Appendix K

Self-Help Enterprises Letter of Intent to Administer Kern County Subbasin Well Mitigation Program

Tami McVay Self-Help Enterprises P.O. Box 6520 Visalia, CA 93290

Re: Letter of Intent – Proposed Partnership between the Kern County Subbasin and Self-Help Enterprises, for the administration of the Kern County Subbasin Amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan(s) Well Mitigation Program

Dear Ms. McVay,

Please let this letter serve as a Letter of Intent (LOI) for interest in a partnership between the Kern County Subbasin ("Subbasin"), comprised of the individual Groundwater Sustainability Agencies and Management Areas ("GSAs/MAS") and Self Help Enterprises (SHE) for SHE to administer the Subbasin's Well Mitigation Program ("Program") as described in the amended Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan(s), anticipated for submittal and review by the Department of Water Resources and/or State Water Resources Control Board in May 2024.

This LOI outlines those certain terms and conditions under which the Subbasin would consider entering into an agreement with SHE to provide Program services for domestic well owners and small community water systems who have lost access to potable water or are experiencing water quality issues caused by declining groundwater levels. This LOI does not contain all the material terms of the proposed transaction and is not intended to, nor does it create a binding agreement. A binding agreement shall occur upon the mutual execution and delivery of a contract services agreement ("Agreement") which sets forth all terms and conditions related to the Program. Neither Party (Subbasin or SHE) will have any obligation to execute said Agreement.

Upon SHE's acknowledgment of the LOI, the terms described herein are intended to support negotiations to develop an Agreement that includes the following components:

1. Area of Service.

Kern County Subbasin, including the individual GSAs/MAs (Basin Number 5-22.14, DWR Bulletin 118).

- 2. SHE services.
 - a. SHE will provide Program service activities to domestic and/or small water system wells ("potable wells") as defined by the State of California.
 - Emergency Bottled Water Upon notice that a potable well user has lost access to groundwater, SHE will deliver a 2-week supply of bottled drinking water to the household within 24 hours (providing 1 gallon per capita per day (gpcd)).
 - c. Well Assessment SHE staff will conduct an on-site assessment (within 72 hours of notice) that includes reviewing well reports/documentation, confirming water source, checking for running water/water pressure, assessing well depth and groundwater level, inspecting electrical and above-ground components, inspecting any existing tank systems, identifying locations for new tank system placement (if necessary), and developing a site map.
 - d. Temporary Tanks and Hauled Water If necessary, SHE will arrange for the installation of a temporary tank system (within 72 hours), routine delivery of hauled potable water to the site

providing up to 47 gpcd, and repair services to the system until removal of temporary tanks. For services extending past 30 days, SHE shall provide the necessary information for mutual agreement on a valid claim and estimated costs to be paid/reimbursed for a long-term solution.

- e. Ongoing Bottled Water SHE will coordinate ongoing deliveries of bottled drinking water supply (1 gpcd) until a long-term solution is in place.
- f. Long-Term Solutions In consultation with the relevant GSAs/MAs, SHE will develop a plan for pump lowering, well-repair, well replacement, and/or service connections to nearby water systems (whenever feasible) to restore long-term water access to the household within 14 days of notice and will finance the well owners' cost-share (refer to depreciation schedule in 6e) for implementing such plan.
- 3. <u>Program Administration Services.</u> SHE shall serve as the point of contact for receiving and processing claims, coordinating with the appropriate GSA/MA, emergency water services, and implementing a public outreach and education strategy that prioritizes campaigns guided toward the prevention of dry well issues.
- 4. <u>Program Funding.</u> Program service costs ("Budgets") for administration and general overhead shall be funded by the Subbasin and shall be paid annually to SHE at the beginning of each calendar year along with projected Program service activities expected in each GSA/MA. Funding for the Program shall be reconciled at year-end.
- 5. <u>Party Collaboration</u>. Throughout the term of the Program Services, SHE shall provide continuous collaboration with the Subbasin as established herein:
 - a. Coordination with GSAs/MAs to establish cost savings measures, including potable water fill stations, related equipment, and bottled water storage.
 - b. Collaboration with other Subbasin partners involved in related activities such as: Kern Water Collaborative, Water Association of Kern County, Purveyors, well drillers, pump companies, and Kern County Environmental Health Department.
- 6. <u>Services Coordination.</u> Throughout Program Term, SHE shall undertake continuous coordination efforts with the Subbasin as established herein:
 - a. Notify the applicable GSA/MA of emergency bottled water and tank and hauled water service requests.
 - b. Coordinate all Claim assessment activities with the applicable GSA/MA.
 - c. Ensure any funded solutions are according to qualification criteria set by the Subbasin.
 - d. Coordinate all domestic groundwater well repair, replacement, and/or connection plans with the applicable GSA/MA. Plan to be offered to well owner within 14 days.
 - e. Utilize the following depreciation schedules to identify costs to be borne by well owner as part of the Claim process:
 - i. 50 years for potable wells; and
 - ii. 15 years for all potable well equipment repair and replacements.
 - f. Facilitate well-owner execution of GSA/MA provided release of liability agreements and record such documentation with Kern County, if applicable.

7. <u>Terms.</u> Initial term of arrangement shall be between 2 and 5 years, with the goal of implementation of outreach and Program services beginning January 1, 2025. Both Parties agree and acknowledge that should the State declare a drought emergency, implementation dates may be subject to change.

This LOI is an expression of understanding and intention only and, if acknowledged below, will provide guidance for the drafting of the Agreement. If SHE is interested in this proposal and opening negotiations on an agreement, please have SHE's representative acknowledge that fact by signing this letter below. We look forward to hearing from you.

ACKNOWELDGMENT: Self-Help Enterprises

Signature

Thomas J. Collishaw Printed Name

4/12/2024 Date

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Kevin Andrew

North Kern Water Storage District

—DocuSigned by: Lauren Bauer

Pioneer GSA DocuSigned by:

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Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District

Semitropic Water Storage District

Randy Bloemhof

Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District

Kandy Bloemhof

7th Standard Annex

Roland Gross

Southern San Joaquin Municipal Utility District

Angelica Martin

Tejon-Castac Water District GSA

Greg Hammett

West Kern Water District

Mark Gilkey

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Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa GSA

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Dennis Atkinson, President dalaska2019@gmail.com

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 Rebecca Monk

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Angelica Martin

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Bob Smith

bobsmith727@icloud.com Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure: Accepted: 5/28/2024 11:30:03 AM ID: 830b4dc8-6265-4545-9db7-617b4d172667

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rmonk@rinconconsultants.com

Signature

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Greg Hammett

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Signature



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Kevin Andrew

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Randy Bloemhof

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Roland Gross roland@ssjmud.org Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

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General Manager

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