



Rock Creek
Reclamation District

ROCK CREEK RECLAMATION DISTRICT

*A Butte County Reclamation District Operating Under Division 15 of the
California Water Code*

May 11, 2021

Mr. Stephen Lucas, Executive Officer
Butte Local Agency Formation Commission
1453 Downer Street, Suite #C
Oroville, California 95965
Email: slucas@buttecounty.net

Re: Formation of Tuscan Water District

Dear Mr. Lucas:

We, the Board of Trustees of the Rock Creek Reclamation District, are writing to express our support for the formation of the Tuscan Water District (Tuscan WD).

Rock Creek Reclamation District (Rock Creek RD) was formed in 1985 to provide flood control and drainage services in northern Butte County. Currently, the District provides these services to 4,644 acres of agricultural and single-family residential parcels. While the proposed Tuscan WD's boundaries would overlap with Rock Creek RD's boundaries, there would not be any duplication of services. Although Rock Creek RD has the latent power to provide water for irrigation purposes, it does not exercise that power. In fact, Rock Creek RD does not convey, transport, or export irrigation water to agricultural properties or residences within its boundaries. Any water conveyance the Rock Creek RD currently performs is for drainage and flood control.

Additionally, the Rock Creek RD serves as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the area within its boundaries. As one of the two GSAs covering the Vina Subbasin, Rock Creek GSA is tasked with preparing and implementing a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP). Under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), each GSP must include management actions and projects that the GSA determines will achieve its sustainability goal for its basin. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 354.44, subd. (a).)

The proposed Tuscan WD would play a much-needed role in planning and performing the management actions, and pursuing projects. We anticipate that Tuscan WD will cover over 100,000 acres of land throughout Butte County and the Vina Subbasin. Therefore, the water district would be able to perform wide-scale and coordinated actions in furtherance of the goals of the GSP for the Rock Creek GSA and Vina GSA. After all, this is one of the primary purposes for Tuscan WD's formation: to participate and cooperate with Rock Creek GSA and Vina GSA in their efforts to achieve sustainability in the Vina Subbasin.



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Accordingly, the Rock Creek RD offers its support for the formation of the Tuscan WD subject to the following understandings and principles:

- Tuscan WD will not perform any service currently performed by Rock Creek RD.
- Rock Creek GSA will retain its autonomy to develop, adopt, and implement its GSP within its boundaries. Tuscan WD may, however, participate in the development and implementation of Rock Creek GSA's GSP.
- Tuscan WD will, subject to an agreement with Rock Creek RD, cooperate with the Rock Creek GSA in the pursuit of management actions and projects identified in Rock Creek GSA's GSP.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter.

Very truly yours,

Hal Crain, Chairman

Chairman