

DOUG LAMALFA
1ST DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0501

May 5, 2021

Steven Lucas, Executive Officer
Local Agency Formation Commission
1453 Downer St., Ste. C
Oroville, CA 95966

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
322 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TEL: (202) 225-3076
FAX: (202) 226-0852

CHICO DISTRICT OFFICE:
120 INDEPENDENCE CIRCLE
SUITE B
CHICO, CA 95973
TEL: (530) 343-1000
FAX: (530) 343-0240

REDDING DISTRICT OFFICE:
2885 CHURN CREEK ROAD
SUITE C
REDDING, CA 96002
TEL: (530) 223-5898
FAX: (530) 223-5897

AUBURN DISTRICT OFFICE:
2399 RICKENBACKER WAY
AUBURN CA, 95602
TEL: (530) 878-5035
FAX: (530) 878-5037

<http://lamalfa.house.gov>

Re: Tuscan Water District

Dear Mr. Lucas:

California is facing huge problems due to the past and current drought conditions. Lack of water is having major impacts, including an earlier fire season, but also real shortages for agricultural operations. Our North State farms provide food to the world, employment for thousands of families and habitat for countless animals. The lack of water will have devastating impacts on our way of life and economy. Now, more than ever, it is so important we effectively manage our surface and groundwater resources. It is vitally necessary we manage this precious resource by building more water storage, providing conveyance methods from these storage facilities and managing our surface and groundwater while taking into consideration the entire region.

Water districts are an effective means to properly manage these resources by providing representation and the resources required to effectively manage the surface and groundwater in their perspective district. The inter-coordination with other adjacent water districts is also key to a successful and sustainable plan. The Tuscan Water District, a California Water District when approved, would act as an effective tool to provide the necessary representation for currently over 57,000 acres of agriculture land as well as many domestic water users contained within the proposed district's 112,000 acres.

The proposed Tuscan Water District would provide representation for landowners in the Vina basin. A district is necessary to oversee and maintain groundwater resources, provide representation and coordinate water services such as future infrastructure projects to move surface water into the basin.

The proposed Tuscan Water District has briefed me on their goals for the new district and how it will be operated. Based on said briefing I understand it would be governed by a Board of Directors, all of whom would be landowners and/or landowner representatives from within the district's boundary. All landowners will have an opportunity to participate in the governance process including small and large landowners, domestic and agricultural groundwater pumpers.

When the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was signed into law, State lawmakers advertised groundwater management in California is best accomplished locally. That is exactly what the Tuscan Water District will accomplish, local representation. As a strong

advocate for local governance, I am confident the Tuscan Water District will ensure groundwater users are at the table and part of the discussion and decision-making process for Butte County's groundwater future.

It is my pleasure to have this opportunity to share this information with the Local Agency Formation Commission and provide my support for the formation of the Tuscan Water District. Please feel free to direct any questions to my staff, Laura Page, Senior Advisor, at laura.page@mail.house.gov or 530-343-1000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug LaMalfa". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress