

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 20, 2006

Contact: Boni Brewer

925-454-5015

Zone 7 Joins in Bay-Delta Conservation Plan

Two-year plan aims to sustain Delta as source

Of high-quality, reliable drinking water

Livermore – The board of Zone7 Water Agency, which supplies water to Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin, agreed Wednesday night to join with other water providers, power companies and environmental groups in developing a comprehensive, integrated conservation plan for the Bay-Delta.

Zone 7 receives 75 percent of its water from the ecologically fragile Delta.

The agency's agreement to contribute funding toward the coordinated plan is aimed at ensuring it can continue to draw water from the Delta with environmental compliance under state and federal regulatory agencies dealing with fish and wildlife protections.

“Our participation has been predicated on the importance of a healthy Delta ecosystem in maintaining the quality and reliability of our imported water supplies,” said Zone 7 General Manager Dale Myers.

“This agreement represents a milestone in the development of long-term water policy in the State of California, recognizing the equal importance of providing adequate, reliable and good-quality water supplies to sustain the economy of the state, and to provide for the health and safety of its residents, and the necessity of preserving and recovering, to the degree possible, the Delta ecosystem.”

Costs to Zone 7 are estimated at between \$200,000 and \$300,000 a year over each of the next two years. Half of the money will be funded through water rates, and half through connection fees on new development. Long-term funding commitments will be developed under the final conservation plan.

###

Zone 7 Water Agency is one of the 10 active zones of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. The District was established by the State Legislature in October 1949 to solve problems of flooding, drainage, channel erosion and water supply and conservation in Alameda County. In 1957, by popular vote, Zone 7 became a special district governed by a seven-member board of directors. Along with flood protection, Zone 7 supplies water to all of eastern Alameda County and a population of more than 190,000. Treated water is sold wholesale to local retailers, including the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton, the Dublin San Ramon Services District, and the California Water Service Company. Zone 7 also distributes untreated water to local agriculture operations and golf courses.