

STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO CA 95814
19101651-4030

California State Senate

SENATOR
RONALD S. CALDERON
THIRTIETH SENATE DISTRICT



February 5, 2008

Mr. Jeff Kightlinger, General Manager
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Re: MWD's Proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan

Dear Mr. Kightlinger:

It has been called to my attention by the Central Basin Municipal Water District (Central Basin), which serves 2 million people within 24 cities in the Southeast Los Angeles County, that MWD's proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan (Plan) bears close scrutiny and additional time for study and input.

As you well know, water supply issues in Southern California is of a paramount concern to those of us who seek to ensure equitable distribution and access to the State's most precious resource. The water supply relationship between Northern and Southern California continues to be closely connected, especially during these times of drought and curtailment in supply from the Delta due to environmental issues.

The Plan, while intending to conserve water during shortages, ultimately provides those who can afford to pay the steep penalties with as much water as they want and places severe financial hardship on ratepayers who cannot afford the high cost of water. Increasing the cost of water neither mitigates overgrowth in Southern California nor preserves the limited water supply for all Californians. Additionally, with expected significant increases in water rates by MWD starting in 2009, this Plan drives the cost of water to a historical high, ignoring the socio-economic and environmental justice impacts of such actions.

Moreover, in areas with low-income communities many of which have large Latino populations such as Central Basin are greatly disadvantaged by this Plan. The residents in these areas who are already struggling will be asked to pay more for less.

I am also aware that according to the MWD Act, preferential rights determine member agencies' allocation, and to date, there is no acceptable rationale for why this formula is not being used to allocate water supplies in a true shortage.

Based on conversations with Central Basin and my own fact-gathering, I've determined that a Plan of this importance requires further development and assessment to deliver a regional plan that is both comprehensive and effective.

I understand that MWD is scheduled to consider this matter at committee on Feb. 11th and on February 12th at the board meeting. I strongly recommend that MWD and its board delay the adoption of the proposed Plan for at least 60 days to allow additional time to study the important issues and concerns raised by MWD's Plan.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron S. Calderon", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Senator Ron S. Calderon
30th Senatorial District

CENTRAL OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL ROOM 6100
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 651 4022
FAX (916) 327 8017

DISTRICT OFFICE
617 S. OLIVE ST. SUITE 710
LOS ANGELES, CA 90014
TEL (213) 612-9886
FAX (213) 612-9571

California State Senate

SENATOR
GILBERT CEDILLO
TWENTY-SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



COMMITTEES
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH
PUBLIC SAFETY
RULES
TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING
SELECT COMMITTEES
IMMIGRATION AND THE ECONOMY UNIT
JOINT COMMITTEES
GILES

February 7, 2008

Mr. Jeff Kightlinger, General Manager
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Dear Mr. Kightlinger,

I am writing in regards to MWD's Proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan. It has been called to my attention by the Central Basin Municipal Water District, which serves cities in my legislative district, that the plan requires further development and assessment in order to deliver a regional plan that is both comprehensive and effective.

Based on conversations with Central Basin and my own fact-gathering, I have determined that the plan has raised many concerns amongst the communities who will be directly affected. Areas with low-income communities, many of which have large Latino populations such as Central Basin, seem to be greatly disadvantaged by this plan. My constituents in these areas who are already struggling will be asked to pay more for utilizing less. My district is comprised of low-income cities within the MWD. It is undeniable that a plan of this magnitude will impact low-income communities drastically.

As you well know, water supply issues in Southern California are of a paramount concern to those of us who seek to ensure equitable distribution and access to this precious resource. The plan, while intending to conserve water during shortages, ultimately provides those who can afford to pay the steep penalties, with as much water as they want, while placing severe financial hardship on ratepayers who cannot afford the high cost of water. This plan drives the cost of water to a historical high, ignoring the socio-economic and environmental justice impacts of such actions.

I understand that MWD is scheduled to consider this matter on February 11 & 12th. We strongly recommend that MWD and its board delay the adoption of the proposed plan for at least 60 days to allow additional time to study the important issues and concerns raised by MWD's Plan. As you have remained committed to your service area by providing adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way; I trust that you will understand my concerns on this matter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gilbert Cedillo
Senator, 22nd District

REPRESENTING THE CITIES OF LOS ANGELES, ALHAMBRA, MAYWOOD, SAN MARINO, SOUTH PASADENA AND VERNON



STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0500
(916) 319-2050
FAX (916) 319-2150

DISTRICT OFFICE
8724 GARFIELD AVE., SUITE 104
SOUTH GATE, CA 90281
(562) 927-1200
FAX (562) 927-6670

<http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a50>

Assembly California Legislature



HECTOR DE LA TORRE
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIFTIETH DISTRICT

