

MUTUAL EXCLUSIVE SHAREHOLDER BASIN ASSESSMENTS

Dear Mutual Water Companies and Mutual Exclusive Shareholders,

Under the Las Posas Valley Adjudication Judgment, Mutual Water Companies are responsible for paying the Basin Assessments for their Mutual Exclusive Shareholders, which are those shareholders that receive all of their groundwater from the Mutual Water Company and not from wells owned by the shareholders. (Judgment, §§ 1.65, 4.7.1.) The Judgment also explains that the internal treatment of Basin Assessments is left to the Mutual Water Company's internal governance and not controlled by the Judgment. (Judgment, § 4.7.1.)

On March 8, 2024, the Watermaster issued invoices to all Water Right Holders for WY2024 Basin Assessments, including both Mutual Water Companies and Mutual Exclusive Shareholders. Invoices to the Mutual Water Companies aggregated the assessments of their Mutual Exclusive Shareholders and combined them with the Mutual Water Company's assessment, if any, to determine a total WY2024 Basin Assessment for each Mutual Water Company. For reference, these invoices listed the Mutual Exclusive Shareholders (by WMID) whose assessments were aggregated in the Mutual Water Company's total assessment. The Mutual Water Company should pay this total WY2024 Basin Assessment to the Watermaster on behalf of itself and its Mutual Exclusive Shareholders. Although Mutual Exclusive Shareholders were also issued an invoice, Mutual Exclusive Shareholders should not submit payments to the Watermaster and should direct questions regarding payment of assessments to your Mutual Water Company.

Thank you,

LPV Watermaster

LPV.Watermaster@ventura.org