



To the Board of Supervisors and Grand Jury  
County of El Dorado  
Placerville, California

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of El Dorado, California (County), for the year ended June 30, 2009, and have issued our report thereon dated March 25, 2010. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

### **The Auditor's Responsibility under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards**

As stated in our engagement letter dated May 7, 2009, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement and are fairly presented in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance and because we did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us.

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the County's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. We also considered internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the County's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit. Also, in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, we examined, on a test basis, evidence about the County's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement applicable to each of its major federal programs for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the County's compliance with those requirements. While our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion, it does not provide a legal determination on the County's compliance with those requirements.

## **Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit**

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you in our engagement letter dated May 7, 2009.

## **Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices**

### *Significant Accounting Policies*

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the County are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year ended June 30, 2009. We noted no transactions entered into by the County during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

### *Significant Accounting Estimates*

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate(s) affecting the financial statements were:

- Liability for solid waste landfill closure and postclosure costs: Management's estimate is based on engineering estimates of future costs to be incurred.
- Liability for self-insurance claims: Management's estimate is derived from actuarial valuations obtained from experts.
- Liability for other post-employment benefits: Management's estimate is derived from actuarial valuations obtained from experts.

## **Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit**

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing our audit.

## **Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements**

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements.

The following material misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures were corrected by management:

- Removed infrastructure assets for assets owned by the State that should not be considered assets of the County.

In addition, there were several immaterial uncorrected misstatements identified during the audit. The list below summarizes the uncorrected misstatements of the financial statements. Management has determined that their effects are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statement taken as a whole.

- Fund statements – Reclassified amount due on business park property for outstanding penalties on assessments from unearned revenue to unavailable revenue in non-major debt service fund.
- Government-wide statements - Recorded a debit to unavailable revenues and a credit to prior period adjustments for outstanding taxes and penalties on business park property. County recorded amount as deferred revenue on the funds statements but did not record an adjustment to earn the revenue on the government-wide statements for governmental activities.

There were no current year recommendations that met the criteria to be included in a management report. For additional information regarding the significant deficiencies in the internal controls over financial reporting, refer to our report on the County’s internal control dated March 25, 2010.

### **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor’s report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

### **Management Representations**

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letters dated March 25, 2010.

### **Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a “second opinion” on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit’s financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor’s opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

### **Other Audit Findings or Issues**

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the County's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Supervisors, and federal and state grantor agencies, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

BARTIG, BASLER & RAY, LLP  
A Gallina LLP Company

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Roseville, California  
March 25, 2010