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Attorneys for South Valley Ground Water District and Galena Ground Water District

## **BEFORE THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

IN THE MATTER OF BASIN 37 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING REPLY IN SUPPORT OF OBJECTION AND MOTION TO STRIKE MISCHARACTERIZATION OF EVIDENCE

On June 24, 2021, South Valley Ground Water District and Galena Ground Water District (collectively, "Districts") submitted its *Objection and Motion to Strike Mischaracterization of Evidence* ("Motion to Strike") requesting the Director strike portions of Big Wood and Little Wood Water Users Association ("Association") and Big Wood Canal Company's ("BWCC")

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(collectively, "Association") Post-hearing Brief. On June 25, 2021, the Association submitted its *Response to SVGWD and GGWD's Objection and Motion to Strike Mischaracterization of Evidence* ("Response"). This reply is in response to the Association's Response.

In order to respond to the Motion to Strike, it was necessary for the Association to also mischaracterize the Motion to Strike. The Association contends that the Districts claimed that Mr. Beck did not differentiate the source of water in the gravel pits. The Districts made no such claim. For purposes of the Motion to Strike, the source of water ending up in the gravel pits is irrelevant.

The Association asserted in their Post-hearing Brief that Mr. Beck testified that **reduction in pumping** led to a 10-14 day observed response in Silver Creek. Nothing in the Association's Response, including a further review of Mr. Beck's testimony, changes the fact that Mr. Beck did <u>not</u> testify about observed responses from reductions in pumping. Instead, as Association admits in its Response, Mr. Beck testified as to the response on Silver Creek when **water was directly added** to the gravel pits.

The Association's post-hearing brief states that:

- 1) Mr. Beck also testified that he personally observed increases in flows in Silver Creek within 10-14 days of reducing ground water diversions on the Hillsdale farm." *Association Post-hearing Brief*, at 24.
- "Gary Beck, a ground water witness, testified that he observed a response in Silver Creek within 10-14 days of the cessation of ground water diversions." Association Post-hearing Brief, at 40.

The Association mischaracterized Mr. Beck's testimony as evidence that **cessation** in pumping led to responses on the Silver Creek in 10-14 days. Mr. Beck's testimony however, can only support the statement that direct recharge into the gravel pits leads to an observed response in Silver Creek. Mr. Beck did not trace any timing of responses from **cessation** in pumping to Silver Creek. The quoted part of Mr. Beck's testimony in the Association's Response relates to

general reduction in ground water use on Hillside Farm, not immediate response times from shutting down pumps as the Association argues. Nothing in the Response changes that fact, and the sections of the Post-hearing Brief asserting that Mr. Beck testified that reduced pumping led to responses on Silver Creek in 10-14 days, should be struck.

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021, the foregoing was filed, served, and copied as shown below.

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