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15
16 BEFORE THE
17 CALIFORNIA STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
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19 HEARING ON THE MATTER OF
20 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER
RESOURCES AND UNITED STATES
21 BUREAU OF RECLAMATION REQUEST
FOR A CHANGE IN POINT OF DIVERSION
22 FOR CALIFORNIA WATER FIX.

CITY OF STOCKTON'S PART 2
OPENING STATEMENT

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1 The City of Stockton's testimony today will demonstrate that the proposed Petition
2 for Change is not in the public interest. Approval of the petition will have significant
3 unmitigated financial, operational and environmental impacts on the City of Stockton
4 (City). Stockton presented evidence in Part 1 about the impacts that the WaterFix
5 project would cause to its water supply; today the City will present additional evidence of
6 the significant economic and environmental harm that would be caused if the Board
7 were to approve the WaterFix change petition.

8 The City made significant investments in developing its In-Delta municipal water
9 supply in order to secure a reliable water supply, and reduce dependence on
10 groundwater in a critically overdrafted basin. The WaterFix Project threatens to degrade
11 San Joaquin River water quality to the extent that the City would be required to either
12 make additional major investments to upgrade its water treatment facilities or purchase
13 alternative water supplies at times when the WaterFix operations render the source
14 water unusable to the City. In either case, the City's residents, many of whom are
15 economically disadvantaged, would bear the financial burden of the costs associated
16 with the WaterFix Project impacts. The need for alternative water supplies may also
17 result in significant environmental impacts that the Petitioners have not acknowledged or
18 mitigated.

19 The City discharges treated effluent from its Regional Wastewater Control Facility
20 under a NPDES Permit that was subject to significant scrutiny by proponents of the
21 WaterFix. Delta water quality degradation caused by the WaterFix Project threatens to
22 make it more difficult for the City to comply with its NPDES Permit and increase the cost
23 of doing so. This, in turn, could further compromise the security of the City's water
24 supply because the City's ability to divert San Joaquin River water is directly linked to the
25 City's ability to discharge from its Regional Wastewater Control Facility.


26 For these reasons, the Petition for Change is not in the public interest and should
27 be denied.
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The witnesses who will testify today are the persons with the most knowledge and expertise concerning the City's municipal utilities, and we thank the State Water Board for considering this testimony.

SOMACH SIMMONS & DUNN

DATED: December 18, 2017

By  for
Kelley M. Taber
Attorneys for City of Stockton

SOMACH SIMMONS & DUNN
A Professional Corporation

1 STATEMENT OF SERVICE

2 CALIFORNIA WATERFIX PETITION HEARING
3 Department of Water Resources and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Petitioners)

4 I hereby certify that I have this day submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board and caused a true and correct copy of the following document(s):

5 CITY OF STOCKTON PART 2 OPENING STATEMENT

6 to be served by **Electronic Mail** (email) upon the parties listed in Table 1 of the Current
7 Service List for the California WaterFix Petition hearing, dated December 6, 2017,
8 posted by the State Water Resources Control Board at
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/california_waterfix/service_list.shtml:

9 I certify that the foregoing is true and correct and that this document was executed on
10 December 18, 2017.

11 Signature: Michelle Bracha
12 Name: Michelle Bracha
13 Title: Legal Secretary
14 Party/Affiliation: City of Stockton
15 Address: 500 Capitol Mall, Suite 1000
16 Sacramento, CA 95814

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