STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

In the Matter of Minor Change Request
City of Davis

ORDER APPROVING MINOR CHANGE TO THE WW0111 ORDER

SOURCE: Willow Slough Bypass and Conaway Ranch Toe Drain, tributary to the Yolo Bypass

COUNTY: Yolo

WHEREAS:

1. On December 19, 2025, and revised on February 13, 2026, the City of Davis (City) filed a Minor Change Request (Minor Change) to the WW0111 Order under Water Code section 1700.6 with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). The Minor Change proposes adding 13,174 acres directly adjacent to the previously approved Overland Flow Area to the place of use. The runoff from the expanded place of use would return to the same hydrologic system as that in the existing place of use per the WW0111 Order, (i.e., the Yolo Bypass).

2. The City's wastewater change petition WW0111 states that the City will reduce an amount of saved water up to 2,016 acre-feet per year (afy) of discharge to the Willow Slough Bypass. However, since the City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. CA0079049 authorizes the City to discharge to both the Willow Slough Bypass and the Conaway Ranch Toe Drain and historically, the saved water from the project has been released at both the Willow Slough Bypass and Conaway Ranch Toe Drain discharge points, the State Water Board approved a reduction in discharge of up to 2,016 afy to both these discharge points in the WW0111 Order.

3. The Minor Change was noticed on March 26, 2026, by posting on the State Water Board's website and emailing the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The notice period ended on April 10, 2026, and no comments were received.

4. The proposed change meets the requirements provided by Water Code section

1700.6. The Minor Change involves an expansion of the place of use, but will not reduce the discharge to the Willow Slough Bypass and Conaway Ranch Toe Drain, tributary to the Yolo Bypass beyond the 2,016 afy approved per the WW0111 Order, and does not have the potential to adversely affect the water supply of other legal users of water or instream beneficial uses. If the additional 13,174-acre place of use demands all the recycled water, up to 2,016 afy, then none will be used in the previously approved place of use per the WW0111 Order.

5. The City of Davis, as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), filed a Final Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) and a Notice of Completion (NOC) on August 31, 2023 (State Clearinghouse No.2023060670).

6. The State Water Board, as the responsible agency under CEQA, has considered the Final IS/ND in deciding whether to approve the Minor Change. The Final IS/ND evaluated the potential impacts of reduced flows resulting from the project, and it is determined that there will be no significant impact to fish, wildlife, or the environment. The Minor Change will not result in further flow reduction. Per the CEQA Guidelines Section 15162, no subsequent Negative Declaration is needed.

7. The State Water Board has reviewed the Minor Change and the entire administrative record, including all associated CEQA documents for the project. The State Water Board finds that the proposed change in the place of use will not cause injury to any other lawful user of water.

8. In addition to the State Water Board's obligations under CEQA, the State Water Board has an independent obligation to consider the effect of the change on public trust resources and to protect those resources where feasible, and to balance any adverse public trust effects against the benefits of the project. (*National Audubon Society v. Superior Court* (1983) 33 Cal.3d 419 [189 Cal.Rptr. 346].) Based on the State Water Board's review of all relevant evidence in the administrative record, no adverse impacts to public trust resources, including fish and wildlife, are expected as a result of the proposed Minor Change.

9. The State Water Board has a Policy for Water Quality Control for Recycled Water (Recycled Water Policy), originally adopted on February 23, 2009 and amended on December 11, 2018 (effective on April 8, 2019). The purpose of the Recycled Water Policy is to increase the use of recycled water from municipal wastewater sources, and one of the goals is to increase the use of recycled water over 2002 levels by at least one million acre-feet per year by 2020, and by at least two million acre-feet per year by 2030. The Minor Change is consistent with the purpose of the Recycled Water Policy and will help California meet the goals of the Recycled Water Policy.

10. Pursuant to Resolution No. 2012-0029, the State Water Board has delegated the authority to the Deputy Director for Water Rights (Deputy Director) to issue change orders under specific circumstances. (Resolution Number 2012-0029, section 4.2.5)

Resolution No. 2022-0029 authorizes the Deputy Director to redelegate this authority, and this authority has been redelegated by memorandum dated April 20, 2023.

THEREFORE, THE REQUEST TO MAKE A MINOR CHANGE TO THE WW0111 ORDER IS APPROVED. ALL EXISTING TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE WW0111 ORDER REMAIN IN EFFECT, EXCEPT AS AMENDED BELOW.

The place of use for treated wastewater produced by the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) will be amended to include the following:

1) The existing place of use is within the Overland Flow Area located east of the WWTP, the Yolo County Central Landfill (including the Napa Recycling Compost Facility and agricultural irrigation areas), the Davis Restoration Wetlands, and within City limits, as shown on maps filed with the WW0111 petition titled *Figure 1: Recycled Water Use Area at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Yolo County Landfill* and *Figure 2: City Limit and Water Service Area*; and

2) the addition of 13,174 acres directly adjacent to the Overland Flow Area as shown on *Attachment 1: Proposed Place of Use* filed with the State Water Board for the Minor Change. The expanded place of use is located within all or portions of Sections 3 – 10, 14 – 23, 26 – 28, 32, and 33 in Township 9 North, Range 3 East; all or portions of Sections 1, 12, 13, and 24 in Township 9 North, Range 2 East; and all or portions of Sections 25 and 30 in Township 10 North, Range 3 East, Mount Diablo Base & Meridian.

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:
JANE LING, FOR

Juliet Christian-Smith, Deputy Director
Division of Water Rights

Dated: October 28, 2026