

EXHIBIT A

Guidelines on use of the Kings Integrated Groundwater and Surface water Model (Kings IGSM) and its supporting data

Purpose and Background

The purpose of this document is to provide a process for use of the Kings Integrated Groundwater and Surface water Model (the Kings IGSM or the Model) for analysis of water management strategies by the Upper Kings Basin Water Forum (UKBWF) participants, and/or use of the Kings IGSM data.

The Kings IGSM is an integrated hydrologic computer model that simulates the over land conditions, such as the land use, cropping pattern, agricultural water use, crop irrigation, rainfall, runoff, deep percolation; groundwater conditions, such as the pumping and recharge; as well as the stream flow conditions in the Kings Groundwater Basin. The Model has been developed in a cooperative process between the UKBWF participants, the City of Fresno, and Department of Water Resources. Kings River Conservation District (KRCD) was the lead agency on behalf of the UKBWF that managed the development of the Model. The previous Technical and Data (TAD) Workgroup oversaw the collection and compilation of the data, model development process, calibration, and initial applications. The Model was developed by WRIME (WRIME, 2006). During the course of development of the Model, the data collected for the Kings Groundwater Basin was compiled and received by KRCD and WRIME with an understanding and agreement that the agencies' data will remain confidential and will not be used outside of the Model and will not be published in its raw or electronic format. The UKBWF participants shall maintain the rights and control of the use and accessibility of the data within the jurisdiction of each entity, including and beyond the use of the Model. The Kings IGSM stores the data from all agencies and entities in a relational database that includes the data on hydrologic, hydrogeologic, land use, water use conditions, and river and reservoir operations in the basin.

Requests for Model Data

KRCD is the custodial organization (Gatekeeper) that will be responsible for maintenance, upkeep, and upgrades to the Model. KRCD has selected WRIME, Inc., the original developer of the Model, as the contractor in fulfilling this responsibility.

Requests for Model data shall be made according to the following policy guidelines:

1. All data request(s) should be submitted for consideration to KRCD in writing, including a purpose statement for use of data.
2. All Model data are treated as confidential. Therefore, KRCD will coordinate and obtain necessary authorizations from the source agency which provided the data.
3. UKBWF participants shall have access to their own data that was used in the development and operation of the Model and have the right to deny release of the raw data to others.
4. KRCD shall direct WRIME, Inc. to work through KRCD or directly with the requesting agency to prepare and provide the data.

5. The requesting agency shall be responsible for the cost to furnish the data.

Use and Application of the Model for Analysis of Water Management Scenarios

Requests for additional modeling analysis shall be made in writing to KRCD, according to the following policy guidelines:

1. Any UKBWF participant can make requests to perform analysis using the Model. The type of analysis, along with assumptions and input data shall be coordinated with KRCD.
2. The requesting agency will be responsible for the costs associated with performing the analysis.
3. If the analysis is of confidential nature, KRCD will direct WRIME, Inc. to work directly with the requesting agency in a confidential framework.
4. The results of the modeling scenario analysis will be property of the agency that paid for the analysis, and the agency can choose how/when/if it wants to release the results.
5. The modeling analysis will be made utilizing the supporting data from the entire Kings Basin area. All assumptions that are changed will be identified.
6. The UKBWF Technical and Data Committee will review all draft results from the use of the Model. Before they are released to the public or published, they must be approved by the Committee in order to: 1) assure quality Model interpretations, 2) determine if there are anomalies or inconsistencies in Model output, 3) determine if the assumptions are disclosed, 4) determine if the claims are accurate, and 5) assure that the impacts to other UKBWF members are considered. In addition, all impacted UKBWF members will be invited to participate in the Committee's review.
7. Any discussion of Model results among Committee members or other UKBWF participants does not constitute authorization to release results. All discussions concerning modeling results are to be kept internal.
8. Future Model Development and Use:
 - A. Future Model development for member use may include user interface and processing tools to decrease cost and increase individual member use.
 - B. These developments will raise additional security, Model accessibility, and information release issues.
 - C. These issues will require future consideration and resolution.

Comments, disputes or grievances may be made in writing to KRCD. Any comments received regarding the use and availability of the data will be reviewed by KRCD. If there is a reason to believe that data is not provided by KRCD because it was considered to be of a sensitive nature then agency should obtain data directly from the source.