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9 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

10 **IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE**

11  
12 Coordination Proceeding Special Title  
13 (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.550)

14 **MOJAVE BASIN WATER CASES**

15 **CITY OF BARSTOW,**

16 **Plaintiff,**

17 **vs.**

18 **CITY OF ADELANTO, et al.,**

19 **Defendant.**

20 **AND RELATED CROSS ACTIONS**

CASE NO.: CIV 208568 / JCCP NO.: 5265

Dept. 1, Riverside Superior Court  
Hon. Craig G. Riemer, Retired

**WATERMASTER'S REPLY BRIEF IN  
RESPONSE TO OBJECTIONS TO  
MOTION TO ADJUST FREE  
PRODUCTION ALLOWANCE FOR  
WATER YEAR 2025-2026;  
SUPPORTING DECLARATION**

Date: August 4, 2025  
Time: 1:30 p.m.  
Dept.: 1

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1 The Mojave Water Agency, acting as the Court appointed Watermaster, submits this  
2 Reply Brief in further support of its motion for approval of Watermaster’s PSY and FPA  
3 recommendations, and in response to recent responses thereto filed by the California Department  
4 of Fish & Wildlife (“CDFW”), Mitsubishi Cement Corporation (“Mitsubishi”), Robertson’s  
5 Ready Mix, LTD (“Robertson’s”), and Golden State Water Company (“GSWC”).

6 **I.**

7 **Response to comments by CDFW.**

8 Watermaster appreciates CDFW’s support of Watermaster’s Free Production Allowance  
9 recommendations for the Baja, Alto, and Centro subareas for Water Year 2025-2026.  
10 Watermaster has the following comments regarding CDFW’s additional responses to the  
11 Motion:

12 **A. The Judgment’s provisions regarding Watermaster’s obligation to consider public**  
13 **trust resources.**

14 Paragraph 2(a) of Exhibit H provides that,

15 In considering whether to increase or decrease the Free Production Allowance in a  
16 Subarea, Watermaster shall, among other factors, take into consideration for the areas  
17 shown on Figure H-1 the Consumptive use of water by riparian habitat, the protection  
18 of public trust resources, including the species listed in Table H-1 and the riparian  
19 habitat areas shown on Figure H-1, and whether an increase [in FPA] would be  
20 detrimental to the protection of public trust resources.

21 (Emphasis added.)

22 Paragraph 24 of the Judgment, subdivision (o), provides that, “In making its  
23 recommendation, Watermaster shall be guided by the factors set forth in Exhibit ‘C’, including  
24 but not limited to an annual calculation of the change of water storage.”

25 Paragraph “A” of Exhibit C states, “The Watermaster shall take into account all available  
26 pertinent hydrologic data and estimates, including at least the factors, or changes in the factors,  
27 shown in the attached Table C-1 ... and changes in storage as determined by well levels, the  
28 factors listed in Paragraph 2(a) of Exhibit ‘H’, and other pertinent data.”

///

1 **B. The Judgment does not mandate a reduction in Free Production Allowance when**  
2 **public trust resources are not maintained or supported at their optimum levels.**

3 CDFW appears to argue that FPA must be reduced whenever necessary to protect public  
4 trust resources. In this regard, CDFW states Watermaster must “determine whether keeping the  
5 FPA *at their current levels* . . . ‘would be detrimental to public trust resources’ ... (CDFW’s  
6 Response, 3:27-4:3; emphasis added); and “Watermaster [should] be ordered to take into  
7 account the harm to public trust resources of any future decisions *to ... keep steady* any FPA in  
8 the various subareas” (CDFW Response, 8:24-27; emphasis added).

9 While Watermaster does take public trust resources into account when making its  
10 FPA recommendations, the Judgment does not mandate a reduction in FPA whenever public  
11 trust resources are not maintained at their optimum levels. In fact, the Judgment makes other  
12 provisions for that circumstance, to wit: Exhibit H provides for the establishment and use of  
13 a Biological Trust Fund for, among other purposes, “*the purchase or lease by DFG of*  
14 *Supplemental Water* or the lease or purchase of DFG of Base Annual Production Rights to  
15 be used *to meet riparian habitat water needs of the species listed in Table H-1 and the*  
16 *riparian habitat areas shown on Figure H-1.*” (Emphasis added.)

17 In the event the Biological Trust Fund assets are insufficient for these purposes,  
18 CDFW’s remedy would appear to be to request an increase in the Biological Trust Fund  
19 assessment. Additionally, paragraph 4 of Exhibit H states:

20 DFG agrees that absent substantial changed circumstances, DFG shall not seek to  
21 modify the provisions of this Judgment in any way to add to or change the  
above-stated measures to protect the referenced species or habitat.

22 CDFW has not demonstrated the existence of circumstances that are “substantial[ly]  
23 changed” from those that existed on January 10, 1996, when the Judgment was entered.

24 CDFW also “recommends that a comparison of measured water levels and water table  
25 standards be incorporated into future analyses, along with how that comparison relates to the  
26 recommended FPA” (CDFW Response, 6:9-12). Again, as to the areas where riparian habitat  
27 exist in the Basin, there is nothing in the Judgment which requires that Watermaster prepare  
28 a “comparison of measured water levels and water table standards [and that such] be

1 incorporated into future [FPA] analyses, along with how that comparison relates to the  
2 recommended FPA.”

3 Should CDFW provide such a comparison, it would certainly be considered by  
4 Watermaster. However, for the reasons stated herein and in the Judgment, such a comparison  
5 may not be dispositive as to Watermaster’s FPA recommendations.

6 In short, when determining its FPA recommendations in the future, as it has done in  
7 the past, Watermaster will continue to consider the protection of public trust resources and  
8 will do all that it can in support of that effort. However, the Judgment does not mandate a  
9 reduction in FPA simply because public trust resources are not being maintained at their  
10 optimum levels. And the Court should not order that a comparison of measured water levels  
11 and water table standards specific to riparian habitat be incorporated into future Watermaster  
12 FPA analyses, along with how that comparison relates to the recommended FPA.

13 Moreover, other stakeholders have not had an opportunity to respond to CDFW’s  
14 aforesaid claims and requests, which are outside the scope of Watermaster’s pending motion,  
15 e.g., as noted, for the 2025-2026 Water Year, CDFW supports Watermaster’s FPA  
16 recommendations for the Alto, Centro and Baja Subareas. If CDFW wishes to pursue its  
17 additional claims and requests, it should do so by way of an appropriate noticed motion.

18 **C. Request that CDFW and others be allowed time to provide input before**  
19 **publication of the RMBM.**

20 All stakeholders, the Watermaster, and the Court are awaiting the Mojave Water  
21 Agency’s completion of the updated RMBM modeling for all five Subareas. Watermaster  
22 hopes the RMBM will be completed, peer reviewed by an independent consultant, and then  
23 published by the time Watermaster files its next Annual Report. The RMBM will go through  
24 a peer review process by an independent consultant *before* the model files will be available  
25 for public review; at that time, the model and all of its components and inputs will be  
26 available to the public and all stakeholders for review.

27 However, CDFW and Golden State Water Company request an extensive public  
28 review period **before** the modeling is completed, peer reviewed and published. In fact,

1 CDFW requests “at least a six month review period” for “a complete review of the RMBM”  
2 before it is completed, peer reviewed and then published (CDFW Response 7:21-22), and  
3 Golden State Water Company requests that,

4 . . . the Court order Watermaster to provide for an open, public review process for the  
5 model, its underlying data, and calibrations results, including simulated and observed  
6 hydrographs (native files), residual plots, and calibrations statistics, to allow for a  
clear understanding of the sufficiency of the factual data and underlying assumptions  
used to develop the model and calculate PSY under the Judgment.

7 (Golden State Opp., 7:14-18).

8 CDFW and GSWC clearly anticipate that this extensive public review process would  
9 allow them the opportunity to provide comment and input that could shape the modeling  
10 which, in turn, would require additional time for the Mojave Water Agency, the Watermaster  
11 Engineer and staff to evaluate the comments and input received from CDFW, GSWC and  
12 others -- before the model is completed, independently peer reviewed, and then published.  
13 This could delay by as much as two years the completion, peer review, publication, and  
14 ultimate utilization of the model to recommend Production Safe Yield for the five subareas.  
15 For that reason, among the other reasons stated below, Watermaster objects to the “public  
16 review process” requested by CDFW and GSWC.

17 It is important to note also that the RMBM is being developed and financed by the  
18 Mojave Water Agency, not by Watermaster. The Mojave Water Agency’s duties, as a Party  
19 to the Judgment, are independent and separate from those of the Watermaster. Therefore,  
20 Watermaster respectfully submits the Court may be without authority to order the Mojave  
21 Water Agency to implement the public review process requested by CDFW and GSWC.

