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David R. Ansolabehere, General Manager

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Cawelo Water District Landowners:

Water outlook for 2021 continues to be very poor with extremely low rainfall and snow pack impacting supplies from the State Water Project (SWP) and local water supplies. Current allocations from local water sources are very low and SWP supplies were estimated to be at 10% but have now been revised to 5%. The lack of water not only restricts the quantity of water available to the district, it restricts the District's ability to meet peak summer demands. In order to supplement supply, the District will be running all available groundwater wells from April through September. Despite the extraordinarily low supplies of Kern River and SWP, and due to the significant investment in groundwater recovery facilities, the District expects to deliver **1.3 acre-feet per acre in the service areas for the March to October period in 2021.**

Due to the District's limited ability to move water supplies between months, we will need to allocate the amount of water delivered to you during June, July and August to **0.20 ac-ft/acre per month.** We realize this is a large change to how the District is normally operated and is less than we were able to supply last year, but this is not a normal year, the water supplies are at critical levels, and we are attempting to treat all landowners equitably.

We are asking all water users to make your best efforts to utilize this small allocation to best benefit your crops. Please schedule your irrigations throughout the week including weekends. Spreading the irrigation needs throughout the weekends allows the maximum amount of water to enter the system and wells are not shut off.

Cost of water is at a premium due to the very dry conditions. The District will continue to investigate acquiring additional water sources. These Supplemental Water supplies will be limited and will be more expensive than our basic water supply; however, the District will pursue these water sources if you need it. We do not have firm costs of the potential water supplies yet but we anticipate they will be in the \$1,000/ac-ft to \$1,500/ac-ft range.

If you have an interest in acquiring Supplemental Water at this price range, please contact the District as soon as possible.

We encourage the landowners to buy and sell water internally within the District to the extent that your wells can meet your demands on a month-to-month basis. If your well costs you less to operate than the anticipated Supplemental Water price, you may want to think about selling your district water and running your wells. If your well supplies are insufficient to meet your peaking demands in June, July and August, you may want to think about purchasing Supplemental Water from other landowners. If purchasing Supplemental Water, verify that you are purchasing water and capacity for the months you want to use the water, such as June,

July and August. **If you're not purchasing the capacity for when you want to use the water then you will be limited to your original 0.20 ac-ft/ac capacity.** Please note, though, that for every acre foot of district entitlement/capacity you purchase from another landowner, only 0.20 af/ac will be able to be used in each month of the June, July and August period. If you need more information on how to buy or sell water between landowners within the District please contact the District and we can assist you.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the District office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David R. Ansolabehere", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David R. Ansolabehere,
General Manager