public hearing was held on February 9, 2016 pursuant to Water Code section 10723(b).

As required by Water Code section 10723.8(a)(4), the District developed a list of interested parties, and this list will continue to be amended as necessary during the Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("**GSP**") development process. As required by the Sustainability Groundwater Management Act ("**SGMA**"), the District will consider all beneficial uses and users of groundwater within the Subbasins, as well as those responsible for developing GSPs. The District will solicit feedback and participate in discussions with interested parties during GSP development. These interests include, but are not limited to the following:

- ***Holders of overlying groundwater rights, including:***
    - *Agriculture users.*

  The District's Board of Directors is comprised of five members, each representing the agricultural water users within the district. Therefore, agricultural users are exclusively represented on the District's governing board.

    - *Domestic well owners.*

  There are domestic wells within the GSA, however, based on the understanding of groundwater conditions that currently exist, or are likely to exist in the foreseeable future, the GSA anticipates that the plan will exclude domestic wells.

- ***Municipal well operators.***
  The City of Tracy, City of Patterson, Diablo Water District, City of Antioch, and the City of Brentwood, operate municipal wells within the Basin, but not within the District's service area. The District has been meeting regularly with the Cities of Tracy and Patterson to discuss implementation SGMA, and will continue to do so.

- ***Public water systems.***
  The District will work with Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties to identify any public water systems within the GSA relying on groundwater supplies.

- ***Local land use planning agencies.***
  Again, the Cities of Tracy and Patterson and others operate municipal wells within the Basin, but not within the service area of the District or the proposed GSA. The District has been meeting regularly with the Cities of Tracy and Patterson, and the Counties of San Joaquin and Stanislaus to discuss implementation SGMA, and will continue to do so.

- ***Environmental users of groundwater.***
  The District is working to identify agencies advocating for environmental uses within the Basin and will work with those entities in developing the GSA.

- ***Surface water users, if there is a hydrologic connection between surface and groundwater flows.***
  The District and the United States Bureau of Reclamation are the sole surface water providers within the GSA boundaries. The District has a working relationship with

numerous surface water users within the basin through its participation in the Tracy Subbasin GSA group and the Northern DMC Subbasin Group, each coordinated by the San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority.

- ***The federal government, including, but not limited to, the military and managers of federal lands.***
  The District has a contractual relationship with the United States Bureau of Reclamation, and will continue to work with the federal government in development of the Groundwater Management Plan for the Basin.

- ***California Native American tribes.*** N/A

- ***Disadvantaged communities, including, but not limited to, those served by private domestic wells or small community water systems.***
  The District has identified disadvantaged communities within the basin from DWR's web page, and will cooperate with San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties to work with any disadvantaged communities within the GSA relying on groundwater supplies.

- ***Entities listed in Water Code section 10927 that are monitoring and reporting groundwater elevations in all or a part of a groundwater basin managed by the GSA.***
  The District has a groundwater management plan adopted under Water Code Section 10750, et seq.

The District intends to work cooperatively with other agencies, water providers, and other interested stakeholders within San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties, and the State of California, regarding the sustainable management of groundwater within the Subbasins. The District intends to use its existing Board of Directors for governance purposes.