22 In all events, the CDFW and GSWC requests for a public review process go well  
23 beyond the scope of Watermaster’s pending motion for approval of Watermaster’s PSY and  
24 FPA recommendations for the 2025-2026 Water Year.

25 Finally, it also is important to remember that a hydrologic model, like the RMBM, is  
26 always subject to further modification and improvement based upon later discovered data  
27 and input. Accordingly, after the model is completed, peer reviewed, and published, there  
28 will **then** be ample opportunity for the full “public review process” requested by CDFW and

1 GSWC, and their comments and input will be welcome and considered for possible  
2 modification and further refinement of the model.

3 Otherwise, if the extensive public peer review process requested by GSWC and  
4 CDFW is required before the model is peer reviewed by an independent consultant and then  
5 published for public consumption, it may be years before the model is available to be used  
6 for PSY recommendations.

7 **D. CDFW's assumption of increased recharge due to lower groundwater levels in**  
8 **upper Alto.**

9 As recommended by CDFW, Watermaster already takes "into consideration changes  
10 in streamflow due to recharge induced by lowered groundwater levels." Watermaster  
11 questions, however, CDFW's claim that "within upper Alto" there is an "increased recharge  
12 occurring due to lower groundwater levels" (CDFW Response, 8:8-9). The basis of this  
13 claim is unclear, and CDFW has not submitted admissible evidence sufficient to demonstrate  
14 this claim is more likely than not true.

15 **E. Conclusion**

16 CDFW supports Watermaster's FPA recommendations for Alto, Centro and Baja. The  
17 other positions stated in CDFW's response are outside the scope of the pending motion, and  
18 do not militate against granting the motion.

19 **II.**

20 **Response to Mitsubishi/Robertson's comments.**

21 Watermaster agrees with Mitsubishi and Robertson's statements that: "further work  
22 and data gathering must be done" for the Este Subarea; "water levels in the Este Subarea  
23 have been stable for many years, 'suggesting there is very little loss of storage'"; verified  
24 production remains below PSY; and, the RMBM will not include the Lucerne Valley portion  
25 of the Este Subarea.

26 However, Watermaster answers Mitsubishi's and Robertson's other comments and  
27 objections, as follows:

28 ///



1     **A.     Weight should be given to Watermaster’s PSY and FPA recommendations.**

2             Citing paragraph 36(d) of the Judgment, Mitsubishi and Robertson’s suggest the  
3     Court should attribute no “evidentiary weight” to Watermaster’s recommendations.  
4     However, paragraph 36 of the Judgment only pertains to, “*Any action, decision, rule or*  
5     *procedure of Watermaster*”; subdivision (d) states, “Upon filing of a petition to review  
6     Watermaster *action*, . . . The Court’s review shall be de novo and the Watermaster *decision*  
7     *or action* shall have no evidentiary weight in such proceeding.” (Emphasis added.)

8             Watermaster respectfully submits that its PSY and FPA *recommendations* to the  
9     Court do not constitute an *action, decision, rule or procedure* subject to the provisions of  
10    paragraph 36.

11            Watermaster’s PSY and FPA recommendations are based upon extensive and  
12    painstaking analysis of relevant data and estimates, and should be given, at a minimum,  
13    considerable weight by the Court. It certainly would be incongruous to require the  
14    Watermaster to provide its PSY and FPA recommendations, along with a detailed showing  
15    of the factual bases supporting its recommendations, and then not give it any weight.

16    **B.     Watermaster’s recommendation to reduce FPA from 50% to 45% for Este.**

17            Paragraph 2(a) of Exhibit H to the Judgment, in pertinent part, states:

18            In the event the Free Production Allowance exceeds the estimated Production Safe  
19            Yield by five percent or more, Watermaster *shall* recommend a reduction of the Free  
20            Production Allowance equal to a full five percent of the aggregate Subarea Base  
21            Annual Production.

22            No one disputes the Este subarea’s current FPA of 50% exceeds by more than five  
23    percent the estimated PSY. Thus, the Judgment mandates that Watermaster “*shall*  
24    recommend a reduction of the Free Production Allowance equal to a full five percent of the  
25    aggregate Subarea Base Annual Production.” While the Court may not be required to accept  
26    Watermaster’s recommendation, nonetheless, the Judgment requires that Watermaster make  
27    that recommendation.

28            Mitsubishi and Robertson’s now complain that Watermaster reversed its position on  
this issue when, on July 10, 2025, Watermaster complied with the Judgment’s mandate that

1 it recommend reducing FPA by 5% (from 50% to 45% of BAP) – correcting Watermaster’s  
2 earlier recommendation on April 23, 2025, of no reduction in FPA.

3 In this connection, Mitsubishi and Robertson’s complain that less than 30 days notice  
4 was given of the Watermaster’s special July 10, 2025 meeting, during which a second public  
5 hearing was conducted regarding FPA for Este (at the conclusion of which Watermaster  
6 recommended a FPA reduction for Este from 50% to 45% of BAP). For the following  
7 reasons, Mitsubishi’s and Robertson’s complaint is without merit:

8 **(1) 30-days notice was not required.**

9 Based upon Watermaster’s Rules and Regulations, 30-days notice was not required  
10 even for the April 23, 2025 Watermaster meeting, during which the first public hearing was  
11 conducted regarding the Este Subarea FPA. Watermaster’s Rules and Regulations, Section  
12 15(B) provides:

13 *Notice of Hearing.* A copy of said preliminary recommendation shall be mailed to all  
14 Designees not later than May 1 along with a notice of a hearing thereon to be  
15 commenced not later than June 1 at which time objections or suggested corrections or  
16 modifications to said recommendation shall be considered.

17 (Underscoring added.)

18 Therefore, 30-days notice was not required even for the April 23, 2025 initial public  
19 hearing on Watermaster’s FPA recommendations. Further, there is nothing in Watermaster’s  
20 Rules and Regulations that requires more than the 10-days notice that was provided for the  
21 subsequent, July 10, 2025 public hearing. Moreover, as Mitsubishi and Robertson’s both  
22 acknowledge, their legal counsel actively participated in the July 10, 2025 Watermaster  
23 meeting, and their legal counsel was then allowed ample opportunity to explain to  
24 Watermaster’s Board members the reasons why Mitsubishi and Robertson’s claim the Este  
25 Subarea FPA should not be rampdown further.

26 **(2) June 11, 2025 Watermaster workshop.**

27 Moreover, nearly a month earlier, i.e., on June 11, 2025, Watermaster conducted a  
28 public workshop regarding its PSY and FPA recommendations. A Power Point presentation  
was made during that workshop, which included a slide below that clearly states

Watermaster's PSY and FPA recommendations for all subareas, including the recommendation that the Este Subarea FPA be reduced from 50% to 45%:

**PRODUCTION SAFE YIELD RE-EVALUATION AND FPA  
RECOMMENDATION FOR 2025-2026 WATER YEAR**

Subarea	Current PSY (March 2024)*	Watermaster Recommended FPA (March 2024)	Current FPA (as set by Court July 2024) % of BAP	Propose d PSY	Watermas ter Approved FPA 2025- 2026 % of BAP
Alto	62,005	53.3%	50.4%	62,005	50.4%
Baja	12,749	20.5%	19.5%	12,749	19.5%
Centro	31,420	60.0%	56.0%	31,420	56.0%
Este	6,582	50.0%	50.0%	6,582	45.0%
Oeste	3,634	50.0%	45.0%	3,287	45.0%

Mitsubishi and Robertson's acknowledge they were represented during that workshop. Although Mitsubishi and Robertson's claim "no mention occurred of the Watermaster's Este Rampdown recommendation" (Mitsubishi Obj., 7:7-8), the foregoing information that was then prominently displayed and discussed is quite clear (McElhaney Dec., ¶ 2).

**(3) July 10, 2025 Watermaster meeting and public hearing.**

Mitsubishi also argues that, "At that [July 10, 2025] special meeting, the Board voted 4-2 to impose a 5% Rampdown in Este *without explanation or any material discussion*" (Obj., 3:12-13). To the contrary, prior to a vote being taken, Watermaster staff (including its Administrator and its legal counsel) provided an explanation of the Watermaster's prior consideration in 2025 of the Este Subarea FPA, and explained further that Watermaster is obligated to implement the Judgment's provisions and the Judgment mandates that Watermaster shall recommend rampdown where, as here, FPA exceeds PSY by more than 5%; the Board members accepted staff's explanations and recommendations, and voted to recommend rampdown. (McElhaney Dec., ¶ 3).

1 For the foregoing reasons, Watermaster has recommended, as it must, that the Este  
2 Subarea FPA be reduced from 50% to 45% of BAP, and Mitsubishi and Robertson's were  
3 given ample opportunity to express their views on this issue during the April 23 and July 10,  
4 2025 Watermaster meetings and, also, during the four separate public workshops  
5 Watermaster conducted regarding its PSY and FPA recommendations.

