### **State Water Resources Control Board**



#### **Division of Water Rights**

1001 I Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor ◆ Sacramento, California 95814 ◆ 916.341.5300 P.O. Box 2000 ◆ Sacramento, California 95812-2000 Fax: 916.341.5400 ◆ www.waterrights.ca.gov



In Reply Refer to A011331, A011332

December 19, 2005

Cachuma Conservation Release Board Mr. Gregory K. Wilkinson Best, Best & Krieger, LLP 3750 University Avenue, Suite 400 Riverside, CA 92501

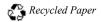
Dear Mr. Wilkinson:

### CACHUMA PROJECT HEARING (APPLICATIONS 11331 AND 11332)

This responds to your letter dated November 28, 2005, requesting information relating to two new Cachuma Project operational alternatives (Alternatives 5B and 5C) to be included in the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board) environmental impact report (EIR) for the Cachuma Project hearing. The addition of the two new alternatives is described in the revised scope of work referenced in your letter. The Cachuma Project Member Units anticipate the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) will pass the cost of adding the alternatives on to the Member Units, and the Member Units seek additional information regarding the alternatives in order to justify paying this cost.

The two new alternatives are being added to the EIR at the direction of the State Water Board's Executive Office. The Supplemental Statement of Responsibilities between the State Water Board and USBR for the preparation of the EIR recognizes that the State Water Board is the lead agency responsible for the preparation and adequacy of the EIR and has final authority over the scope and content. In addition, the Supplemental Statement of Responsibilities recognized that the USBR is responsible for payment of all costs associated with preparation of the EIR. Whether or not the USBR decides to pass the costs associated with the preparation of the EIR on to the Member Units in the form of higher contract rates is a matter to be addressed between USBR and the Member Units.

The Member Units and all of the other parties to the Cachuma Project hearing will obtain the information that the Member Units presently seek, including a detailed description of the alternatives and the anticipated impact of the alternatives on Cachuma Project yield, when the State Water Board recirculates the DEIR. At that time, the Member Units and other parties may provide comments on the alternatives. Additionally, the State Water Board will, if appropriate, hold a hearing on the findings of the Final EIR and whether to accept the Final EIR into the existing hearing record.



If you have any questions, please call Diane Riddle at (916) 341-5297 or Dana Heinrich at (916) 341-5188.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Victoria A. Whitney Division Chief

Enclosure

cc: Enclosed Service List

Ali Sharoody Stetson Engineers Inc. 2171 E. Francisco Blvd., Suite K San Rafael, CA 94901 alis@stesonengineers.com

David J. Fee URS Corporation 1333 Broadway, Suite 800 Oakland, CA 94612 david fee@urscorp.com

Michael Paul Jackson
Deputy Area Manager
South Central California Area Office
US Bureau of Reclamation
1243 N Street
Fresno, CA 93721-1813
MPJackson@mp.usbr.gov

# Cachuma Project Hearing Phase-2 Hearing Final Service List

### Updated 01/05/2004

## (Note: The parties whose E-mail addresses are listed below <u>agreed to accept</u> electronic service, pursuant to the rules specified in the hearing notice.)

Cachuma Conservation Release Board Mr. Gregory K. Wilkinson Best, Best & Krieger, LLP 3750 University Avenue, Suite 400 Riverside, CA 92501 gkwilkinson@bbklaw.com City of Solvang Mr. Christopher L. Campbell Baker, Manock & Jensen 5260 N. Palm Avenue, Suite 421 Fresno, CA 93704 clc@bmj-law.com U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Mr. Stephen R. Palmer 2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1712 Sacramento, CA 95825 Fax: (916) 978-5694

Department of Fish and Game Office of General Counsel Mr. Harllee Branch 1416 Ninth Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Sacramento, CA 95814 Santa Ynez River Water Conservation Dist. Improvement District No. 1 Mr. Gregory K. Wilkinson Best, Best & Krieger, LLP 3750 University Avenue, Suite 400 Riverside, CA 92501 gkwilkinson@bbklaw.com Christopher Keifer NOAA Office of General Counsel Southwest Region 501 West Ocean Blvd., Ste. 4470 Long Beach, CA 90802-4213

City of Lompoc Ms. Sandra K. Dunn Somach, Simmons & Dunn 813 Sixth Street, Third Floor Sacramento, CA 95814-2403 sdunn@lawssd.com California Trout, Inc. c/o Ms. Karen Kraus Environmental Defense Center 906 Garden Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 kkraus@edcnet.org Santa Barbara County Parks Ms. Terri Maus-Nisich Director of Parks 610 Mission Canyon Road Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Santa Ynez River Water Conservation Dist. Mr. Ernest A. Conant Law Offices of Young Wooldridge 1800 – 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Fourth Floor Bakersfield, CA 93301 econant@youngwooldridge.com