Very truly yours,

Robert Pierce

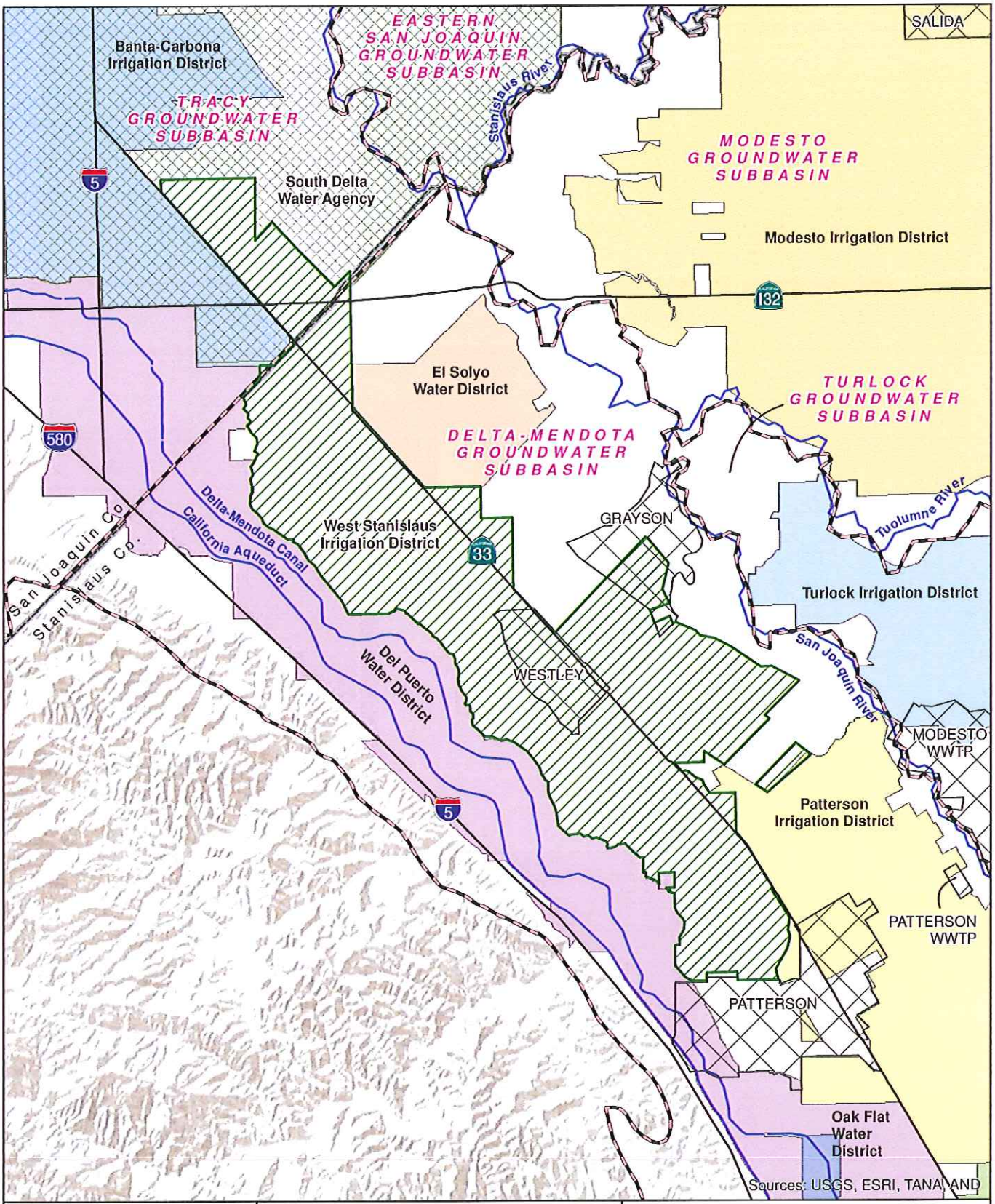
ROBERT PIERCE, P.E.
General Manager

Attachments:

Exhibit A – Map/GIS shape file of the Tracy and Northern DMC Subbasins
Exhibit B – Copy of resolution of election to become a GSA

EXHIBIT A

MAP OF SUBBASINS, THE DISTRICT'S SERVICE AREA, AND THE PROPOSED AREA OF THE GSA



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W:\Clients\Madera County-2227\222713C1-GMP\GIS\Map\Groundwater_Sub_Basins.mxd

EXHIBIT B

RESOLUTION OF THE WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICT DELCARING ITS INTENTION TO BECOME A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY UNDER THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT FOR THE TRACY AND NORTHER DMC SUBBASINS

WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-02-01

RESOLUTION OF THE WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICT DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO BECOME A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY UNDER THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT FOR THE TRACY AND NORTHERN DMC SUBBASINS

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law Senate Bills 1168 and 1319 and Assembly Bill 1739, known collectively as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA); and

WHEREAS, the SGMA went into effect on January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the SGMA requires all high and medium priority groundwater basins, as designated by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Bulletin 118, to be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA); and

WHEREAS, the Central Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) has been designated by DWR as a high priority basin; and

WHEREAS, the SGMA authorizes any local agency overlying the Basin to elect to become a GSA within the Basin; and

