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Vina Ag. Water SHAC Representative

Vina PMA Proposal

Reason for proposals and present conditions

No recharge project can be considered by Vina GSA members without full consideration for the Vina Subbasin and all of its Stakeholders. (environmental habitats and the native flora and fauna, domestic users, agricultural users, business and industrial users)

Under present definitions and laws, Individuals, groups, and/or water districts who recharge water into the Vina Subbasin could/may claim sole ownership to those recharged waters.

Therefore, 'rechargers' could/may charge fees to Overlying Land Owners who pump groundwater from under their property by claiming some of the water being pumped is theirs (rechargers). Rechargers could claim a percentage of water in the aquifer belong to them. Pay Me For The Recharged Water, or I Will Take You To Court And Win... under todays water recharge laws.

Recharging your Vina Tuscan Aquifer and all other aquifers before natural winter and spring rains/runoffs have time needed to percolate into the aquifers may prevent native/natural recharge water from entering the aquifers because there is no room between the rock and clay particles in the aquifer since it has been used by 'recharge water'.

No one is presently sure of how long and at what rate the Vina aquifers recharge naturally.

***Artificial recharge may prevent some Natural recharge.*** But guess who will claim ownership of a portion of the aquifers waters...(individuals/water districts who create and complete recharge projects) ...and want to charge overlying land owners for pumping onto overlying lands.

Infrastructure costs to bring in surface water whether purchased or diverted from a natural stream to constructed recharge ponds could make your groundwater pumping bill huge.

When recharge is complete and overlying stakeholders begin pumping water it will immediately call for well pumping volume gauges and staffing to install, maintain, monitor gauge readings, billing and bookkeeping fees, as well as fees to pay for the water you may have pumped and was purchased to put underground..

In addition, a starting administrative fee of \$10.00/ acre may be placed on your tax bill if a 'water district' is allowed to take control of a chosen portion of the Vina Subbasin. That is the predetermined fee needed to 'regulate us' and continue the monitoring that Butte County and DWR are presently doing and have done together since Chapter 33 county code was passed. That fee will need to be increased as the 'water district' takes greater control of the Vina Subbasin according to the 'water districts' plans presented.

## Goals and Projects:

### A-Rules at Vina GSA level:

A1-To Provide to all Vina Subbasin Stakeholders the rights to economical groundwater, potable groundwater, sustainable volumes of groundwater, without potential legal claims to partial water ownership by 'rechargers'.

A2-To protect the Vina Subbasin from negative impacts as a result of any and all possible recharge projects that may be attempted and completed in the future in the Vina Subbasin.

A3-To guarantee Vina Subbasin Stakeholders who could be assessed fees for any or all recharge projects proposed will be allowed to see the completed, proposed project plans with full economic disclosure and to vote for acceptance or rejection of each project that may affect them.

### B-Petition the State of California Legislators by Vina GSA:

Redefine the legal definitions associated with recharged water from any sources in a subbasins wanting to do so..

1-Legally declare in writing and law ***'Any and All Recharged Waters within a basin (subbasin) become Groundwater' and are never called surface water with surface water laws applied to them.***

2-Legally declare in writing and law ***'All Recharged waters are Beneficial and are termed Mitigation Waters'. (unless an aquifer has been historically evacuated thus proving recharge is not supporting native groundwater)***

Mitigation Water contributes to Environment Groundwater Sustainability, Domestic Groundwater Sustainability, Business and Industry Groundwater Sustainability, and Agricultural Groundwater Sustainability.

Additionally Mitigation waters will be Beneficial to sustainability of many aquifers where subsidence due to over extraction of groundwater occurs.