

SUMMARY OF THE INDIAN WELLS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

Provides for the Creation of the Authority:

- Creates the Authority which is a separate agency with its own Board of Directors.
- The Authority is subject to open and public meetings laws (Ralph M. Brown Act)
- The Authority is subject to open records laws (Public Records Act)

Powers of the Authority:

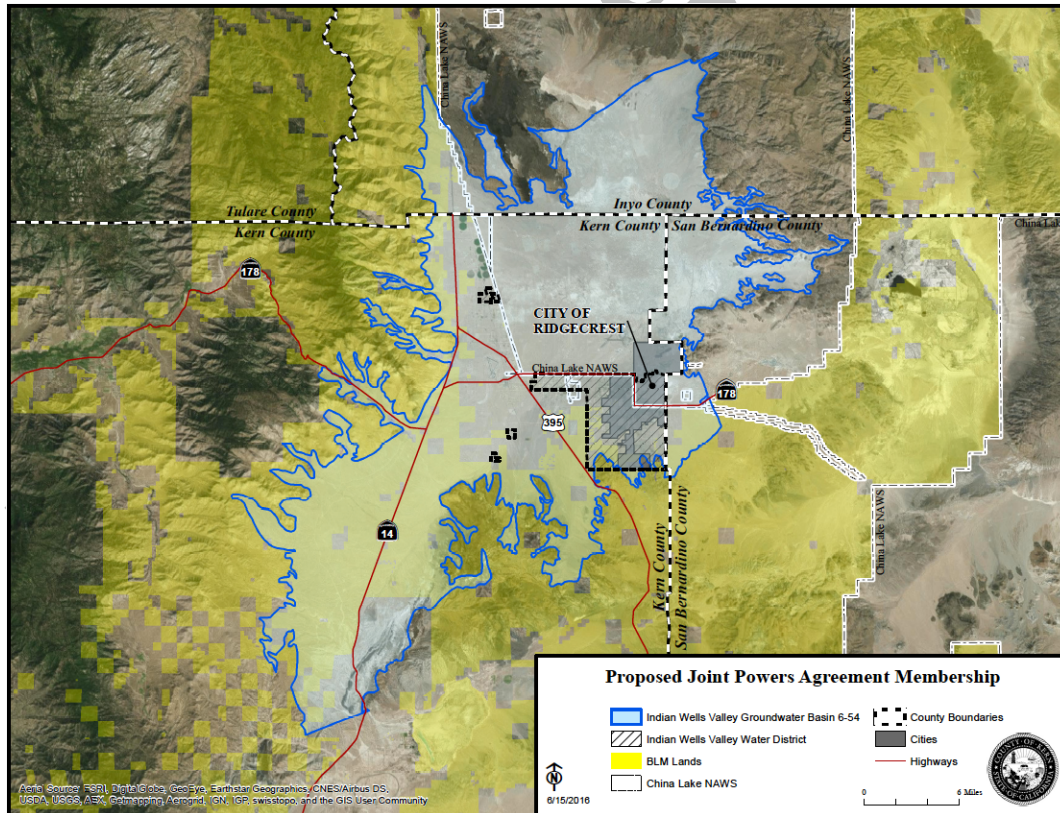
- Joint exercise of powers common to the General Members and any additional powers granted under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- Eventually serve as the exclusive Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Indian Wells Valley groundwater basin
- Eventually adopt and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the basin

General Members

- City of Ridgecrest
- County of San Bernardino
- County of Inyo
- County of Kern
- Indian Wells Valley Water District

Associate Members

- United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management
- United States Navy Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake



Board Membership and Voting

- Each General Member is afforded one voting Director seat on the Board.
- Aside from very routine matters, Board business requires a majority vote of the Directors and the concurrence of no less than two of the Directors for City of Ridgecrest, County of Kern and/or Indian Wells Valley Water District.
- The adoption of a GSP will require a super majority vote
- Associate Members are afforded a representative non-voting seat on the Board

Committees:

- Advisory committees will be established to provide recommendations to the Board on various activities of the Authority
- Advisory committee will be formed to ensure the meaningful participation of groundwater users in the basin in the development of the GSP

Meetings:

- Board of Directors and Advisory Committees will meet regularly
- Meetings will be noticed and open to the public

NEXT STEPS FOR GSA AND GSP FORMATION IN THE INDIAN WELLS VALLEY

- General Members adopt and execute the JPA at their Board/Council meetings
- Associate Members enter into Memorandum of Agreement with the Authority
- Authority develops plan for development of GSP and budget for the same
- Authority develops committee structure to assist in the development of GSP
- Authority develops and adopts by-laws and supporting policy documents
- Prior to June 30, 2017, the Authority must elect to become a GSA for the basin
- Public Notice at least 14 days before a Public Hearing on the election to become GSA
- With 30 days of Public Hearing, notification of election to become a GSA is sent to State Department of Water Resources
- 90-day waiting period to for GSA filing with State
- IWV GSA begins operation, with the following initial tasks to complete
 - Develop basin data management system
 - Coordinate basin groundwater monitoring
 - Update existing or create new groundwater flow model
 - Prepare IWV GSP working with Advisory Committee(s)
 - Conduct Costs of Service Study to develop funding plan
- Prior to January 31, 2020, the Authority must adopt GSP for the basin