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INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

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December 29, 2025

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Bryan Potter, P.E.
State Water Resource Control Board
Division of Drinking Water
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812
Email: Bryan.Potter@waterboards.ca.gov

Re: Indian Wells Valley Water District/Inyokern CSD
Voluntary Consolidation Negotiations

Dear Mr. Potter:

This letter acknowledges receipt of the June 6, 2025 letter from State Water Resources Control Board ("SWRCB") establishing December 12, 2025 as the deadline for the Indian Wells Valley Water District ("Water District") and Inyokern CSD ("Inyokern") to negotiate consolidation. The letter further requires "that the parties report the outcome of such negotiations no later than two weeks following the deadline." Please consider this letter as the Water District "final report" on the negotiations.

Unfortunately, the parties were unable to agree on any milestones to accomplish consolidation or a timeline for anything. While there were a few calls between the Water District's Ad hoc committee and representatives from Inyokern, no real negotiating sessions, public or otherwise, were held during the six-month time period. (Attached please find a November 10, 2025 letter from the Water District and Inyokern's November 17, 2025 response). We will not speculate as to why no negotiating sessions were held, but want to make clear that the Water District remains willing to discuss consolidation with Inyokern, but only if they are serious about consolidation.

The Water District has concerns about the lack of progress made within the six-month timeframe provided by the SWRCB. If the SWRCB orders a mandatory consolidation, it is our understanding that the first step would be some form of a "managerial consolidation" where the Water District initially takes over the administrative and operational duties from Inyokern. While we have employees at the Water District that are familiar with Inyokern's physical facilities, the same is not true from an administrative standpoint. Both of these transitions will be costly and time-consuming on the Water District and its staff. If there is anything the Water District can or should do to facilitate any potential upcoming transition, please let us know so we have ample time to prepare.

Again, the Water District remains willing to negotiate and/or participate in any needed or required actions related to the consolidation order.

Bryan Potter, P.E.
SWRCB
December 29, 2025
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Thank you and we look forward to your response. Please feel free to contact the undersigned should you have any questions.

Respectfully



By: George Croll, General Manager
Indian Wells Valley Water District

GC:cn

cc:

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