6 Notwithstanding their arguments, Mitsubishi and Robertson's cannot blink the fact  
7 that the current FPA for the Este Subarea exceeds by more than 5% the estimated PSY.

### 8 III.

#### 9 GSWC's objections are without merit.

10 Watermaster answers GSWC's objections as follows:

#### 11 A. GSWC seeks to amend the Judgment.

12 It is important to remember where GSWC is coming from. In 2024, GSWC attempted  
13 to demonstrate, without success, that the Alto Producers are not meeting their Subarea  
14 Obligation to the Centro Subarea. It appears now that GSWC is reluctantly coming to the  
15 conclusion that the Alto Producers, in fact, are meeting their Subarea Obligation to Centro as  
16 specified in the Judgment, e.g., "With respect to the Watermaster Engineer's discussion of  
17 the Lower Narrows and Hodge gage data, GSWC agrees that the Water Years 2022-2023  
18 and 2023-2024 data may support the Watermaster Engineer's position with respect to surface  
19 flows" (GSWC Opp., 16:12-14), and "it may be true that a substantial portion of the surface  
20 and subsurface flow into the Transition Zone flows into the Centro Subarea" (GSWC Opp.,  
21 15:18-19).

22 As has been noted, the Alto Subarea obligation to Centro is "an average Annual  
23 combined Subsurface Flow and Base Flow of 23,000 acre-feet per year to the Transition  
24 Zone" (paragraph 1.e of Exhibit G to the Judgment). Multiple studies have confirmed that  
25 the Centro Subarea has consistently received more total surface and subsurface flow than is  
26 required under the Judgment, to wit:

27 ///

28 ///

1	DWR Bulletin 84 (1967) 1936-1961	35,500 acre-feet
2	Judgment After Trial (1996) 1931-1990	37,300 acre-feet
3	USGS Stamos (2001) 1951-1999	35,819 acre-feet
4	Webb Associates (2000) 1931-1990	36,700 acre-feet
5	Watermaster (2024)	36,725 acre-feet

6 (Wagner Declaration, Motion p. 40)

7 GSWC has failed to submit admissible evidence sufficient to demonstrate that the  
8 Alto Producers are not meeting their Subarea Obligation to Centro. That the Alto Producers  
9 have been meeting their Subarea Obligation to Centro, see Motion, Table 4-3, page 391.

10 Faced with the realization that the Alto Producers are, in fact, meeting their Subarea  
11 Obligation to Centro, GSWC now claims the Judgment should be amended to require the  
12 delivery of even more water to the Centro Subarea. To support its claim, GSWC cites  
13 paragraph 19 of the Judgment authorizing the Court to amend or modify provisions of the  
14 Judgment (GSWC Opp., 21:3-12), and then argues “the Court has authority to increase  
15 Subarea Obligations” (GSWC Opp., 21:15).

16 This claim, of course, is well outside the scope of Watermaster’s pending motion for  
17 approval of Watermaster’s PSY and FPA recommendations for Water Year 2025-2026. If  
18 GSWC wishes to pursue this claim it must do so in a separate motion, with a fair opportunity  
19 for all stakeholders to weigh-in on GSWC’s claimed right to amend the Judgment “to  
20 increase Subarea Obligations.”

21 Increasing the Subarea Obligation to Centro could negatively impact not only the Alto  
22 Producers, but also public trust resources. In short, the amendment proposed by GSWC  
23 would have profound implications, and no doubt would face stiff opposition from other  
24 stakeholders. The question would undoubtedly be raised as to whether the Court has  
25 authority to amend such a key provision of the *stipulated* Judgment and, if so, whether  
26 stipulating parties should be allowed to withdraw as stipulating parties to the Judgment, with  
27 equally profound implications as to implementation of the Judgment’s Physical Solution.

28 In any event, GSWC’s claimed right to request an amendment to this key provision of

1 the Judgment (the Alto Subarea Obligation to the Centro Subarea) is well outside the scope  
2 of Watermaster's pending motion, and should not be considered by the Court.

3 **B. As directed by the Court, Watermaster has carefully re-evaluated its PSY**  
4 **recommendations, the sufficiency of its factual investigations, and the reliability of any**  
5 **assumptions or estimates it has relied upon.**

6 GSWC complains Watermaster has not submitted PSY recommendations different  
7 from those submitted in 2024 (except for Oeste), and has not adequately addressed the  
8 sufficiency of its factual investigations and the reliability of the assumptions/estimates relied  
9 upon. GSWC is mistaken.

10 The motion demonstrates that Watermaster, indeed, has carefully re-evaluated its  
11 prior PSY calculations and found, based upon reliable data and estimates, that the PSY  
12 recommendations are the best estimates of Production Safe Yield for each of the Subareas;  
13 and based on newly discovered data relating to additional water supply from Sheep Creek,  
14 Watermaster modified its PSY recommendation for the Oeste Subarea (Mot., 26:9-47:18).

15 Watermaster also explains at length its conclusions as to the sufficiency of its factual  
16 investigations to quantify the factors to be used in the PSY calculations, and the reliability of  
17 any assumptions or estimates upon which it has relied (Mot., 47:19-55:20, and 57:18-58:8).

18 Moreover, whether the Court approves Watermaster's PSY and FPA  
19 recommendations, or defers approval until the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report is filed, as requested by  
20 GSWC (GSWC is the only stakeholder making that request), the result will be the same, i.e.,  
21 the PSY values that were approved by the Court in 2024 will continue to be applicable until  
22 the RMBM is completed.

23 Watermaster's PSY and FPA recommendations are based upon the best available data  
24 and estimates, and are more likely than not true. No party has provided a credible  
25 countervailing PSY analysis or compelling admissible evidence to the contrary.

26 **C. GSWC misstates Watermaster's statement.**

27 GSWC argues that *Watermaster noted that 20-30% of wells within TZ have*  
28 *statistically significant decreasing trends* – which causes GSWC to question Watermaster's

1 conclusion that the TZ actually serves as a “water bridge” between the Alto Subarea and the  
2 Centro Subarea (GSWC Opp., 5:1-13).

3 In fact, Watermaster Engineer did not make that statement. Instead, Watermaster  
4 Engineer merely stated that his updated analysis of water levels in the Transition Zone  
5 demonstrates “either a rise of groundwater levels (moderate to very strong upward trend) or  
6 no change (weak to negligible trend) for the periods from 1996 to 2024 and 1990 to 2024  
7 (Mot. 66:26-67:6). For the time period 1990-2024, Watermaster analyzed 39 wells and 34  
8 showed a statistically significant trend; five wells had no statistically significant trend at all.  
9 Of the 34 wells, 31 showed an upward trend and 3 showed a downward trend (Mot., 66:27-  
10 67:7; also pages 393-394).

11 Contrary to GSWC’s claim, Watermaster Engineer did not state “that 20-30% of wells  
12 within TZ have statistically significant decreasing trends.” In fact, that statement came from  
13 GSWC’s consultant, aquilogic (Mot., 153), not from the Watermaster Engineer.

14 Moreover, the “water bridge” is a physical, geologic structure, and the TZ water  
15 balance demonstrates that surface and subsurface waters enter the TZ at the Lower Narrows  
16 and, less consumptive uses in the TZ, flow into Centro at or near the Helendale Fault.  
17 GSWC has not submitted any admissible evidence demonstrating otherwise.

18 Additionally, a “statistically significant decreasing trend” does not necessarily mean a  
19 significant decrease in water level, e.g., it could mean a decline of only a few centimeters  
20 over a period of years.

21 Therefore, once again, GSWC has not demonstrated any error or flaw in Watermaster  
22 Engineer’s conclusion about the TZ acting as a water bridge from the Alto Subarea to the  
23 Centro Subarea, or as to the quantity of surface and subsurface water reaching the Helendale  
24 Fault.

25 **D. Differences in the TZ riparian habitat water consumptive use estimates are *de***  
26 ***minimus*.**

27 GSWC points to the minimal difference of 178 AF between Phreatophyte  
28 consumptive use in the TZ based upon satellite-based sensing tools compared to

1 Watermaster’s 2024 estimate. GSWC then states, “one would expect that any change would  
2 result in a change in the PSY, even a nominal one” (GSWC Opp., 6:10-11.) Watermaster  
3 Engineer’s estimate of 6,178 AF of riparian habitat water consumptive use in the TZ using  
4 remote sensing techniques confirmed the 6,000 AF estimated by Lines and Bilhorn (1996).  
5 The difference between these two estimates is only 2.967% (Mot., 407).

6 GSWC complains that the nominal difference between 6,178 AF and 6,000 AF for the  
7 phreatophyte water use estimate should be considered in the PSY calculation. However, the  
8 Watermaster Rules and Regulations require a precision of 5% for individual meter  
9 measurements for water production. Therefore, the difference in the estimate for  
10 phreatophytes is *de minimis*.

