

October 20, 2016

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION TO:

groundwater\_management@waterboards.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Eligibility of Fresno State University to form a GSA

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The California Water Institute at Fresno State has been the authorized agent for Fresno State University in the formation of the North Kings Basin GSA in the Fresno area. The campus is a wholly independent water system with both domestic drinking water and irrigation supplies from 11 wells that serve the needs of 27,000 students and employees as well as a 1,100 acre producing farm. We also receive some surface water for crop irrigation and groundwater recharge from Fresno Irrigation District.

It is our intent to become a full member of the North Kings Basin GSA Joint Powers Authority (JPA) with the duties and responsibilities of that membership including eligibility for Board representation. In order to be a full partner we have been asked to confirm that we are eligible to become a GSA. Any proposal for a State University campus to join a JPA must be approved by the Board of Trustees of the California State University (CSU) system. The CSU Trustees approval is tentatively scheduled for their January or February 2017 agenda. Our CSU Counsel has advised us that it would be important to have confirmation of our eligibility.

Our proposal is supported by the other members of the North Kings Basin GSA JPA because of our unique situation of having both a significant impact on the regional groundwater basin and an area-wide role in water management efforts, including technology and policy solutions through the Water Initiatives at Fresno State. The Initiatives include an Institute and two Centers including; the California Water Institute, the Center for Irrigation Technology and the International Center for Water Technology. Our involvement in the North Kings Basin GSA is therefore a mutually beneficial arrangement whereby we can offer extensive technical and policy support to the GSA and the GSA offers an extension and living laboratory for integration of our staff and students into contemporary water management issues.

Our request is that you agree our independence as a groundwater entity qualifies as a *"local public agency that has water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within a groundwater basin"* so we can confirm to the CSU Trustees that our joining the North Kings Basin GSA JPA is necessary and valuable for all parties concerned.

Sincerely,



Sarge Green

Fresno State Representative to the North Kings Basin GSA