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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION FEE

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("PID GSA") will conduct a public hearing on August 20, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at 22086 Avenue 160, Porterville, CA 93257, to consider adoption of a proposed groundwater extraction fee-related GSA charge for lands located within the PID GSA boundary.

The proposed fee is based on the PID GSA proposed 2026 budget and the costs necessary to administer the GSA, implement SGMA requirements, conduct monitoring and technical analysis, maintain data systems, support compliance activities, and fund legal, engineering, and administrative services. The net impact on landowners will vary based on acreage and any final methodology adopted by the Board after the public hearing.

WHY AM I RECEIVING THIS NOTICE?

You are receiving this notice because you are the owner of record of one or more parcels located within the service area of the PID GSA, and extraction on parcel(s) may be subject to the proposed fee if adopted.

BACKGROUND

In 2014, California enacted the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"), which requires that medium and high-priority groundwater basins be managed sustainably by local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies ("GSAs"). SGMA authorizes GSAs to develop and implement Groundwater Sustainability Plans, conduct investigations and monitoring, collect groundwater data, administer allocations, and take actions necessary to achieve groundwater sustainability.

The PID GSA was formed to provide local groundwater management within its boundary and to support the implementation of SGMA in the Tule Subbasin. To fund these activities, the PID GSA is proposing a groundwater extraction fee-related GSA charge for Water Year 2025-2026. If approved, the fee would be used solely for PID GSA groundwater sustainability, administration, compliance, monitoring, technical and legal support, outreach, and program implementation costs.

This notice is intended to comply with applicable public notice and protest procedures, including the California Constitution, Article XIII D, Section 6 (Proposition 218), and applicable provisions of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and Water Code.

BASIS OF PROPOSED FEE

The PID GSA is required to collect revenues sufficient to cover the reasonable costs of operating the GSA and implementing SGMA within the PID GSA boundary. Costs to be recovered through the proposed fee include administration, professional services, legal services, engineering and consulting services, monitoring of groundwater conditions, data management, compliance assistance, enforcement support, and program implementation. The PID GSA may not collect more revenue than is necessary to recover the reasonable costs of providing these services.

Proposed 2026 Fee Component	Amount / Basis
Proposed PID GSA Budget 2026	\$785,343
GSA Acres Used for Cost Allocation	15,500 acres
Available Native Sustainable Yield	2,325 acre feet
2026 Allocation Reference - Native Sustainable Yield	0.15 AF/acre
Equivalent Cost Based on Native Sustainable Yield	\$337.78 per 0.15/AF

PROPOSED GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION FEE / GSA CHARGE

The proposed annual fee is \$337.78 per 0.15 acre-foot extracted. It is calculated by multiplying the GSA acres (15,500 acres) by the Native Sustainable Yield (0.15 acre-feet/acre), yielding the total volume of Native Sustainable Yield available to the GSA (2,325 acre-feet). The proposed PID GSA 2026 Budget of \$785,343 is divided by 2,325 acre-feet. The proposed fee is intended to recover the reasonable and necessary costs of PID GSA operations and SGMA implementation for the affected lands. If adopted, the fee would be billed to affected landowners for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (October 2025 retroactive through December 2026 and forward, until additional cost recovery is necessary) and may be collected directly by the Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency or by another lawful billing or collection method approved by the Board.

For informational purposes, the proposed per-acre charge is equivalent to approximately \$337.78 per 0.15 AF, based on the 0.15 AF/acre Native Sustainable Yield amount shown in the Rate Calculation. The Board may consider comments and written protests before taking final action.

DATA AVAILABILITY

The data supporting the proposed fee, including the budget, rate calculations, and supporting materials, will be available for public review at the Porterville Irrigation District office and/or on the Porterville Irrigation District website at <https://portervilleid.org/resources/public-notice/>. Copies may also be requested by contacting Michael Knight, PID GSA Manager, at (559) 782-6321 or mknight@portervilleid.org.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The public hearing will be held on August 20, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at 22086 Avenue 160, Porterville, CA 93257. At the hearing, the Board will consider all oral comments and written protests submitted prior to the close of the public hearing. After the close of the public hearing, the Board may consider adoption of the proposed fee.

PUBLIC NOTICE AND MAJORITY PROTEST

The proposed fee is subject to applicable public notice and protest procedures. Any property owner of record subject to the proposed fee may submit a written protest. If written protests are submitted by a majority of

the affected property owners or parcels, as applicable under law, the PID GSA may not adopt the proposed fee. Absent a majority protest, the Board may adopt the proposed fee at the conclusion of the public hearing.

To submit a written protest, the protest should: (1) identify the property owner; (2) state that the property owner opposes the proposed fee; (3) identify the affected parcel(s) by Assessor Parcel Number (APN) or street address; and (4) include the name and original signature of the property owner submitting the protest.

Written protests must be received before the close of the public hearing to be counted. Written protests may be submitted by mail to:

ATTN: PID GSA Extraction Fee Protest
Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency
22086 Avenue 160
Porterville, CA 93257

Written protests may also be submitted in person at the public hearing before the close of the hearing. Oral comments at the public hearing will not qualify as formal protests unless accompanied by a written protest that satisfies the requirements above. Protests may be submitted by mail or hand-delivered directly to the District Office during regular business hours. All Protests deemed incomplete or submitted after the close of the Public Hearing will not be accepted unless expressly authorized by the PID GSA Board at the close of the hearing. Any protest submitted via email, fax, or other electronic means will not be accepted.

QUESTIONS

For questions regarding this notice, the proposed fee, the basis for the fee, or the public hearing process, please contact Porterville Irrigation District Office at (559) 782-6321 or PIDGSA@ocsnet.net.

Notificación en español: Este aviso se proporciona para informar a los propietarios que la Agencia de Sostenibilidad de Aguas Subterráneas del Distrito de Riego de Porterville (“PID GSA”) llevará a cabo una audiencia pública el 20 de agosto de 2026 a las 2:00 p.m., en 22086 Avenue 160, Porterville, CA 93257, para considerar la adopción de una tarifa propuesta relacionada con la extracción de aguas subterráneas para las tierras ubicadas dentro de los límites del PID GSA. La tarifa propuesta se basa en el presupuesto proyectado del PID GSA para 2026 y en los costos necesarios para administrar el GSA, implementar los requisitos de la SGMA, realizar monitoreo y análisis técnicos, mantener sistemas de datos, apoyar actividades de cumplimiento y financiar servicios legales, de ingeniería y administrativos.

Una versión en español de este aviso está disponible en la oficina del Distrito de Riego de Porterville y en el sitio web del distrito: <https://portervilleid.org/resources/public-notice/>. El personal de la oficina del distrito está disponible durante el horario laboral regular para ayudar a facilitar la traducción, responder preguntas y asistir a los propietarios en la comprensión del aviso, la tarifa propuesta, el proceso de audiencia pública y los procedimientos para presentar protestas por escrito.