11 **E. Improvement of data collection.**

12 Data collection has been improved by: (1) conducting gravity depth to bedrock  
13 estimates; (2) installing a new monitoring well downstream of the Helendale Fault; (3)  
14 conducting surface geophysical studies of various faults; (3) preparation of detailed geologic  
15 cross-sections in the Centro and Baja Subareas (drafts of which were provided to GSWC for  
16 review); (4) re-activation of USGS gages near Hodge, at Daggett, and Cushenbury Creek  
17 near Lucerne Valley; (5) installation of Mojave Water Agency gages at Sheep Creek in  
18 Oeste, Arrastre Canyon in Fifteen-Mile Valley, and Kane Wash in Baja; and (6)  
19 implementation of remote sensing techniques for riparian habitat water consumptive use  
20 estimates.

21 **F. GSWC does not appear to be able to settle on a position.**

22 First, “GSWC agrees that measurement of surface inflows from the Transition Zone  
23 into the Centro Subarea may be *infeasible*” (Obj., 17:23-24, emphasis added). However,  
24 GSWC also “supports the establishment of surface water gages . . . especially across the  
25 Helendale Fault” (GSWC Opp., 16:18-20; emphasis added). This seems contradictory.  
26 Which is it? Does GSWC agree that “measurement of surface inflows from the Transition  
27 Zone into the Centro Subarea [is] *infeasible*” (as Watermaster Engineer also has advocated),  
28 or not?



Moreover, Hodge gage data was not used for Watermaster's PSY analysis. Instead, the Hodge flow gage data was used merely to provide further confirmation that the TZ functions as a water bridge and, importantly, that when significant surface flows are present at the Lower Narrows, significant surface flows also are present in the vicinity of the Hodge gage in Centro (located 9.3 miles downstream from the Helendale Fault).

As previously noted, the Judgment requires that the surface water Subarea Obligation to Centro is to be confirmed by flow gage measurements at the Lower Narrows, not at the Helendale Fault; and water levels in the TZ are to be determined through observation of water levels in monitored wells, not by a gage at the Helendale Fault.

**G. Groundwater Flow toward Harper Dry Lake.**

GSWC also expresses concern that some groundwater entering the Centro Subarea from the TZ flows toward Harper Dry Lake. GSWC then complains that Watermaster dismisses the importance of this information simply because it does not represent a "changed condition" and it "does not change the PSY for the Centro Subarea because Harper Lake is part of Centro." (GSWC Opp., 9:12-21.) GSWC then states this may represent "a material change in the Judgment's assumptions about the physical mechanism of replenishment of the Centro Subarea [and] may have a significant effect on Centro Subarea Producers and implementation of the Judgment" (GSWC Opp., 9:22-25); and also claims this information "may require changes to ... the Centro Subarea PSY calculations" (GSWC Opp., 10:9-10).

GSWC's Opposition does not explain how groundwater migrating to the Harper Dry Lake area fact has "a significant effect on ... implementation of the Judgment," or "may require changes to the Centro Subarea PSY calculation."

In this connection, Watermaster is required to determine PSY and FPA for the Centro Subarea *as a whole*, and is not expected or required to estimate PSY and FPA for discrete subdivisions within a Subarea. The Subarea Obligation to Centro is not subject to change simply because a portion of the groundwater reaching Centro migrates toward the Harper Dry Lake, rather than toward Barstow. Again, it appears GSWC is attempting to set the stage for a request to amend the Judgment in a way that would require more water deliveries to the

1 Centro Subarea.

2 **H. Other available modeling.**

3 GSWC also suggests the AI modeling technology offered by Upstream Tech may be  
4 useful for estimating water flow through the Helendale Fault (GSWC Opp., 11:10-21.) Like  
5 the RMBM hydrologic modeling the Mojave Water Agency is working hard to complete and  
6 have peer reviewed, Upstream Tech is another model or simulation; it is not a direct  
7 measurement. Accordingly, GSWC is requesting that Watermaster use yet another model.

8 At GSWC's urging, during one of Watermaster's public workshops, Watermaster  
9 listened to a presentation by a representative of Upstream Tech, but was not persuaded its  
10 modeling services would be useful at this time. Additionally, the Court's Order that  
11 Watermaster recommend a plan to improve the collection of hydrologic data is not due until  
12 Watermaster files its 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report. Accordingly, GSWC is once again raising an issue  
13 that is outside the scope of Watermaster's present motion for approval of its current PSY and  
14 FPA recommendations.

15 If GSWC is so enamored with the additional modeling technology offered by  
16 Upstream Tech, Watermaster suggests GSWC itself retain the services of Upstream Tech  
17 and then share the modeling results with Watermaster. Watermaster's budget is limited; as  
18 noted, Watermaster must rely upon the Mojave Water Agency to voluntarily assist in  
19 Watermaster's efforts -- including paying the considerable cost of developing the RMBM  
20 and having it independently peer reviewed. GSWC and its parent company, American States  
21 Water Company, on the other hand, should be able to easily afford to retain Upstream Tech's  
22 services.

23 **I. Watermaster's Annual Report, Motion and related documents were properly**  
24 **served.**

25 Section 10(D) of the Watermaster Rules and Regulations provides:

26 D. Notice of Motion. Any Party, may, by a regularly noticed motion, petition  
27 the Court for review of Watermaster's action or decision pursuant to this Judgment.  
28 The motion shall not be deemed filed until a copy, conformed as filed with the Court,  
has been delivered to Watermaster together with the service fee established by  
Watermaster sufficient to cover the cost to photocopy and mail the motion to each

1 Party. Watermaster shall prepare copies and mail a copy of the motion to each Party  
2 or its designee according to the official service list which shall be maintained by  
3 Watermaster according to Paragraph 37 of the Judgment. A Party's obligation to serve  
4 notice of a motion upon the Parties is deemed to be satisfied by filing the motion with  
5 the Watermaster as provided herein. *Alternatively, delivery of such copy, conformed*  
6 *as filed with the Court, may be delivered to Watermaster together with the service fee*  
7 *established by Watermaster sufficient to cover the cost to produce and mail a*  
8 *postcard detailing the document to each Party. Watermaster shall mail said postcard*  
9 *to each Party or its designee according to the official service list which shall be*  
10 *maintained by Watermaster pursuant to Paragraph 37 of the Judgment. Served*  
11 *documents will be posted to and maintained on the Mojave Water Agency's internet*  
12 *website for printing and/or download by Parties. . . .*

13 Watermaster's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Report, Motion and related documents were served on the  
14 Parties by one of two ways. Parties who provided e-mail addresses were sent an e-mail  
15 describing the document(s) filed or lodged with the Court, along with a hyperlink where the  
16 Parties could access the document(s). For Parties as to whom Watermaster has only mailing  
17 addresses, they were mailed a postcard, describing the document(s) filed along with a  
18 direction that the documents are available for viewing on the Watermaster's website, and  
19 indicating the Watermaster's website address.

20 Watermaster's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Report was uploaded to Watermaster's website on June 2,  
21 2025, and Watermaster's Motion for approval of the PSY and FPA recommendations were  
22 uploaded to Watermaster's website on July 11, 2025. (McElhaney Dec., ¶ 4.)

23 **J. Watermaster has submitted evidence sufficient to demonstrate that it is more**  
24 **likely than not true that the TZ water levels are stable, and allow for flow into**  
25 **the Centro Subarea of all surface and subsurface flow into the TZ (less TZ**  
26 **consumptive uses).**

27 GSWC states it "*disputes* that Watermaster has presented sufficient evidence ... to  
28 conclude that all surface and subsurface flows that enter the TZ more likely than not flow  
into the Centro Subarea. ... [and] GSWC *disputes* that the Watermaster Engineer's continued  
reliance on stable water levels in the TZ ... are dispositive of this issue. ... Such a conclusion  
also conflicts with Watermaster's Engineer's findings that up to 20-30% of the wells in the  
TZ may have and may still be experiencing falling water levels ... (GSWC Opp., 15:15-23).

Although GSWC "disputes" that Watermaster has made a "dispositive" showing on

1 this issue, at the same time GSWC has failed to submit admissible evidence sufficient to  
2 demonstrate that the Watermaster's conclusion is not "more likely than not true." Instead, as  
3 noted above (9:22-10:6; 11:26-12:20), GSWC misstates Watermaster Engineer's actual  
4 statement and demonstration that stable water levels in the TZ allow for (a) the TZ to act as a  
5 water bridge to the Centro Subarea, and (b) nearly all flows that enter the TZ to reach the  
6 Centro Subarea.

7 Watermaster submits that its showing on this issue (Mot., 34:1–40:18) is sufficient to  
8 demonstrate that its conclusion on this issue is more likely than not true. GSWC has not  
9 demonstrated otherwise.

