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## State Water Resources Control Board

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### **Video and Teleconference Meeting During COVID-19 Emergency**

This meeting will occur via remote presence only as a result of the COVID-19 emergency and the Governor's Executive Orders to protect public health by limiting public gatherings and requiring social distancing.

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## **Notice of Public Meeting**

### **Identification of a Potential Administrator for Old River Mutual Water Company and South Kern Mutual Water Company**

**September 21, 2021**

**6:00pm - 8:00pm**

**<https://bit.ly/OldRiverSKern> Administrator**

**Remote Participation Only**

#### **PURPOSE**

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) invites you to attend a meeting to learn about Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group and its teaming partners ("Administrator") as a potential administrator to the Old River Mutual Water Company (Old River MWC) and South Kern Mutual Water Company (South Kern MWC).

An administrator is a person or entity that is appointed and/or authorized to exercise total and complete managerial control over a designated water system in order to provide an adequate supply of safe and affordable drinking water.

This public meeting is a requirement of the administrator selection processes. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information on the following:

- Current status of drinking water in Old River MWC and South Kern MWC

- Purpose and role of an Administrator
- Administrator qualifications, conflicts of interest, and scope of work

The meeting will also include an opportunity for the public to ask questions and provide comments. The public can submit questions and comments through September 28, 2021.

**MEETING LOGISTICS:** If you wish to join the meeting by Zoom or phone:

Zoom: [https://bit.ly/OldRiverSKern\\_Administrator](https://bit.ly/OldRiverSKern_Administrator)

Phone: +1-669-900-9128 Meeting ID: 923 5471 7606

### **LANGUAGE SERVICES**

To request language interpretation or sign language services, please submit your request at least 10 business days before the meeting by contacting Marina Perez at (916) 322-4265 or [SAFER@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:SAFER@waterboards.ca.gov).

### **ACCESSIBILITY**

Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at: (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

### **MEETING MATERIALS**

Meeting materials and details on remote participation are available at [bit.ly/DDW\\_AdminWebsite](https://bit.ly/DDW_AdminWebsite). To receive meeting materials in advance, register at [https://bit.ly/OldRiverSKern\\_Updates](https://bit.ly/OldRiverSKern_Updates). Meeting materials and details will be emailed to registered participants before the meeting.

### **HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENTS- DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 28, 2021**

Mail: Caitlin Juarez  
State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water  
265 W. Bullard Avenue Suite #101  
Fresno, CA 93704

Email: [DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov)

### **BACKGROUND**

On September 9, 2020, the State Water Board took the first step in designating Old River MWC and South Kern MWC as water systems in need of an administrator because they have not consistently provided an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water to their customers. Old River MWC has active compliance order for a violation of the Maximum Contaminant Level for uranium. South Kern MWC has active compliance orders for violations of the Maximum Contaminant Level for uranium and 1,2,3-Trichloropropane.

The State Water Board proposes appointing an administrator for Old River MWC and South Kern MWC to manage the water systems. All actions taken by an administrator are required to be in the best interest of the community served by the water system and include the following:

- Developing access to an adequate supply of safe and affordable drinking water; and
- Holding public meetings at least every three months.

Any ratepayer, renter, or property owner who receives water from a designated water system can submit a petition to the State Water Board to reverse or modify an administrator decision or to replace an administrator. A description of this process and the administrator authority is contained in Health and Safety Code Section 116686 and in the State Water Board's Administrator Policy Handbook at [bit.ly/SAFER Administrator](http://bit.ly/SAFER_Administrator) (Sept. 2019).

### **Information on Proposed Administrator**

#### **NAME OF ADMINISTRATOR**

The Provost & Pritchard team has been identified as a viable candidate to be appointed as an administrator for Old River MWC and South Kern MWC. Their qualifications include:

- Managed all aspects of dozens of water systems and special districts, including all necessary technical, managerial, and administrative needs.
- Specialized public outreach capability to help facilitate stakeholder discussions.
- Certified Treatment and Distribution operators on staff ready to provide operational support.
- Team of engineers, planners, and technicians with extensive experience in water resource management, planning, and implementing solutions.

#### **SCOPE OF APPOINTMENT & SERVICES PROVIDED**

This administrator will be a Full-Scope Administrator as defined in the Administrator Policy Handbook available online at [bit.ly/SAFER Administrator](http://bit.ly/SAFER_Administrator)

#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

To date, no conflict of interest has been found by the State Water Board or reported by the Provost & Pritchard team. If at any time a proposed action would create a conflict of interest, an administrator is required to provide written notice to the State Water Board in addition to all ratepayers, renters and property owners, who receive water service from the designated water system 30 days prior to taking the action.

#### **MORE INFORMATION**

Caitlin Juarez at (559) 447-3395; [Caitlin.juarez@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Caitlin.juarez@waterboards.ca.gov)  
Karen Nishimoto at (818) 551-2049, [Karen.Nishimoto@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Karen.Nishimoto@waterboards.ca.gov)  
Water Board website: [http://bit.ly/DDW\\_AdminWebsite](http://bit.ly/DDW_AdminWebsite)