Fresno, CA – We are pleased with Fitch’s decision to affirm the rating of AA- and remove the negative watch rating based on the actions the District has taken to insure proper reporting in the future. The revised rating follows similar action by Standard & Poor’s Rating Services which also removed its CreditWatch rating and affirmed its ‘A+’ long-term rating for Westlands Water District.

As a result of its analysis, Fitch also issued a negative outlook rating over additional drainage responsibility that Westlands will be required to manage under the drainage settlement reached between Westlands Water District and the United States Government. Westlands Water District looks forward to the enactment of the drainage legislation pending in Congress and to working with farmers and the Department of Interior to implement a program that fulfills the obligations contained within the agreement.

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FitchRatings document is below and available here:
https://www.fitchratings.com/site/pressrelease?id=1008779