10 **K. The number of wells monitored in the TZ is sufficient.**

11 To confirm that water levels in the TZ remain stable, the Mojave Water Agency  
12 monitors more than thirty (30) water wells located in the TZ and at least three water wells  
13 located downstream from the Helendale Fault, as well as monitoring surface flows measured  
14 at the Hodge gage. Nonetheless, GSWC requests that Watermaster install even more  
15 monitoring wells in the TZ "to measure flow gradient across the area and estimate  
16 Subsurface Inflows into the Centro Subarea" (Obj., 16:22-28).

17 However, GSWC does not make any showing that the number and location of wells  
18 currently being monitored is insufficient for this purpose, or that adding more monitoring  
19 wells (at considerable expense) would materially enhance the quality of water level data  
20 currently collected from existing wells monitored in the TZ.

21 While the existing number and location of wells currently monitored are sufficient for  
22 this purpose, Watermaster would have no objection to GSWC financing the construction and  
23 maintenance of additional monitoring wells – either in the Alto Subarea or the Centro  
24 Subarea. However, GSWC has not made a showing that additional monitoring wells are  
25 required.

26 Moreover, the question whether more monitoring wells would be helpful is outside  
27 the scope of Watermaster's extant motion for approval of its PSY and FPA  
28 recommendations for the 2025-2026 Water Year. If GSWC believes a compelling need

1 exists for more monitoring wells, and that Watermaster should be required to finance the  
2 construction of same, GSWC should file a motion seeking that specific relief. The extant  
3 motion is not a proper vehicle for that purpose.

4 Further, Watermaster did not construct or pay for construction of monitoring wells in  
5 the TZ or the Hodge flow gage; the Mojave Water Agency did so. Watermaster's limited  
6 funds are insufficient to pay for the construction of such costly items. Watermaster doubts  
7 the Court has authority to order a stipulating party, such as the Mojave Water Agency, to pay  
8 for the construction of more monitoring wells.

9 Watermaster has considered GSWC's recommended actions but does not recommend  
10 undertaking them at present. Perhaps it is time to suggest that other stipulating parties (in this  
11 case the Golden State Water Company) should pay for the construction of the enhancements  
12 they are requesting (in this case more monitoring wells and an additional AI remote sensing  
13 model). If the Court were to order the Watermaster to construct more monitoring wells in the  
14 TZ and pay for additional AI modeling, the administrative assessments which all stipulating  
15 Parties pay to fund the Watermaster's operations would need to be increased significantly.  
16 On this issue, all stipulating parties should be given a fair opportunity to be heard.

17 Watermaster also requests that the Court consider the "beneficiary pays" principle of  
18 local government fees and assessments. If Watermaster assessments were not approved by  
19 the Court they would be subject to various State laws including Proposition 218 that provide  
20 public agency water charges cannot exceed the actual cost of service and real property fees  
21 and assessment cannot exceed the special benefit conferred to the property. Watermaster  
22 recommends that the Court consider whether assessments specific to Subareas or localities  
23 with unique needs should bear costs proportionate to the benefits they receive or to the  
24 burden caused.

25 ///

26 ///

27 ///

28 ///

1 **L. Conclusion.**

2 All of GSWC's objections to the Motion are without merit and should be overruled.  
3 As noted, many are far outside the scope of Watermaster's motion, or are matters that should  
4 be raised by separate motions.

5 Dated: July 28, 2025

**BRUNICK, MCELHANEY & KENNEDY PLC**

6  
7 By: \_\_\_\_\_

Leland P. McElhaneey  
Attorneys for Defendant/Cross-complainant,  
MOJAVE WATER AGENCY

1 **SUPPORTING DECLARATION**

2 Leland P. McElhaney declares and states:

3 1. I am an attorney at law duly licensed to practice in all courts of the state of California,  
4 and a principal in the law firm of Brunick, McElhaney & Kennedy, PLC, counsel of record  
5 for the Mojave Water Agency, both in its capacity as a stipulating Party to the Judgment and,  
6 also, as the Court appointed Watermaster. I have personal knowledge of all matters set forth  
7 herein and, if called as a witness, I could and would testify competently thereto.


8 2. A Power Point presentation regarding Watermaster Engineer's PSY and FPA  
9 recommendations was made during Watermaster's June 11, 2025 public workshop. The slide  
10 depicted on page 8, lines 4-13 above was presented during that Power Point presentation. It  
11 clearly reflects Watermaster Engineer's recommendation that the Este Subarea FPA be  
12 reduced from 50% of BAP to 45%.

13 3. During the Watermaster's July 10, 2025 special meeting and public hearing, the  
14 Watermaster Service Manager (Mr. Jeff Ruesch) and I provided explanations to members of  
15 the Board and members of the public that were in attendance either in person or remotely: (a)  
16 regarding Watermaster's prior 2025 consideration of an appropriate FPA for the Este  
17 Subarea; (b) that the Watermaster is an arm of the Court, charged with implementing the  
18 provisions of the Judgment; (c) the Judgment mandates that Watermaster recommend a full  
19 five percent reduction when FPA exceeds PSY by more than five percent; and (d) the current  
20 Este FPA exceeds PSY by more than five percent. Legal counsel for Mitsubishi and  
21 Robertson's appeared remotely, and gave an extensive presentation of his views and  
22 argument as to why the FPA for Este should not be reduced. At the conclusion of these  
23 discussions, the Board members voted to accept staff recommendation that FPA for the Este  
24 Subarea be reduced from 50% of BAP to 45%. Attached as Exhibit 1 hereto is a true and  
25 correct copy of the Watermaster staff report on this matter, and the Board's action on July  
26 10, 2025 accepting staff's recommendation.

27 4. Watermaster's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Report was uploaded to Watermaster's website on June 2,  
28 2025, and Watermaster's Motion for approval of the PSY and FPA recommendations were

1 uploaded to Watermaster's website on July 11, 2025.

2 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of California that the  
3 foregoing is true and correct, and this declaration is executed in San Bernardino, California  
4 on July 28, 2025.

5  
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7 Leland P. McElhaney  
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## **EXHIBIT 1**

# MOJAVE BASIN AREA WATERMASTER

FOR  
CITY OF BARSTOW, ET AL, VS. CITY OF ADELANTO, ET AL,  
CASE NO. 208568 - RIVERSIDE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

## MEMORANDUM

Date: July 10, 2025

To: Watermaster

From: Adnan Anabtawi, Executive Officer

By: Jeffrey Ruesch, Watermaster Services Manager

Re: Public hearing to receive comments and adopt Free Production Allowance for the Este Subarea of 45% of BAP for Water Year 2025-26

Pursuant to paragraph 24 (o) of the Judgment After Trial dated January 10, 1996 the Watermaster is required to make a recommendation to the Court for adjustments to Free Production Allowance (FPA) in each Subarea as necessary.

Exhibit H of the Judgment provides that "In the event that the Free Production Allowance exceeds the estimated Production Safe Yield (PSY) by five percent or more, Watermaster shall recommend a reduction of the Free Production Allowance equal to a full five percent of the aggregate Subarea Base Annual Production."

Watermaster held a public hearing on April 23, 2025 where the Watermaster Engineer made the recommendation to reduce the FPA for the Este Subarea from 50% to 45%. During the public hearing, a member of the public made the request that the FPA not be reduced or by 2.5% instead of the full 5%. After closing the public hearing, the Watermaster discussed the recommendation and subsequently voted to recommend that the FPA for the Este Subarea remain at 50% of BAP.

Watermaster held its regularly scheduled meeting on May 28, 2025. Upon reconvening after the closed session, a motion was made by Director Page and seconded by Director Roelle to change the Watermaster recommendation for Este Subarea to Rampdown Free Production Allowance from 50% of Base Annual Production to 45%. This motion passed by a vote of 4 Ayes to 2 Nays.

As shown in the following table, the FPA for Este exceeds the PSY of 6,582-acre feet by more than 5%.

<u>Subarea</u>	<u>Base Annual Production</u>	<u>2024-25 FPA</u>	<u>Production Safe Yield (2024)</u>	<u>Percent Difference<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>2023-24 Verified Production</u>
Este	20,205	10,589	6,582	19.8%	3,804


<sup>1</sup>This value represents the percent of BAP that PSY departs from FPA.

**Este – 45% of BAP**

PSY was reevaluated in 2024 to be 6,582 acre-feet. The Este water levels over a long period of time suggest there is very little loss of storage. However, the FPA is still greater than the current estimate of PSY in Este and consequently additional Rampdown is warranted. It is recommended that Este FPA be reduced by 5% to 45% for Water Year 2025-26.

**Action:**

**Motion to adopt a Free Production Allowance Recommendation for the Este Subarea of 45% of Base Annual Production (BAP).**

<b>Watermaster Action:</b>	Staff Recommendation Approved
<b>Conditions:</b>	None
<b>Date:</b>	July 10, 2025
<b>Executive Officer:</b>	

## **PROOF OF SERVICE**

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA        }  
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO}**

I am employed in the County of the San Bernardino, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action; my business address is 13846 Conference Center Drive, Apple Valley, California 92307.

