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March 3, 2021

Commander Benson
Department of the Navy
Naval Air Weapons Station
1 Administration Circle
China Lake, CA 93555-6100

SUBJECT: Report of Groundwater Pumping for

Calendar Year 2020

Dear Commander Benson:

In the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority's "Report on the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Basin's Sustainable Yield of 7,650 AF", dated July 17, 2020, certain conclusions were made, based on:

- 1) Reported Navy groundwater production rates showing more than convincing evidence that the Basin's entire sustainable yield is consumed by the Navy's Federal Reserve Water Right interest;
- 2) The Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution which prohibits the IWVGA from limiting, regulating, and/or charging Navy groundwater production in any way;
- 3) The IWVGA's legal inability to enquire into any challenges to the Navy's reported production rates even if it had a sufficient basis to do so; and,
- 4) The IWVGA's legal inability to adjudicate water rights.

Accordingly, IWVGA developed the framework for an annual allotment plan for the sustainable yield of 7,650 AFY. The annual allotment plan framework was included in the Sustainable Yield Report and in the Proposition 218 Replenishment Fee Report. The annual allotment plan recognizes and deducts Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS), China Lake annual pumping from the sustainable yield of 7,650 AF, and then allots the remaining sustainable yield to appropriate domestic and municipal pumping to be free of the Replenishment Water Fee.

The IWVGA is implementing the annual allotment plan for calendar year 2021, and therefore, respectfully requests NAWS, China Lake total groundwater pumping for <u>calendar year 2020</u>. If total 2020 groundwater pumping by each individual well is available, submittal of this information will also be appreciated.

Your cooperation is certainly appreciated. If you should have any questions, please contact me below: stevej@stetsonengineers.com

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Sincerely,

IWVGA Stephen B. Johnson

Water Resources Manager

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