

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER

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DL Sanders

LITIGATION & ADJUDICATION PROGRAM

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Chief Counsel BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

January 14, 2014

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RE: <u>State of New Mexico ex rel State Engineer v. Aamodt, et al.,</u> 66cv6639 (D.N.M.1966) – Settlement Agreement approval process

To water rights claimants in the Pojoaque Basin:

The Court in the Aamodt Adjudication has ordered a proceeding to decide whether to approve the water rights of the Pueblos of Nambé, Pojoaque, San Ildefonso and Tesuque (the "Pueblos") according to a Settlement Agreement between the Pueblos, the United States, the County and City of Santa Fe, and the State.

The Court is requiring that all water right claimants in the Pojoaque Basin be given the opportunity to review the proposed determination of the Pueblos' water rights, and the Settlement Agreement. Because you may have a water right in the Pojoaque Basin, you are receiving this letter and packet of documents so that you can decide whether to accept or object to the proposed Partial Final Judgment and Decree and the Settlement Agreement.

This proceeding does not affect the determination of your water rights, but will be your only opportunity to object to the determination of the Pueblos' rights according to the Settlement Agreement.

Enclosed are the following four (4) documents:

- 1. The Court's Order to Show Cause.
- 2. An Acceptance form.
- 3. An Objection form.
- 4. A schedule of public meetings where you can ask questions about the Settlement Agreement, the Order to Show Cause, and the Court's proceeding.

The deadline for filing an Acceptance or Objection form with the Court is April 7, 2014.

Further information explaining the Settlement Agreement and how to file an Acceptance or Objection form may be obtained from the Joe M. Stell Water Ombudsman Program at the Utton Center of the UNM School of Law at bushnell@law.unm.edu or the toll-free Water Adjudication Helpline at 1-877-775-8333, or directly at (505) 277-0551.

Sincerely

Edward C. Bagley

State of New Mexico Special Assistant Attorney General