On July 28, 2025, the document(s) described below were served pursuant to the Mojave Basin Area Watermaster's Rules and Regulations paragraph 8.B.2 which provides for service by electronic mail upon election by the Party or paragraph 10.D, which provides that Watermaster shall mail a postcard describing each document being served, to each Party or its designee according to the official service list, a copy of which is attached hereto, and which shall be maintained by the Mojave Basin Area Watermaster pursuant to Paragraph 37 of the Judgment. Served documents will be posted to and maintained on the Mojave Water Agency's internet website for printing and/or download by Parties wishing to do so.

Document(s) filed with the court and served herein are described as follows:

### **WATERMASTER'S REPLY BRIEF IN RESPONSE TO OBJECTIONS TO MOTION TO ADJUST FREE PRODUCTION ALLOWANCE FOR WATER YEAR 2025-2026; SUPPORTING DECLARATION**

  X   (STATE) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.

Executed on July 28, 2025 at Apple Valley, California.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey D. Ruesch

## Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of July 28, 2025

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Helendale, CA 92342-9789

Attn: Ian Bryant (irim@aol.com)  
Bryant Family Trust dated May 9, 2007 (via  
email)  
15434 Sequoia Avenue - Office  
Hesperia, CA 92345-1667

Bunnell, Dick  
8589 Volga River Circle  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708-5536

Attn: Donald Larson  
(michael.lemke@dot.ca.gov;  
Donald.Larson@dot.ca.gov)  
California Department Of Transportation (via  
email)  
175 W. Cluster  
San Bernardino, CA 92408-1310

Attn: Catalina Elias  
(cfernandez@calportland.com)  
CalPortland Company - Oro Grande Plant (via  
email)  
P. O. Box 146  
Oro Grande, CA 92368-0146

Carlton, Susan  
445 Via Colusa  
Torrance, CA 90505-

## Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of July 28, 2025

Attn: Denise Parra  
Casa Colina Foundation  
P.O. Box 1760  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356

Attn: Danielle Stewart  
(danielle.stewart@wildlife.ca.gov;  
Richard.Kim@wildlife.ca.gov;  
Alisa.Ellsworth@wildlife.ca.gov)  
CDFW - Camp Cady (via email)  
4775 Bird Farm Road  
Chino Hills, CA 91709-3175

Attn: San Bernardino Co Regional Parks  
CDFW - Mojave Narrows Regional Park  
268 W. Hospitality Lane, Suite 303  
San Bernardino, CA 92408-3241

Attn: Paco Cabral  
(paco.cabral@wildlife.ca.gov;  
askregion6@wildlife.ca.gov;  
aaron.johnson@wildlife.ca.gov)  
CDFW - Mojave River Fish Hatchery (via  
email)  
12550 Jacaranda Avenue  
Victorville, CA 92395-5183

Attn: Environmental  
(valorie.moore@cemex.com)  
Cemex, Inc. (via email)  
16888 North E. Street  
Victorville, CA 92394-2999

Attn: Jennifer Cutler  
Center Water Company  
P. O. Box 616  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-0616

Attn: Nancy Ryman  
Chamisal Mutual Water Company  
P. O. Box 1444  
Adelanto, CA 92301-2779

Attn: Carl Pugh (talk2betty@aol.com;  
cpugh3@aol.com)  
Cheyenne Lake, Inc. (via email)  
44658 Valley Center Rd.  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365-

(JohnChinm3@gmail.com)  
Chin Family Life Estate Trust (via email)  
15648 Meridian Road  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-9008

Attn: Micahel Chisram  
Chisram, et al.  
414 S. Lincoln Ave.  
Monterey Park, CA 91775-3323

Choi, Yong Il and Joung Ae  
34424 Mountain View Road  
Hinkley, CA 92347-9412

(joan.chong7@gmail.com;  
joancksp@hotmail.com)  
Chong, Joan (via email)  
1054 N. Antonio Circle  
Orange, CA 92869-1966

Christison, Joel  
P. O. Box 2635  
Big River, CA 92242-2635

Attn: Hwa-Yong Chung  
Chung, et al.  
11446 Midway Ave.  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-8792

Clark, Arthur  
P. O. Box 4513  
Blue Jay, CA 92317-4513

Attn: Manoucher Sarbaz  
Club View Partners  
9903 Santa Monica Blvd., PMB #541  
Beverly Hills, CA 90212-1671

Attn: Jaehwan Lee  
Come Mission, Inc.  
9965 Baker Road  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92365-8490

Conner, William H.  
11535 Mint Canyon Rd.  
Agua Dulce, CA 91390-4577

Contratto, Ersula  
13504 Choco Road  
Apple Valley, CA 92308-4550

Attn: George Starke  
Corbridge, Linda S.  
8743 Vivero St  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730-

Cross, Sharon I.  
P. O. Box 922  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356

Attn: Jay Hooper (jayho123@gmail.com)  
Crown Cambria, LLC (via email)  
9860 Gidley St.  
El Monte, CA 91731-1110

Attn: Alessia Morris  
Crystal Lakes Property Owners Association  
P. O. Box 351  
Yermo, CA 92398-0351

Attn: Shanna Mitchell (daggettsd@aol.com;  
daggettsd@outlook.com;  
daggettwater427@gmail.com)  
Daggett Community Services District (via  
email)  
P. O. Box 308  
Daggett, CA 92327-0308

Attn: Steve and Dana Rivett  
Daggett Ranch, LLC  
P. O. Box 112  
Daggett, CA 92327-0112

Attn: WeWork c/o Aileen Yeung  
(aileen.yeung@clearwayenergy.com)  
Daggett Solar Power 3 LLC (via email)  
1550 Wewatta St., Suite 200  
Denver, CO 80202-6305

Darr, James S.  
40716 Highway 395  
Boron, CA 93516

## Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of July 28, 2025

Attn: Alan L. De Jong  
De Jong Family Trust  
46561 Fairview Road  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365-9230

Attn: Randy Wagner  
Dennison, Quentin D. - Clegg, Frizell and Joke  
44579 Temescal Street  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365

Attn: Marie McDaniel  
Desert Dawn Mutual Water Company  
P. O. Box 392  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-0392

Attn: Penny Zaritsky  
(pennyzaritsky2000@yahoo.com)  
Desert Girlz LLC (via email)  
P. O. Box 709  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-0709

Attn: Denise Courtney  
Desert Springs Mutual Water Company  
P. O. Box 396  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-0396

Attn: Debby Wyatt  
DLW Revocable Trust  
13830 Choco Rd.  
Apple Valley, CA 92307-5525

Attn: Judith Dolch-Partridge, Trustee  
Dolch Living Trust Robert and Judith  
4181 Kramer Lane  
Bellingham, WA 98226-7145

Donaldson, Jerry and Beverly  
16736 B Road  
Delta, CO 81416-8501

Attn: Virginia Shaw  
Dora Land, Inc.  
P. O. Box 1405  
Apple Valley, CA 92307-0026

Attn: David Dorrance  
Dorrance, David W. and Tamela L.  
118 River Road Circle  
Wimberley, TX 78676-5060

Attn: David Looper  
Douglass, Tina  
P.O. Box 1730  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-

Dowell, Leonard  
345 E Carson St.  
Carson, CA 90745-2709

Evenson, Edwin H. and Joycelaine C.  
P. O. Box 66  
Oro Grande, CA 92368-0066

Attn: Stephanie L. Evert  
(severt2166@aol.com)  
Evert Family Trust (via email)  
19201 Parker Circle  
Villa Park, CA 92861-1302

Attn: David Dittenmore  
(d2dittenmore@bop.gov; rslayman@bop.gov)  
Federal Bureau of Prisons, Victorville (via email)  
P. O. Box 5400  
Adelanto, CA 92301-5400

Fejfar, Monica Kay  
34080 Ord Street  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365-9791

(wwcc0626@gmail.com)  
Feng, Jinbao (via email)  
33979 Fremont Road  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365-9136

(afc30@yahoo.com)  
Fernandez, Arturo (via email)  
28 Calle Fortuna  
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688-2627

Ferro, Dennis and Norma  
1311 1st Ave. N  
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250-3512

(ropingmom3@yahoo.com)  
Finch, Jenifer (via email)  
9797 Lewis Lane  
Apple Valley, CA 92308-8357

Attn: Alex and Jerrica Liu  
(alexliu1950@gmail.com;  
alexroseanneliu@yahoo.com)  
First CPA LLC (via email)  
46669 Valley Center Rd  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365-

Attn: Carl Fischer (carlsfischer@hotmail.com;  
fischer@fischercompanies.com)  
Fischer Revocable Living Trust (via email)  
1372 West 26th St.  
San Bernardino, CA 92405-3029

