

8105 Peak Forest Way
Elk Grove, CA 95757

August 16, 2021

Jennifer Larsen
comments@kennedyjenks.com

Dear Ms. Larsen,

I believe it is important to provide some context as why I am providing comments on the SASb GMP. In my role as a new Planning Commissioner in the City of Elk Grove, I am interested in where the city is getting its water and also its long-term sustainability. This becomes especially important given the challenges of water availability in the western US as eloquently presented in *The West Without Water* by B. Lynn Ingram and Francis Malamud-Roan (2013, Univ. of California Press). I met with Mr. Jeff Werner, PE, Director, Public Works and Ms. Kristin Parson, PE on August 2, to get the conversation started and Ms. Parsons suggested I read the SASb GMP and provide my comments. Given my background is in plant science/plant biotechnology and not hydrogeology, reading this document was both interesting and educational.

My compliments to all those who contributed towards putting together this Plan. It is a comprehensive document with extensive supporting data.

Specific Comments:

- Table 2.1-7 CDEC Flow Stations in SASb lists 4 active and 1 inactive sensor. The corresponding Figure 2.1-12 lists 5 active and 3 inactive sensors; with one active sensor being outside the SASb.
- Line 2908: I believe the word should be “with” not “without”

General Comments:

- It is heartening to learn that there is no significant aquifer drawdown in the SASb and future management should ensure long term sustainability.
- It is equally heartening to learn that the contaminant plumes at Mather AFB, Aerojet and Kiefer Landfill are being closely monitored and that the remediation plans are working.
- However, I do have a major concern that the CoSANA projections are based on past and current parameters. Given that climate change is a reality, I believe the model should also include a protracted/severe drought scenario that has the potential of occurring; especially when we consider the 20- and 50-year timelines for the plan.

Although outside the scope of this report, I believe we need to start considering water as a finite and precious resource. Change in consumer behavior regarding water conservation and usage is going to be an important component of this. Part of this should include tiered pricing for water. Action on this is needed at all levels, else the scenario playing out in Mendocino will no longer be the exception but the rule.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my feedback
With regards,



Suman Singha, PhD
Professor Emeritus (Univ. of Connecticut)