

ATTACHMENT 7

Disadvantaged Community

The project benefit area includes the entire region of Improvement District No. 4 (ID4) that receives treated surface water. This area is called the Treated Water Service Area and covers 30,274 acres. Using the CalEnviroScreen 2.0 Tool, it was determined that 66% of project benefit area, and 69% of the population, has a CalEnviroScreen score of 76 or higher (required to be designated a disadvantaged community). **Appendix 7.1** is a map showing the boundaries of ID4, the Treated Water Service Area (also the area of benefit), the project location, and the DAC census tracts. According to the guidelines, at least 75% of the benefit must be directly received by a designated DAC.

Improvement District No. 4 was historically a disadvantaged community. In 2006, an expansion was constructed to serve the Northwest Feeder Area (6,294 acres) and communities that are not primarily DACs. The original service area (23,970 acres) has DAC eligibility in 79 percent of the area, while the Northwest Feeder Area has DAC eligibility in 21 percent of the area. The system expansion in 2006 therefore effectively removed the Treated Water Service Area, as a whole, from DAC eligibility.

The Agency requests that the project be considered DAC eligible based on the large DAC population and large DAC designated area benefitting from the project, and the difficulty in meeting DAC status for a project with regional benefits.

The project provides general benefits in terms of water conservation, reduced costs and improved water supply reliability for the entire area served with surface water (30,274 acres). This area has an estimated population of about 164,000. DAC areas within the benefit area include a population of 114,500, which is a significant benefit group. It can be difficult to qualify for DAC status when a project benefits a large area, which would require a large and expansive DAC community. Satisfying DAC eligibility can sometimes be less challenging if a project has local and geographically limited benefits.

Appendices

7-1 Disadvantaged Communities Map