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## State Water Resources Control Board

April 13, 2026

Ann Carroll  
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**Re: Request for Additional Information to Supplement the Administrative Record in the Hearing on the Petitions to Change Water Right Permits 18478, 16479, 16481, and 16482 for the Proposed Delta Conveyance Project (DCP)**

Dear Ms. Carroll,

The following questions and information requests are intended to clarify the evidentiary record pertaining to the groundwater-related summaries and conclusions presented by Dr. Hatch during the hearing on February 23, 2026.

The Hearing Team reviewed the Delta Groundwater Model (DeltaGW model) files that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) submitted to the Administrative Hearing Office (AHO) and the service list on February 25, 2026. The available evidence does not indicate how DWR post-processed the raw modeling outputs to create the summary tables and conclusions presented by Dr. Hatch. To expedite the Hearing Team's review of the DCP's potential effects on groundwater conditions, the Hearing Team seeks the following clarifications and information.

### ***Groundwater Level Changes and Calculations***

The Hearing Team requests additional information regarding DWR's processing of the DeltaGW model outputs to evaluate differences in groundwater levels between the baseline (no project) simulation and the DCP project simulations. Dr. Hatch provides three tables in his rebuttal testimony (DWR-01017, pp. 1-2) summarizing these differences for the 2020 model scenario, where each table represents each of the top three DeltaGW model layers. For the Future 2040 model scenario, these differences are aggregated over multiple model layers and summarized in Appendix 8C of the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) as Table 8C-26. (AHO-1058, p. 18.)

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E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Specifically, the Hearing Team seeks clarification of “the approach [...] used in the DCP FEIR” to calculate groundwater level differences for “each model node and time step in the model” and how these differences were aggregated to create the groundwater level difference summary tables. (DWR-01015, pp. 4-5.)

### **Clarifying Information Request**

Please submit the following:

1. Identify the workflow process, starting with extraction and compilation of information from the DeltaGW Model’s raw output files, used to create the three summary tables shown in DWR-01017 and Table 8C-26 in Appendix 8C of the FEIR. Please identify the mathematical equations or formulas applied throughout this workflow process and explain why they were applied at that point in the process. The scope of this request does not include the workflow process used to build and run the groundwater model; this request applies only to workflow processes used to process and summarize the groundwater model outputs or results.
2. Identify any geologic, hydrologic, or hydrogeologic assumptions applied throughout this workflow process and explain how these assumptions support or relate to the mathematical equations or formulas used.

Please respond to this request with a sufficient level of detail to allow the three tables shown in Dr. Hatch’s rebuttal testimony, and the Table 8C-26 in Appendix 8C of the FEIR, to be reproducible using the groundwater modeling files provided on February 25, 2026. To improve the efficiency of the Hearing Team’s review of the workflow process, provide the script or coding language used to: (1) extract and compile data from the DeltaGW Model’s raw output files, and (2) complete the workflow process that generated the summary tables shown in Dr. Hatch’s rebuttal testimony and Table 8C-26 in Appendix 8C of the FEIR.

If DWR cannot provide the requested scripts or coding language, please provide the raw data extracted and compiled from the DeltaGW Model output files to complete the workflow process. In this data compilation, please include the grid node spatial coordinates even if this information was not used to create the summary tables. Please include a README.txt file to orient the reader with each data file’s contents including, but not limited to, units of measurement, spatial coordinate system, and data field formatting.

### ***Stream-Aquifer Interactions***

The Hearing Team requests additional information regarding DWR's processing of the DeltaGW model outputs to evaluate the net stream-aquifer interactions. In response to this request, please respond to Clarifying Information Requests 1 and 2 above, with reference to Tables 8B-2 through 8B-4 (AHO-1057, Section 8B.4.1.2.) and Tables 8C-9 through 8C-11 (AHO-1058, Section 8C.3.1.2) in the FEIR. Further, the Hearing Team requests that DWR provide the script or coding language used to complete the workflow process that generated these tables. If DWR cannot provide the requested scripts or coding language, please provide the raw data extracted and compiled from the DeltaGW Model output files to complete the workflow process, including the spatial coordinate information for each grid node. Please include a README.txt file to help orient the reader with each data file's contents including, but not limited to, units of measurement, spatial coordinate system, and data field formatting.

### ***GIS Shapefiles and FEIR Figures***

The following information request arises from Hearing Officer Kuenzi's inquiry during the February 23, 2026 proceeding with reference to Figure 8B-11 in the FEIR. (February 23, 2026 Zoom Generated Transcript, pp. 144-145:1846-1867.)

The Hearing Team requests that DWR provide the shapefiles or GIS layers used to create Figure 8B-11 and Figure 8C-10 in the FEIR (AHO-1058, p. 36), including the following:

1. Maximum GW Head Difference Layer (ft)
2. Subregions
3. Stream Reaches
4. Bethany Reservoir Alignment

If shapefiles or layers between the two figures are redundant, please only submit the requested information once. Please also submit shapefile or layer metadata, including spatial coordinate or projection information. This request is not limited to the visual extent shown in Figures 8B-11 and 8C-10 in the FEIR; this request is comprehensive of the full spatial extents of the layers shown in the Figures (DeltaGW Model Subregions 1-5).

### ***Water Supply Well Inventory***

Dr. Hatch's written rebuttal testimony describes the FEIR's findings that changes in groundwater levels near supply wells, including the Hood water supply wells, are less than significant. (DWR-1015, p. 13.) The FEIR indicates that 5,244 production wells were evaluated across 918 Public Land Survey System (PLSS) sections using data

obtained from the DWR's Online System for Well Completion Reports (OSWCR) database. (AHO-1057, Section 8B.4.3.1.)

Please identify where information about the 5,244 production wells can be found in the administrative record for this hearing, including information about the PLSS section centroid location, well depths, and the well counts per PLSS section. If this information is not in the administrative record, the Hearing Team requests that DWR provide this information in tabular form, including the spatial coordinate and projection information.

***Appendix A, Modeling Assumptions, of the SWP Adaptation Strategy***

Exhibit DWR-00138, pdf page 22, references Appendix A, *Modeling Assumptions*, of the SWP Adaptation Strategy (California Department of Water Resources 2025a). Although *Modeling Assumptions*, of the SWP Adaptation Strategy appears to have been submitted by DWR as Exhibit DWR-00126, Appendix A is not included in the file. Please submit Appendix A, *Modeling Assumptions*, of the SWP Adaptation Strategy, to the AHO, or identify where Appendix A can be found if it has already been offered into the evidentiary record.

DWR is directed to provide the information requested above within 14 calendar days of the date of this letter to the AHO and the service list for this proceeding.

Sincerely,



Nicole L. Kuenzi  
Presiding Hearing Officer  
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Attachments:

- Attachment 1 – Service List

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