



# City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

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*Javier M. Gonzales, Mayor*

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Room 411, State Capitol  
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Dear Members of the Water and Natural Resources Committee:

The City of Santa Fe's role in the Aamodt Settlement is relatively small, but what interest the City has, it takes seriously. First, the City has been an active participant in the Settlement since 2006 and, consequently, is a signatory to the Settlement Agreement and the Cost-Sharing Agreement. Second, the City owns nearly 150 acre-feet of surface water rights on the Nambe, Pojoaque, and Tesuque stream systems, which have been fully adjudicated. The City applies these surface water rights to offset the effects of the City's groundwater pumping on the Pojoaque Basin. Finally, the joint City/County Buckman Direct Diversion (BDD) Project is only a short distance downstream from the proposed Pojoaque Basin Region Water System (PBRWS). The City hopes that the BDD can be an example for the PBRWS to draw upon, even as the PBRWS tailors their diversion facility to meet the specific needs of the Pueblos and non-Pueblos.

At present, the City does not anticipate connecting to the proposed PBRWS. That said, the City's interest in the ultimate success of the PBRWS, as well as the Settlement Agreement itself, is still significant; the City supports regional cooperation with Aamodt stakeholders, regional groundwater study efforts, and New Mexico Office of the State Engineer permitting requirements. Providing a more sustainable regional surface water supply, rather than an over-reliance on groundwater, serves everyone in the basin. This is a water resource management model that the City of Santa Fe supports, as evidenced by our substantial investment in the BDD Project and concomitant reduction in groundwater pumping.

Sincerely,

Marcos Martinez  
Assistant City Attorney  
City of Santa Fe