

## **Emailed statements from Bolthouse Farms to the Los Angeles Times**

Thank you for reaching out to Bolthouse Farms. With regard to the adjudication lawsuit filed in the Cuyama Valley, one important aspect to understand is that Bolthouse Farms is a tenant grower and not a landowner. Bolthouse Land Company (aka "Bolthouse Properties") is our primary landlord in Cuyama. Bolthouse Land Company is an unrelated third-party company under completely different and unrelated ownership from that of Bolthouse Farms.

We at Bolthouse Farms recognize the issue of groundwater depletion and take the matter very seriously. In alignment with our sustainability goals, we are actively reducing water usage by 5% for two years and have committed to doing so by approximately 60% by 2040, as laid out by the Cuyama GSA and SGMA.

Recently, Bolthouse Farms re-evaluated its involvement in the adjudication and believe that, given our existing actions to reduce water, it no longer makes sense to continue as a plaintiff in this lawsuit. On August 23rd, Bolthouse Farms filed a request to remove itself as a plaintiff from the Cuyama Valley water adjudication lawsuit. The Court granted this request on August 31st, 2023. Therefore, as of that date, Bolthouse Farms is no longer a Plaintiff in the adjudication.

Bolthouse Farms looks forward to continuing our alignment with the sustainability commitments as laid out by the Cuyama GSA and SGMA. Together, with our neighbors and fellow farmers of Cuyama, we look forward to making a positive impact on the land, people and future of food. We take pride in our membership within the Cuyama Valley community and express gratitude for the dedicated efforts of our longstanding team members who have diligently contributed to our farms.

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This year, Bolthouse Farms is cultivating 2,022 acres. It's important to clarify that all these acres are leased, as we do not own the land.

Regarding the groundwater adjudication case, our choice to withdraw as a Plaintiff was driven by our commitment to sustainability, in line with the guidelines set by the Cuyama GSA and SGMA. As a proud member of the Cuyama Valley farming community, we look forward to working with our community on this initiative.