State Water Resources Control Board

July 31, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

TO: Gregg Erickson
   California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
   gregg.erickson@wildlife.ca.gov

   Amanda Ingham
   National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
   amanda.ingham@noaa.gov

COLLEGE LAKE PROJECT HEARING: REQUEST FOR APPEARANCE BY CDFW OR NMFS WITNESS AT ONLINE HEARING

Dear Mr. Erickson and Ms. Ingham,

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is considering application A032881 submitted by Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PV Water) to appropriate water for the proposed College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project (College Lake Project) in Santa Cruz County. A hearing on this matter is scheduled to take place on August 24, 2020, via video conference, and continue, if necessary, on August 25, 2020.1 We request that you provide a witness or witnesses at the hearing to testify on the agencies’ protest dismissal terms for this project.

On March 16 and 27, 2020, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), respectively, provided terms to resolve the agencies’ protests to water rights application A032881 for the proposed College Lake Project. State Water Board staff issued a draft permit that incorporates many of these proposed terms. During the upcoming hearing, the State Water Board will consider whether to adopt the draft permit without amendment, adopt a permit with additional or amended terms, or reject the application.

Neither CDFW nor NMFS submitted a Notice of Intent to Appear at the hearing. As the hearing officers in these proceedings, we would appreciate the opportunity to ask

1 The Notice of Public Hearing for the College Lake Project was issued on June 10, 2020.

E. Joaquin Esquivel, Chair | Eileen Sobeck, Executive Director
clarifying questions of a witness or witnesses knowledgeable about the basis and purpose of the specific protest dismissal terms provided by your agencies. The parties to the proceeding will also be afforded the opportunity to ask questions about the basis of those terms. Please note that the witness(es) will be asked to appear by both video and audio to testify. If necessary, a specific time can be pre-arranged for the appearance of the witness or witnesses to minimize the time commitment for your agencies.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Please provide via wr_hearing.unit@waterboards.ca.gov by August 7, 2020, the name(s) of and contact information for your witness(es) who will appear at the College Lake Project online hearing on August 24, 2020. Should you have questions regarding non-controversial procedural matters, please also direct them to wr_hearing.unit@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Tam M. Doduc
State Water Board Member
College Lake Project Co-Hearing Officer

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Laurel Firestone
State Water Board Member
College Lake Project Co-Hearing Officer

cc: Service List
    Monica Oey – monica.oey@wildlife.ca.gov
    Jessie Maxfield – jessica.maxfield@wildlife.ca.gov
    Randi Adair – randi.adair@wildlife.ca.gov
    Joel Casagrande – joel.casagrande@noaa.gov