## ELLISON, SCHNEIDER & HARRIS L.L.P.

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Ellison, Schneider & Harris is a law firm specializing in water, energy and other natural resource matters. Since its founding, the firm has worked to develop innovative approaches to complex resources problems. The firm's clients include governmental agencies, nonutility energy developers, private and nonprofit entities, professional and trade associations, and community groups. The firm's expertise includes client counseling, negotiation, legislative advocacy, administrative agency representation, and litigation. Areas of specialization are surface and ground water rights, public utility and energy law, the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), state and federal Endangered Species Acts ("ESA"), the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA"), project permitting, facility siting, and land preservation.

Outside Counsel to Governmental Agencies — The firm represents numerous local, regional and state agencies on water, energy and environmental issues. The firm provides governmental agencies with analysis of complex water rights, energy, public policy and natural resource questions, including developments and actions under such acts as CEQA, NEPA, ESA and the Clean Water Act. The firm's work for governmental clients includes review and preparation of comments on Environmental Impact Reports and Environmental Impact Statements ("EIR/EIS"), representation in litigation and in formal proceedings and negotiations with administrative agencies, including the State Water Resources Control Board, the Department of Water Resources, the California Energy Commission, the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC"), the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, the U.S. Forest Service, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency.

## Local and Regional Agencies

Representative clients include:

- <u>San Francisco Public Utilities Commission ("SFPUC")</u> The firm is special water rights counsel to the SFPUC. The firm represents the SFPUC regarding water rights and water supply issues.
- <u>San Bernardino County Superior Court</u> Special Referee in litigation over interpretation and implementation of the 1978 Decree adjudicating Chino Basin groundwater rights.
- <u>El Dorado Irrigation District ("EID")</u> The firm is special water rights counsel to EID related to water rights, institutional issues, and permitting.
- <u>Metropolitan Water District of Southern California ("MWD")</u> The firm is special water counsel on matters before the State Water Resources Control Board, and related to groundwater rights and conjunctive operation of groundwater basins.

• <u>Sacramento Groundwater Authority ("SGA")</u> --- The firm is general counsel to this joint powers authority, which is a regulatory agency created to manage groundwater within Sacramento County, north of the American River.

<u>Counsel to Private Entities, Individuals, Community and Professional Organizations</u> in water and energy law, CEQA, ESA and NEPA, air quality, and project permitting matters. The firm serves as counsel to project proponents in development permitting proceedings, including review of EIRs and EISs, negotiations with permitting agencies and other interested parties, and representation in administrative hearings. The firm's practice also includes litigation and administrative agency appeals in matters involving water rights, endangered species act consultations, agricultural land preservation, air quality, CEQA, NEPA, and other natural resource issues.

## Representative clients include:

- <u>Delta Wetlands, Inc.</u> The firm is representing the developer of a major wetlands and water storage project in the Delta that seeks to preserve and protect valuable habitat while developing needed water supply. The firm's work on behalf of Delta Wetlands involves a wide range of state, local and federal permit proceedings involving water rights, fishery and wildlife protection, state and federal endangered species laws, as well as complex CEQA, NEPA, Clean Water Act and land use issues.
- <u>Tanimura and Antle, Inc. ("TAI")</u> The firm represents TAI with regard to groundwater rights and groundwater management issues in the Salinas and Pajaro Valleys.
- <u>Stanford University</u> --- The firm represents Stanford University with regard to surface water and groundwater rights and other natural resources and energy matters.
- <u>Calpine Corporation</u> The firm represents Calpine Corporation with respect to water rights, fisheries, and energy plant siting matters in locations throughout California.

In addition to expertise in water and energy matters, Ellison, Schneider & Harris offers:

- Thorough familiarity with governmental regulatory agency practice.
- Expertise in many areas of natural resource and environmental law practice.
- Experience in working cooperatively with representatives of government and industry, environmentalists, and citizens groups to find ways to meet diverse goals.
- Longstanding working relationships with scientists, engineers and other experts with experience in land use, water, energy and environmental matters.