



## MEMORANDUM

TO: SLDMWA Board of Directors, Alternates

FROM: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director

DATE: July 10, 2025

RE: Board to Consider Staff Authorization to Execute SGMA-Related Agreement and Related Expenditures from Fund 63 for EKI Environment and Water

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### BACKGROUND

In February, the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee, Central Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee, and the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee approved the various SGMA AA Fund budgets (Fund 63 – Coordinated, Fund 64 – Northern, Fund 65 – Central). After budget approval, it was determined that in order to advance the preparation of the 2025 Annual Report, additional work was needed to extend the groundwater model to be consistent with underlying requirements in the Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Plan associated with interconnected surface water.

#### Adjacent Groundwater Sustainability Plan Review

After budget adoption, updated Groundwater Sustainability Plans for the following groundwater subbasins with boundaries adjacent to the Delta-Mendota Subbasin were released for review: Chowchilla, Westside, Kings, Madera, Merced, and Eastern San Joaquin.

In February, the Coordination Committee directed EKI Environment and Water to review the adjacent Groundwater Sustainability Plans and to perform technical support to provide letters detailing any concerns with adjacent subbasin approach to groundwater management that could influence the D-M Subbasin's ability to meet the goals in the adopted Delta-Mendota Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

The scope and fee for the technical review is \$78,000 and has been approved by the relevant SGMA Management Committees, however, the SLDMWA procurement policy will require this action to go to the SLDMWA Board, as it is a contract amendment greater than 10 percent of the underlying EKI Environment and Water contract value.

### ISSUE FOR DECISION

Whether the Board of Directors will authorize execution of relevant agreements with the following consultants:

- EKI Environment and Water For \$49,000 for Model Extension from Fund 63

### RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board authorize the execution of SGMA-Related Agreements and Related Expenditures from Fund 63.

### ANALYSIS

EKI Environment and Water has been providing significant technical expertise to the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Committees, including modeling support and is qualified to perform these services. The relevant SGMA Management Committees have approved the work and request that the Board allow execution of this agreement.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There is no anticipated budget impact to executing this contract, given the current projected underspend in the Fund 63 budget. Staff will track expenses during the year and recommend budget adjustments as necessary as the fiscal year advances.

**Technical Support Services for Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee  
Extension of Groundwater Flow Model for Preparation of Annual Report  
Detailed Scope of Work**

**Task Order 005-F26-AA63-TO003**

**Task 1 – Model Extension for Preparation of Annual Report**

Full compliance with the GSP requires annual updates to the Basin Model to evaluate the depletion of interconnected surface waters (ISW) due to pumping, estimate changes in groundwater storage, and assess the influence of conditions in neighboring areas. Under this task, and as requested, EKI will extend the Model's historical simulation period from WY 2023 through WY 2025. This update will include adjustments to assumptions made for WYs 2022–2023 during GSP development, which were based on limited data availability at the time. Similar assumptions may be necessary for WY 2025, depending on the availability of new data.

EKI will issue a Request for Information (RFI) to Basin GSAs to obtain relevant datasets and will provide updates to the Coordination Committee (CC) through presentations at appropriate milestones. This task does not include calibration or refinement of the Model. To maintain a feasible schedule, the CC must provide formal notice to proceed no later than August 2025.

*Deliverables:* (1) RFI and as-needed PowerPoint presentations to present results.

*Assumptions:*

1. Model extension will not include any model calibration or fine tuning or adjustments to conditions in adjacent basins.
2. Model extension will not include refining historical period's representations except for adjustments to assumptions for WYs 2022-2023 (i.e., replacing estimated with reported data as provided by the Basin GSAs).
3. Data and information are provided in a timely manner by the Basin GSAs.
4. Coordination Committee provides timely notice to EKI to undertake this Task (no later than August 2025).

**Online Document Accessibility:** Consultant will provide electronic copies of documents and materials designated for public access on the Authority's public website consistent with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2 Level AA Conformance and/or current state and federal standards for accessibility. If Consultant has any question as to whether a deliverable is subject to these requirements, Consultant shall confirm with the Authority whether the deliverable is anticipated to be posted to the Authority website. Consultant may reference the California Department of Technology's Web Accessibility Assessment Checklist at [SIMM 25 IT Accessibility Resource Guide \(ca.gov\)](https://www.cdte.org/2018/05/22/simm-25-it-accessibility-resource-guide-ca.gov/) to help Consultant comply with State and WCAG standards and requirements. Consultant should ensure documents and materials created for the Authority are compatible with most major Internet browsers, including Chrome, Firefox, and Safari. The Authority reserves the right to return to Consultant for correction any deliverable that is required to be website accessible,

and that the Authority determines not be compliance with these standards. Any such modification shall be done at Consultant's cost, without further charge to the Authority.

