

TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

PO Box 936

Benton, CA 93512

Email tvgmdsec@gmail.com

Website tvgmd.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CAROL ANN MITCHELL, CHAIRPERSON

PHIL WEST, VICE-CHAIRPERSON

MARION DUNN, SECRETARY

RICHARD MOSS

FRANK ORMISTON

DR. DAVE DOONAN

GERI BASSETT

FRED STUMP, DISTRICT 2 SUPERVISOR

AGENDA

Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 6:30 PM

Benton Community Center

58869 Hwy 120

Benton, CA 93512

1. Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes – April 24, 2019
4. Approval of Warrant List of Expenditures (if any)
5. Correspondence (if any)
6. District Board of Directors reports
7. Report on actions and activities of the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority
8. Discussion and possible approval of letter in support of California Department of Water Resources' DRAFT 2019 Basin Prioritization Process and Results (Phase 2) and new prioritization rating for the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin. [SEE ATTACHED]
9. Staff update on update/revision of District bylaws and rules
10. Staff update and discussion on Coyote Springs export project and activities
11. Schedule next meeting – June 19, 2019, 6:30 p.m. Chalfant Community Center
12. Adjournment

MONO COUNTY TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

P.O. Box 936
Benton, CA 93512
www.tvgmd.org

Richard Moss, Chairperson
Phil West, Vice-Chairperson
Marion Dunn, Secretary
Carol Ann Mitchell
Frank Ormiston
Dr. Dave Doonan
Geri Bassett
Fred Stump, Mono County District 2 Supervisor

May 22, 2019

VIA DWR ONLINE PORTAL

Mark Norberg, GSA Project Manager
Sustainable Groundwater Management Section
Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

RE: SUPPORT – Sustainable Groundwater Management Act 2019 Basin Prioritization
Process and Results (Phase 2)

Dear Mr. Norberg:

The Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District Board of Directors writes in support of the Department of Water Resources' ("DWR") April 2019 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act 2019 Basin Prioritization Process and Results ("Phase 2"). In particular, the Board of Directors supports Phase 2 and the reprioritization of the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin ("Basin") as a low-priority basin. Pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"), Phase 2 correctly discounts from the Basin's prioritization rating the extraction and export of groundwater by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power from that part of the Basin in Inyo County managed pursuant to the terms of the stipulated judgment in *City of Los Angeles v. Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, et al.* (Inyo County Case No. 12908). (Wat. Code, § 10720.8(c).) Similarly, the Board of Directors supports DWR's decision to limit its review of the Basin in Phase 2 to only those factors expressly enumerated in the Water Code. (Wat. Code, § 10933(b).) Taken together, DWR's revised basin prioritization approach results in a score for the Basin that is consistent with the express language of the Water Code and avoids the inequitable result of saddling local Eastern Sierra communities and residents, including those within the District, with the cost and expense of complying with burdensome requirements because of the activities of a distant, out-of-basin municipality over which SGMA provides them no regulatory control.

In light of the foregoing, the Board of Directors supports the basin prioritization results included in Phase 2, in particular the correct prioritization of the Owens Valley Groundwater

Mr. Mark Norberg

RE: SUPPORT – Sustainable Groundwater Management Act 2019 Basin Prioritization
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Basin as a low-priority basin, and thus strongly urges DWR to adopt Phase 2 as final. If you have any questions or wish to discuss the Board's comments, please contact Mono County Community Development Director Wendy Sugimura at (760) 924-1812 or wsugimura@mono.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Carol Ann Mitchell, Chairperson
Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater
Management District