Purpose of Document: Outline the process, timeline, and estimated costs for a Proposition 218 fee procedure for the North Davis Meadows (NDM) County Service Area (CSA) to fund exploratory wells to identify whether clean, reliable water is available in the aquifers available to NDM. Exploratory wells provide a point in time assessment and do not guarantee a long-term solution that meets State of California drinking water quality standards.

<u>Cost</u>

The North Davis Meadows CSA requires two drinking water wells for redundancy and sufficient fire protection. At a minimum, two exploratory wells would be necessary. It is estimated that each exploratory well would cost \$60,000-80,000 (includes permit and water testing fees) for a total of \$175,000 (includes staff time); a charge of \$1,842/parcel.

Funding

Unless the community can raise the funds independently, a Prop 218 procedure would be required to place the onetime charge on the property tax bill to fund the exploratory wells. If the proceedings were successful prior to August 10, 2019, the charge could go on the 2019-20 property tax bill. The revenue would not be fully collected until June of 2020. The passage of a successful Prop 218 procedure may be sufficient to borrow funds allowing for the well exploration to begin sooner than June 2020. Interest would have to be factored into the charge if a loan were to be pursued.

Estimated Timeline – Including Proposition 218 Process (length of process: ~ 8 months)

- 1. The Board of Supervisors directs staff to initiate a Proposition 218 procedure to fund exploratory wells for all water uses. (unknown time frame)
- 2. Identify properties that would be available/suitable for 2 wells (4 weeks if public properties are already available with necessary set-backs and/or easements)
- 3. Conduct a formal Request for Quotes to drill exploratory wells (6-8 weeks)
- 4. Identify a funding source to loan funds in advance of property tax collection (unknown)
- 5. Prepare Proposition 218 materials (2-4 weeks)
- 6. Initiate Proposition 218 during a pre-scheduled Board of Supervisors meeting (typically 2 per month)
- 7. Proposition 218 notice period (45 days)
- 8. Conduct a Proposition 218 public hearing during a pre-scheduled Board of Supervisors meeting (typically 2 per month)
- 9. If Proposition 218 fee increase is adopted, secure loan funding (unknown)
- 10. Submit permit application to Environmental Health (10-day review/approval period)
- 11. Driller will schedule work once permit approved (2-3 weeks after permit issuance, typically)
- 12. Drilling begins (2-3 days)
- 13. Pump/zone test for 72 hours, per zone
- 14. Stabilize pump rate
- 15. Pump for 8 hours continuously and then do water quality test
- 16. Title 22 sampling follows successful water quality test