**Basis for Payment:** Time and Materials, Expense-Reimbursement basis in Accordance with Attachment A, upon receipt of Invoice and Deliverables

**Budget Maximum:** \$49,000

**Estimate of Time Schedule:** July 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

**SLDMWA Project Lead:** Scott Petersen                      scott.petersen@sldmwa.org

**Consultant Project Lead:** Anona Dutton                      adutton@ekiconsult.com

**Special Instructions:** (1) Consultant will bill SLDMWA on a time and materials basis; (2) All invoices should be sent to Project Lead, as well as Felicia Luna at [accounts.payable@sldmwa.org](mailto:accounts.payable@sldmwa.org) pursuant to Article 6 of Exhibit B to the Agreement; (3) All invoices shall reference: **"005-F26-AA63-TO003 SGMA Technical Support – Model Extension for Annual Report"**.

**Accepted:**

<u>San Luis &amp; Delta-Mendota Water Authority</u>	<u>Consultant</u>
By: _____ Pablo Arroyave Chief Operating Officer San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority  Date: _____	By: _____ Anona Dutton Vice President EKI Environment & Water, Inc.  Date: _____

## Attachment A

### EKI 2025 Schedule of Charges and Detailed Budget Table

#### **Schedule of Charges for EKI Environment and Water, Inc.**

**1 January 2025**

<b><u>Personnel Classification</u></b>	<b><u>Hourly Rate (\$)</u></b>
Officer and Chief Engineer-Scientist	355
Principal Engineer-Scientist	343
Supervising I, Engineer-Scientist	333
Supervising II, Engineer-Scientist	319
Senior I, Engineer-Scientist	306
Senior II, Engineer-Scientist	295
Associate I, Engineer-Scientist	283
Associate II, Engineer-Scientist	267
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 1	248
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 2	234
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 3	215
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 4	193
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 5	170
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 6	148
Project Assistant	139
Technician	133
Senior GIS / Database Analyst	175
CADD Operator / GIS Analyst	152
Senior Administrative Assistant	167
Administrative Assistant	132
Secretary	111

#### **Direct Expenses**

Reimbursement for direct expenses, as listed below, incurred in connection with the work will be at cost plus fifteen percent (15%) for items such as:

- a. Maps, photographs, reproductions, printing, equipment rental, and special supplies related to the work.
- b. Consultants, soils engineers, surveyors, drillers, laboratories, and contractors.
- c. Rented vehicles, local public transportation and taxis, travel, and subsistence.
- d. Special fees, insurance, permits, and licenses applicable to the work.
- e. Outside computer processing, computation, and proprietary programs purchased for the work.

A Communication charge for e-mail access, web conferencing, cellphone calls, messaging and data access, file sharing, local and long distance telephone calls and conferences, facsimile transmittals, standard delivery U.S. postage, and incidental in-house copying will be charged at a rate of 4% of labor charges. Large volume copying of project documents, e.g., bound reports for distribution or project-specific reference files, will be charged as a project expense as described above.

Reimbursement for company-owned automobiles, except trucks and four-wheel drive vehicles, used in connection with the work will be at the rate of sixty cents (\$0.60) per mile. The rate for company-owned trucks and four-wheel drive vehicles will be seventy-five cents (\$0.75) per mile. There will be an

additional charge of thirty dollars (\$30.00) per day for vehicles used for field work. Reimbursement for use of personal vehicles will be at the federally allowed rate plus fifteen percent (15%).

CADD and other specialized software computer time will be charged at twenty dollars (\$20.00) per hour. In-house material and equipment charges will be in accordance with the current rate schedule or special quotation. Excise taxes, if any, will be added as a direct expense.

Rate for professional staff for legal proceedings or as expert witnesses will be at a rate of one and one-half times the Hourly Rates specified above.

The foregoing Schedule of Charges is incorporated into the Agreement for the Services of EKI Environment & Water, Inc. and may be updated annually.