WHEREAS, the West Stanislaus Irrigation District (District) is a local agency as defined under the SGMA and is therefore eligible to serve as a GSA within the Basin; and

WHEREAS, Section 10723.2 of the SGMA requires that a GSA consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing groundwater sustainability plans; and

WHEREAS, Section 10723.8 of the SGMA requires that a local agency electing to be a GSA to notify the DWR of its election and intention to undertake sustainable groundwater management within a basin; and

WHEREAS, the District held a public hearing on February 9, 2016 after publication of notice pursuant to Government Code section 6066 to consider the adoption of this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the District wishes to exercise the powers and authorities of a GSA granted by the SGMA;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the West Stanislaus Irrigation District hereby elects to become a groundwater sustainability agency for those portions of the Tracy Subbasin and the Northern DMC Subbasin lying within its boundaries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District will develop an outreach program to include all stakeholders to ensure that all beneficial uses and users of groundwater are considered; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Members of the West Stanislaus Irrigation District are authorized to submit to the DWR on behalf of the District a notice of intent to undertake sustainable groundwater management in accordance with the SGMA (Part 2.74 of the Water Code); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such notification shall include the boundaries of the Tracy and Northern DMC Subbasins that the District intends to manage, which shall include the lands within the District boundaries, a copy of this resolution, a list of interested parties developed pursuant to Section 10723.2 of the SGMA, and an explanation of how their interests will be considered in the development and operation of the GSA and the development and implementation of the GSA's groundwater sustainability plan.

On motion by PETZ and seconded by BAYS, the forgoing resolution was passed and adopted on February 9, 2016 by the following vote.

AYES – Bays, DelDon, Petz, Yamamoto
NOES – None
ABSTAINS – None
ABSENT – Goubert

By: _____
President

ATTEST:

By: _____
Secretary

DECLARATION OF PUBLICATION (C.C.P. S2015.5)

COUNTY OF STANISLAUS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident Of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of Eighteen years, and not a party to or interested In the above entitle matter. I am a printer and Principal clerk of the publisher of THE MODESTO BEE, printed in the City of MODESTO, County of STANISLAUS, State of California, daily, for which said newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of STANISLAUS, State of California, Under the date of February 25, 1951, Action No. 46453; that the notice of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in each issue there of on the following dates, to wit:

Jan 24, 2016, Jan 31, 2016

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury That the foregoing is true and correct and that This declaration was executed at

MODESTO, California on

February 2nd, 2016

(By Electronic Facsimile Signature)

Cynthia A. Hamilton

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICT
REGARDING ELECTION TO BE A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

This publication serves as Gov. Code section 6066 notice that the West Stanislaus Irrigation District intends to become a *Groundwater Sustainability* Agency (GSA) under the Sustainable *Groundwater Management* Act of 2014 for those portions of the Tracy Subbasin and the Northern DMC subbasin lying within its boundaries. West Stanislaus Irrigation District will be holding a public hearing in Stanislaus County at 8558 Kern St, Westley, California 95387, on February 9, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.
Pub Dates 01/24/2016, 01/31/2016

CASE NO. VATPP275143 key 84297

Tracy Press

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Stamp

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
County of San Joaquin

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid: I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a part to or interested in the above entitled matter; I am the principal clerk of the printer of the Tracy Press, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published two times a week on Wednesday and Saturday in the City of Tracy, California, County of San Joaquin, and which of newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court, Department 4, of the County of San Joaquin, State of California, under the date of June 30, 1952, Case Number 53686; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than nonpareil), has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to-wit;

January 22, 29

all in the year, 2016

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at Tracy, California, this 4th

day of February 2016

Signature

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Public Notice #0052

WSID

Notice of Public Hearing

GSA

PUBLIC NOTICE

#0052

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICT
REGARDING ELECTION TO BE A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

This publication serves as Gov. Code section 6066 notice that the West Stanislaus Irrigation District intends to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("GSA") under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 for those portions of the Tracy Subbasin and the Northern DMC subbasin lying within its boundaries. West Stanislaus Irrigation District will be holding a public hearing in Stanislaus County at 8598 Kern St., Westley, California 95387, on February 9, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.

TRACY PRESS: 1/22 & 1/29

PROOF OF PUBLICATION