Attn: Paul Johnson  
Fisher Trust, Jerome R.  
7603 Hazeltine Ave  
Van Nuys, CA 91405-1423

Attn: Daisy Cruz  
Foothill Estates MHP, LLC  
9454 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 920  
Beverly Hills, CA 90212-2925

(cfrates@renewablegroup.com)  
Frates, D. Cole (via email)  
RRG CM, 926 N Sycamore Ave Ste 725  
Los Angeles, CA 90038-2382

Attn: Deborah A. Friend  
Friend, Joseph and Deborah  
P. O. Box 253  
Barstow, CA 92312-0253

Attn: Mark Asay (bettybrock@ironwood.org;  
waltbrock@ironwood.org)  
Fundamental Christian Endeavors, Inc. (via email)  
49191 Cherokee Road  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365

Gabrych Family Trust dated October 9, 2007  
2006 Old Highway 395  
Fallbrook, CA 92028

Gabrych Family Trust dated Octobner 9, 2007  
2006 Old Highway 395  
Fallbrook, CA 92028-8816

Gaeta, Miguel and Maria  
9366 Joshua Avenue  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-8273



## Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of July 28, 2025

Attn: Jay Storer  
Gaeta, Trinidad  
10551 Dallas Avenue  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356

Garcia, Daniel  
223 Rabbit Trail  
Lake Jackson, TX 77566-3728

Attn: Sang Hwal Kim  
Gardena Mission Church, Inc.  
P. O. Box 304  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-0304

Garg, Om P.  
530 Technology Drive, Suite 100  
Irvine, CA 92618-1350

Attn: Brent Peterson  
Gayjikian, Samuel and Hazel  
34534 Granite Road  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-

Attn: Jeffrey Edwards  
(jedwards@fbremediation.com.)  
GenOn California South, LP (via email)  
P. O. Box 337  
Daggett, CA 92327-0337

(Nereida.Gonzalez@gswater.com,  
ana.chavez@gswater.com)  
Golden State Water Company (via email)  
160 Via Verde, Ste. 100  
San Dimas, CA 91773-5121

Attn: Nereida Gonzalez  
(ana.chavez@gswater.com,  
Nereida.Gonzalez@gswater.com)  
Golden State Water Company (via email)  
160 Via Verde, Ste. 100  
San Dimas, CA 91773-5121

Attn: Manoucher Sarbaz  
Golf Investments LLC  
9903 Santa Monica Blvd., #541  
Beverly Hills, CA 90212-1606

Attn: Scot Gasper  
Gordon Acres Water Company  
P. O. Box 1035  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-1035

Gray, George F. and Betty E.  
975 Bryant  
Calimesa, CA 92320-1301

Attn: Brian E. Bolin  
Green Acres Estates  
P. O. Box 29  
Apple Valley, CA 92307-0001

Attn: Eric Archibek  
Green Hay Packers LLC  
41717 Silver Valley Road  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365-9517

Attn: Nick Grill (Nick.terawatt@gmail.com)  
Grill, Nicholas P. and Millie D. (via email)  
35350 Mountain View Rd  
Hinkley, CA 92347-9613

Gubler, Hans  
P. O. Box 3100  
Landers, CA 92285

Attn: Tamara J Skoglund  
(TamaraMcKenzie@aol.com)  
Gulbranson, Merlin (via email)  
511 Minnesota Ave W  
Gilbert, MN 55741-

Gutierrez, Jose and Gloria  
24116 Santa Fe  
Hinkley, CA 92347

Attn: Bryan C. Haas and Mary H. Hinkle  
(resrv4you@aol.com)  
Haas, Bryan C. and Hinkle, Mary H. (via email)  
14730 Tigertail Road  
Apple Valley, CA 92307-5249

Attn: Edward E. Hackbarth  
(hackbarthoffice@gmail.com)  
Hackbarth, Edward E. (via email)  
13312 Ranchero Rd STE 241  
Oak Hills, CA 92344-4812

Attn: Doug and Cheryl Hamilton  
Hamilton Family Trust  
19945 Round Up Way  
Apple Valley, CA 92308-8338

Attn: William Handrinos  
Handrinos, Nicole A.  
1140 Parkdale Rd.  
Adelanto, CA 92301-9308

Hang, Phu Quang  
645 S. Shasta Street  
West Covina, CA 91791-2818

Attn: Donald F. Hanify  
Hanify, Michael D., dba - White Bear Ranch  
PO BOX 1021  
Yermo, CA 92398-1021

Attn: Matt Wood  
(Matthew.wood@martinmarietta.com)  
Hanson Aggregates WRP, Inc. (via email)  
P. O. Box 1115  
Corona, CA 92878-1115

Attn: Mary Jane Hareson  
Hareson, Nicholas and Mary  
1737 Anza Avenue  
Vista, CA 92084-3236

Attn: Kenny Harmsen (harsencow@aol.com)  
Harmsen Family Trust (via email)  
23920 Community Blvd.  
Hinkley, CA 92347-9721

Harter, Joe and Sue  
10902 Swan Lake Road  
Klamath Falls, OR 97603-9676

(harvey1.92356@gmail.com)  
Harvey, Lisa M. (via email)  
P. O. Box 1187  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-

Haskins, James J.  
11352 Hesperia Road, #2  
Hesperia, CA 92345-2165

Hass, Pauline L.  
P. O. Box 273  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365-

## Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of July 28, 2025

Attn: Craig Carlson (kcox@helendalecsd.org;  
ccarlson@helendalecsd.org)  
Helendale Community Services District (via  
email)  
P. O. Box 359  
Helendale, CA 92342-0359

Attn: Joshua Maze  
Helendale School District  
P. O. Box 249  
Helendale, CA 92342-0249

Attn: Jeff Gallistel  
Hendley, Rick and Barbara  
P. O. Box 972  
Yermo, CA 92398-0972

Hensley, Mark P.  
35523 Mountain View Rd  
Hinkley, CA 92347-9613

Attn: Jeremy McDonald  
(jmcDonald@cityofhesperia.us)  
Hesperia - Golf Course, City of (via email)  
9700 Seventh Avenue  
Hesperia, CA 92345-3493

Attn: Janie Martines  
(janiemartines@gmail.com)  
Hesperia Venture I, LLC (via email)  
10 Western Road  
Wheatland, WY 82201-8936

Attn: Jeremy McDonald  
(jmcDonald@cityofhesperia.us)  
Hesperia Water District (via email)  
9700 7th Avenue  
Hesperia, CA 92345-3493

Attn: Jeremy McDonald  
(tsouza@cityofhesperia.us)  
Hesperia, City of (via email)  
9700 Seventh Avenue  
Hesperia, CA 92345-3493

Attn: Carabeth Carter ()  
Hettinga Revocable Trust (via email)  
P. O. Box 455  
Ehrenberg, AZ 85334-0455

Attn: Lisset Sardeson  
Hi Desert Mutual Water Company  
23667 Gazana Street  
Barstow, CA 92311

(lechiatt@hotmail.com)  
Hiatt, Harry L. (via email)  
P. O. Box 272  
Daggett, CA 92327-0272

Attn: Robert W. Bowcock  
High Desert Associates, Inc.  
405 North Indian Hill Blvd.  
Claremont, CA 91711-4614

Attn: Lori Clifton (lclifton@robar.com)  
Hi-Grade Materials Company (via email)  
17671 Bear Valley Rd  
Hesperia, CA 92345-4902

Attn: Lori Clifton (lclifton@robar.com)  
Hi-Grade Materials Company (via email)  
17671 Bear Valley Road  
Hesperia, CA 92345-4902

Attn: Frank Hilarides  
Hilarides 1998 Revocable Family Trust  
37404 Harvard Road  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365

Attn: Katherine Hill (Khill9@comcast.net)  
Hill Family Trust and Hill's Ranch, Inc. (via  
email)  
84 Dewey Street  
Ashland, OR 97520-

Attn: Anne Roark  
Hitchin Lucerne, Inc.  
PO Box 965  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-0749

Ho, Ting-Seng and Ah-Git  
P.O. Box 20001  
Bakersfield, CA 93390-0001

Attn: Joan Rohrer  
Hollister, Robert H. and Ruth M.  
22832 Buendia  
Mission Viejo, CA 92691-

Holway, Jeffrey R  
1401 Wewatta St. #1105  
Denver, CO 80202-1348

Attn: Katherine K. Hsu  
Holy Heavenly Lake, LLC  
1261 S. Lincoln Ave.  
Monterey Park, CA 91755-5017

Attn: Paul Hong  
Hong, Paul B. and May  
P. O. Box #1432  
Covina, CA 91722-0432

Attn: Sandra D. Hood  
Hood Family Trust  
2142 W Paseo Del Mar  
San Pedro, CA 90732-4557

Attn: Barry Horton  
Horton Family Trust  
47716 Fairview Road  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365-9258

