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1 RECOMMENDATIONS

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- 3 1. Purchase Appropriate Technology. The Public Trust Alliance recommends that second
- 4 pass technology be permitted subject to the conditions specified in the Water Purchase
- 5 Agreement. These conditions effectively prevent an arbitrary or wasteful expenditure.
- 6 We recognize that the selection of appropriate technology will be based on the advisory
- 7 committee’s evaluation of the relative merit of technical solutions presented by offerors
- 8 in a competitive procurement. We are optimistic that the committee’s decision will
- 9 reflect an appropriate valuing of environmental and public trust concerns. Acquisition of
- 10 effective technology should not be hampered by a view that the minimum statutory
- 11 requirements represent a ceiling on what may be purchased.
- 12
- 13 2. Cost Cap. The Public Trust Alliance also recommends that if a cost cap is imposed, it
- 14 should appropriately consider environmental and other non monetized values, particularly
- 15 those associated with future generations. The costs associated with non monetized values
- 16 should not be selectively cut. We have provided examples of instances in which these
- 17 benefits are effectively assigned value in a procurement context. The project should
- 18 represent “best value” to consumers, which is not necessarily the same as “lowest cost.”
- 19
- 20 3. Governance and Ratepayer Protection. We recommend further that the Commission
- 21 consider the effect of the contracting system on cost control and ratepayer protection.
- 22 We suggest that the Parties might structure a competitive procurement in a way that
- 23 maximizes value and controls costs. If they do so, this might affect the type or amount of
- 24 oversight that the Commission wishes to impose. In their planning and negotiation
- 25 process, the Parties have garnered considerable experience in achieving synergies. We
- would like to see that continue, for the benefit of the local citizens and as an example to
- other areas considering desalination projects.