Electronically Filed 11/21/2024 4:45 PM Seventh Judicial District, Bonneville County Penny Manning, Clerk of the Court By: Jessica Berger, Deputy Clerk

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#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE

#### STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF BONNEVILLE

# BONNEVILLE JEFFERSON GROUND WATER DISTRICT,

Petitioner,

vs.

A&B IRRIGATION DISTRICT, AMERICAN FALLS RESERVOIR DISTRICT #2. BURLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT, MILNER IRRIGATION DISTRICT, MINIDOKA IRRIGATION DISTRICT, NORTH SIDE CANAL COMPANY. AND TWIN FALLS CANAL COMPANY (COLLECTIVELY THE "SURFACE WATER COALITION"), THE IDAHO GROUND WATER APPROPRIATORS, INC., an Idaho non-profit corporation, FREMONT-MADISON IRRIGATION DISTRICT, JEFFERSON-CLARK GROUND WATER DISTRICT. BINGHAM GROUND WATER DISTRICT, AMERICAN FALLS-ABERDEEN GROUND WATER DISTRICT, MAGIC VALLEY GROUND WATER DISTRICT, NORTH SNAKE GROUND WATER DISTRICT, CAREY VALLEY GROUND WATER DISTRICT, JOHN AND JANE DOES 1-50,

Respondents.

Case No. CV10-24-2909

#### FOURTH STIPULATION TO STAY CASE AND JOINT MOTION FOR ORDER APPROVING STIPULATION AND STAYING PROCEEDINGS

Petitioners, BONNEVILLE-JEFFERSON GROUND WATER DISTRICT, and Respondents A&B IRRIGATION DISTRICT, AMERICAN FALLS RESERVOIR DISTRICT #2, BURLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT, MILNER IRRIGATION DISTRICT, MINIDOKA IRRIGATION DISTRICT, NORTH SIDE CANAL COMPANY, and TWIN FALLS CANAL COMPANY (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Surface Water Coalition," "Coalition," or "SWC"), AMERICAN FALLS ABERDEEN GROUND WATER DISTRICT ("AFA"), MAGIC VALLEY GROUND WATER DISTRICT ("MVGWD"), and NORTH SNAKE GROUND WATER DISTRICT ("NSGWD"), as well as the IDAHO GROUND WATER APPROPRIATORS ("IGWA"), by and through counsel of record, and pursuant to I.R.C.P. 41(a)(1)(A)(ii) and other applicable law, hereby stipulate and move as follows:

- 1. The Petitioner served its summons and *Petition* on the Surface Water Coalition on or about June 4, 2024.
- 2. Counsel for the Surface Water Coalition filed notices of acceptance of service and notices of appearance on or about June 10, 2024.
- 3. Members of the Surface Water Coalition filed a *Motion to Disqualify Honorable Judge Dane H. Watkins Jr. Without Cause* and a *Motion to Change Venue* (and related documents) on or about June 10, 2024, and the Honorable Judge Watkins issued his *Order of Self-Disqualification* on June 27, 2024.
- 4. On June 18, 2024, IGWA entered its appearance in the case.
- 5. The Petitioner and SWC filed a *Stipulation to Stay Case and Joint Motion for Order Approving Stipulation and Staying Proceedings* on June 20, 2024, to engage in settlement negotiations on matters concerning the SWC Delivery Call, including the captioned matter.

- On June 28, 2024, the Idaho Supreme Court issued its Order, In Re: Assignment of District Judge Eric Wildman to preside over this matter.
- On July 2, 2024, AFA accepted service of the *Petition* in this matter, and on July 3, 2024, Petitioner and AFA filed a *Joint Stipulation to Stay Case and Motion for Order Approving Stipulation and Staying Proceedings.*
- 8. On July 3, 2024, MVGWD and NSGWD accepted service of the *Petition* in his matter.
- 9. The Court has entered: an Order on Stipulation to Stay Case and Joint Motion for Order Approving Stipulation and Staying Proceedings on July 3, 2024; an Amended Order on Stipulation to Stay Case and Joint Motion for Order Approving Stipulation and Staying Proceedings on July 26, 2024, staying these proceedings until October 1, 2024; an Order Granting Stipulated Motion to Extend Stay on October 16, 2024, staying the proceedings until November 1, 2024; and an Amended Order on Third Stipulation to Stay Case and Joint Motion for Order Approving Stipulation and Staying Proceedings on November 6, staying the proceedings until December 2, 2024.
- 10. On November 14, 2024, the Petitioners, SWC, IGWA, AFA, MVGWD, and NSGWD, and other ground water districts executed a 2024 Stipulated Mitigation Plan ("Plan") and a 2024 Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA").
- 11. On November 19, 2024, the Parties to the Plan, which include Petitioner, SWC, IGWA, AFA, MVGWD, and NSGWD, jointly submitted the Plan to the Director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources for approval as a stipulated mitigation plan under the Rules for Conjunctive Management, IDAPA 37.03.11. Counsel have been informed that IDWR plans to publish notice of the Plan in early December 2024. Following publication, it is expected that IDWR will approve the Plan.

- Pursuant to the MOA, the Parties to the MOA, which include Petitioner, SWC, IGWA, AFA, MVGWD, and NSGWD, agreed to jointly dismiss this action within ten (10) days after approval of the Plan by the Director.
- 13. Given the above referenced process under the CM Rules, the Parties anticipate that the Director may not approve the Plan until after December 2, 2024. Therefore, in the interests of judicial economy regarding this matter, the Petitioner and SWC, IGWA, AFA, MVGWD, and NSGWD hereby stipulate to stay this case until at least January 15, 2025.
- 14. The Petitioner and SWC, IGWA, AFA, MVGWD, and NSGWD hereby jointly move the Court to stay these proceedings until further notification as described above. Petitioner further hereby stipulates that Respondents in this matter shall have 21 days following the expiration of the stay, upon notice of the Petitioner and Respondents, to answer the *Petition* or file a responsive pleading.
- 15. Not all other parties have been served a copy of the summons and petition nor have all named parties appeared in this matter.

DATED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024.

## OLSEN TAGGART PLLC

## MARTEN LAW LLP

<u>/s/ Skyler C. Johns</u> Skyler C. Johns

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/s/ Thomas J. Budge

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#### SAWTOOTH LAW

<u>/s/ Andrew J. Waldera</u> Andrew J. Waldera

Magic Valley Ground Water District and North Snake Ground Water District

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2024, the foregoing was filed electronically using the Court's e-file system, and upon such filing the following parties were served electronically.

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