Attn: Ester Hubbard  
Hubbard, Ester and Mizuno, Arlean  
47722 Kiloran St.  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365-9529

Attn: Paul Johnson  
Huerta, Hector  
25684 Community Blvd  
Barstow, CA 92311-

(hconnie630@gmail.com)  
Hunt, Connie (via email)  
39392 Burnside Loop  
Astoria, OR 97103-8248

Attn: Ralph Hunt  
Hunt, Ralph M. and Lillian F.  
P. O. Box 603  
Yermo, CA 92398-0603

Attn: Brenda Hyatt  
(calivolunteer@verizon.net)  
Hyatt, James and Brenda (via email)  
31726 Fremont Road  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365

(econorx@yahoo.com)  
Im, Nicholas Nak-Kyun (via email)  
300 W Valley Blvd  
Alhambra, CA 91803-3338

## Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of July 28, 2025

Irvin, Bertrand W.  
3224 West 111th Street  
Inglewood, CA 90303-

Attn: James Jackson Jr.  
Jackson, James N. Jr Revocable Living Trust  
1245 S. Arlington Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90019-3517

Attn: Lawrence Dean  
Jackson, Ray Revocable Trust No. 45801  
P.O. Box 8250  
Redlands, CA 92375-1450

Attn: Audrey Goller  
(audrey.goller@newportpacific.com)  
Jamboree Housing Corporation (via email)  
15940 Stoddard Wells Rd - Office  
Victorville, CA 92395-2800

Attn: Tomas Janovsky  
(tomjanovsky@yahoo.com)  
Janovsky Revocable Trust No. 1 (via email)  
17241 Bullock Street  
Encino, CA 91316-1437

Attn: Gary A. Ledford  
(gleddream@gmail.com)  
Jess Ranch Water Company (via email)  
906 Old Ranch Road  
Florissant, CO 80816-

Attn: Cynthia Mahoney  
(cyndisue87@yahoo.com)  
Johnson, Carlean F. Trust Dated 10/29/2004  
(via email)  
8626 Deep Creek Road  
Apple Valley, CA 92308-8769

Attn: Paul Johnson  
(johnsonfarming@gmail.com)  
Johnson, Paul - Industrial (via email)  
10456 Deep Creek Road  
Apple Valley, CA 92308-8330

Johnson, Ronald  
1156 Clovis Circle  
Dammeron Valley, UT 84783-5211

Attn: Lawrence W. Johnston  
Johnston, Harriet and Johnston, Lawrence W.  
P. O. Box 401472  
Hesperia, CA 92340-1472

Attn: Magdalena Jones  
(mygoldenbiz9@gmail.com)  
Jones Trust dated March 16, 2002 (via email)  
35424 Old Woman Springs Road  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-7237

Attn: Paul Jordan  
Jordan Family Trust  
1650 Silver Saddle Drive  
Barstow, CA 92311-2057

Attn: Ray Gagné  
Jubilee Mutual Water Company  
P. O. Box 1016  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356

Attn: Jilin Xiao  
Jujube Valley Farm, Inc.  
19 Pemberly  
Irvine, CA 92603-3452

Attn: Daniel Smith (dsmith@jrcwd.org)  
Juniper Riviera County Water District (via email)  
P.O. Box 618  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-0618

Attn: Ash Karimi  
Karimi, Hooshang  
1254 Holmby Ave  
Los Angeles, CA 90024-

Attn: Robert R. Kasner  
(Robertkasner@aol.com)  
Kasner Family Limited Partnership (via email)  
11584 East End Avenue  
Chino, CA 91710-

(Robertkasner@aol.com)  
Kasner, Robert (via email)  
11584 East End Avenue  
Chino, CA 91710-1555

Attn: Martin A and Mercedes Katcher  
Katcher, August M. and Marceline  
12928 Hyperion Lane  
Apple Valley, CA 92308-4565

Kemp, Robert and Rose  
48441 National Trails Highway  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365

Attn: Peggy Shaughnessy  
Kemper Campbell Ranch  
10 Kemper Campbell Ranch Road - Office  
Victorville, CA 92395-3357

Kim, Jin S. and Hyun H.  
419 Sara Jane Ln  
Placentia, CA 92870-5137

Attn: Alan and Annette De Jong  
Kim, Joon Ho and Mal Boon Revocable Trust  
46561 Fairview Road  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365-9230

(juskim67@yahoo.com)  
Kim, Ju Sang (via email)  
1225 Crestview Dr  
Fullerton, CA 92833-2206

Kim, Seon Ja  
34981 Piute Road  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365-9548

Attn: Richard Koering  
Koering, Richard and Koering, Donna  
40909 Mountain View Road  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365-9414

Attn: Catherine Cerri  
(ccerri@lakearrowheadcsd.com)  
Lake Arrowhead Community Services District  
(via email)  
P. O. Box 700  
Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352-0700

## Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of July 28, 2025

Attn: Claire Cabrey  
(HandleWithClaire@aol.com;  
mike@jaynes.net)  
Lake Jodie Property Owners Association (via email)  
8581 Santa Monica Blvd., #18  
West Hollywood, CA 90069-4120

(PhillipLam99@Yahoo.com)  
Lam, Phillip (via email)  
864 Sapphire Court  
Pomona, CA 91766-5171

Attn: Robert Lawrence Jr.  
Lawrence, William W.  
P. O. Box 98  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365

Lee, Doo Hwan  
P. O. Box 556  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-0556

Lenhert, Ronald and Toni  
4474 W. Cheyenne Drive  
Eloy, AZ 85131-3410

Attn: Michael Reese  
(Michael.Reese@libertyutilities.com)  
Liberty Utilities (Apple Valley Ranchos Water) Corp. (via email)  
P. O. Box 7005  
Apple Valley, CA 92307

Attn: Neal Davies (ndavies@terra-gen.com;  
dkelly@terra-gen.com)  
Lockhart Land Holding, LLC (via email)  
43880 Harper Lake Road  
Hinkley, CA 92347-

Lua, Michael T. and Donna S.  
18838 Aldridge Place  
Rowland Heights, CA 91748-4890

Attn: Manoucher Sarbaz  
Lucerne Valley Partners  
9903 Santa Monica Blvd., PMB #541  
Beverly Hills, CA 90212-1671

Attn: Nancy Lan  
Lake Waikiki  
230 Hillcrest Drive  
La Puente, CA 91744-4816

(jlangley@kurschgroup.com)  
Langley, James (via email)  
12277 Apple Valley Road, Ste. #120  
Apple Valley, CA 92308-1701

Lawson, Ernest and Barbara  
20277 Rock Springs Road  
Apple Valley, CA 92308-8740

Attn: Sepoong & Woo Poong Lee  
Lee, et al., Sepoong and Woo Poong  
#6 Ensueno East  
Irvine, CA 92620-

Attn: Brad Francke  
LHC Alligator, LLC  
P. O. Box 670  
Upland, CA 91785-0670

Attn: James Lin  
Lin, Kuan Jung and Chung, Der-Bing  
2026 Turnball Canyon  
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745-

Attn: Patricia Miranda  
Lopez, Baltazar  
12318 Post Office Rd  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-

Attn: Parviz Omidvar  
(pomidvar@roadrunner.com)  
Lucerne Valley 26, LLC (via email)  
8383 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 943  
Beverly Hills, CA 90211-2411

Attn: Marian Walent  
(LVVMC677@gmail.com)  
Lucerne Vista Mutual Water Company (via email)  
P. O. Box 677  
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356-0677

Attn: Timothy Rohm (ljm9252@aol.com;  
timrohmbuilding@gmail.com)  
Lake Wainani Owners Association (via email)  
2812 Walnut Avenue, Suite A  
Tustin, CA 92780-7053

Attn: Vanessa Laosy  
Lavanh, et al.  
18203 Yucca St.  
Hesperia, CA 92345-

Attn: Anna K. Lee (aklee219@gmail.com)  
Lee, Anna K. and Eshban K. (via email)  
10979 Satsuma St  
Loma Linda, CA 92354-6113

Lee, Vin Jang T.  
42727 Holcomb Trl  
Newberry Springs, CA 92365

Attn: Billy Liang  
Liang, Yuan - I and Tzu - Mei Chen  
4192 Biscayne St  
Chino, CA 91710-3196

Attn: Manshan Gan  
Lo, et al.  
5535 N Muscatel Ave  
San Gabriel, CA 91776-1724

Attn: Dean Low (lowgo.dean@gmail.com)  
Low, Dean (via email)  
3 Panther Creek Ct.  
Henderson, NV 89052-

Attn: Gwen L. Bedics  
Lucerne Valley Mutual Water Company  
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Lucerne Valley, CA 92356

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## Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of July 28, 2025

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## Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of July 28, 2025

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Big Bear Lake, CA 92315-2074

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Attn: Joseph Tapia  
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## Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of July 28, 2025

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## Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of July 28, 2025

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