

DEPLETION OF INTERCONNECTED SURFACE WATER: SIGNIFICANT AND UNREASONABLE STATEMENT

Presented to Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency

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Objectives

- Review proposed Significant and Unreasonable Statement

Proposed Statement: Significant and Unreasonable Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water

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Significant and unreasonable depletion of interconnected surface water occurs if SMGWA projects or management actions, or groundwater use causes undue financial burden to beneficial users of surface water or impacts the ability of GDEs or selected priority species to thrive.

~~Depletion of interconnected surface water occurs where interconnected surface water is depleted due to GSP implementation and/or groundwater use. To be considered significant and unreasonable, the depletions must cause undue financial burden to beneficial users of surface or groundwaters in the Basin or impact the viability of selected priority species or GDEs.~~

The statement was revised based on feedback from the last board meeting. During the last meeting there were a number of concerns that were raised about the statement:

- Switched GDEs and selected priority species for clarification
- Concern about the use of the word viability
- Concern about how users downstream of the Basin could be impacted
- Statement was generally confusing and unclear

The statement was adjusted to be more consistent with the significant and unreasonable statements for the other sustainability indicators.

Are the Directors happy with this statement?