CHAIR:
ASSEMBLY RULES

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
BUDGET
ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY AND
TOXIC MATERIALS
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
UTILITIES AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE #1
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SELECT COMMITTEES:
ADULT EDUCATION
AIR AND WATER QUALITY
ALAMEDA CORRIDOR EAST
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
FOSTER CARE
LOS ANGELES HEALTH CARE CRISIS
URBAN EDUCATION

JOINT COMMITTEES:
RULES
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

MEMBER:
CALIFORNIA CULTURAL &
HISTORICAL ENDOWMENT

February 8, 2008

Mr. Tim Brick, Chairman of the Board
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Re: MWD's Proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan

Dear Mr. Brick:

I write to express my serious concern regarding the Metropolitan Water District's (MWD) proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan (Plan), a topic I discussed with MWD General Manager Jeff Kightlinger in my Sacramento office on January 23, 2008. Because of this, I request that the MWD board delay adoption of the proposed Plan until these issues are addressed further.

Cities in southeast Los Angeles County, many of which I represent in the 50th Assembly District, utilize groundwater as their primary water source but are also reliant upon imported water to meet demand. Water supply issues in Southern California are of a paramount concern to legislators who seek to ensure equitable distribution and access to the State's most precious resource.

The Plan, while intending to conserve water during shortages, ultimately provides those who can afford to pay the steep penalties with as much water as they want and places severe financial hardship on ratepayers who cannot afford the high cost of water. Under the proposed Plan, communities in southeast Los Angeles County can potentially be hit with \$37.2 million in penalties alone within a 12-month period. Additionally, with expected significant increases in water rates by MWD starting in 2009, this Plan drives the cost of water to a historical high, ignoring the socio-economic and environmental justice impacts of such actions.

I am also aware that according to the MWD Act, preferential rights determine member agencies' allocation, and to date, there is no acceptable rationale for why this formula is not being used to allocate water supplies in a true shortage. As I discussed with Mr. Kightlinger, it would be more reasonable for MWD to propose a modification to existing preferential rights rather than to deviate entirely from them.

I understand that MWD is scheduled to consider this matter at committee on Feb. 11th and on February 12th at the board meeting. I strongly recommend that MWD and its board delay the adoption of the proposed Plan for at least 60 days until these issues and concerns can be further addressed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



HECTOR DE LA TORRE

Chair, Assembly Rules

CC: President Bob Apodaca, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Phil Hawkins, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Art Aguilar, Central Basin General Manager
Jeff Kightlinger, MWD General Manager

CAPITOL OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL ROOM 3048
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 651-4027
FAX (916) 327-8118

LONG BEACH OFFICE
115 HIEVE AVENUE, SUITE 430
LONG BEACH, CA 90802
TEL (562) 495-4755
FAX (562) 495-1876

PARAMOUNT OFFICE
111401 PARAMOUNT BLVD
PARAMOUNT, CA 90723
TEL (562) 525-4859
FAX (562) 529-6867

SENATOR ALAN LOWENTHAL @ SEN OF CALIF

WWW.SENATORALANLOWENTHAL.COM

California State Senate

SENATOR
ALAN LOWENTHAL
TWENTY-SEVENTH SENATE DISTRICT



TRANSPORTATION
AND HOUSING
CHAIR

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR
CALIFORNIA PORTS AND
GOODS MOVEMENT
CHAIR

BANKING, FINANCE
AND INSURANCE

BUDGET AND FISCAL
REVIEW

EDUCATION

LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS

NATURAL RESOURCES
AND WATER

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

February 8, 2008

COPY

Mr. Timothy F. Brick
Chairman of the Board
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Re: MWD's Proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan

Dear Chairman Brick:

I have many concerns with regard to your organizations proposed water supply allocation plan, which is currently scheduled for your Board's consideration early next week.

I'm particularly concerned with the unfair financial burden this plan places on the cities I represent in the State Senate; the same concern that many of these cities, most of whom are economically disadvantaged, have communicated to your organization over the last few months.

The concerns expressed seem not only reasonable, but highly appropriate considering the fact that the proposed plan ignores preferential rights granted to many of them under State law. I've still not been able to understand the rationale for why these provisions of State law are being ignored by your Board, and Metropolitan's staff.

While I had not planned on becoming involved in this matter, the lack of adequate attention given these concerns by your organization over the last few months has motivated me to stand with these cities. I strongly urge you to delay the adoption of this allocation plan for at least 60 days to allow additional time for these cities to more closely examine how they'll be impacted.

Thank you for your immediate attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Lowenthal".

Alan Lowenthal
Senator, 27th District

CC: Central Basin Board of Directors & General Manager
Cities of the 27th Senate District
Jeff Kightlinger, MWD General Manager

REPRESENTING THE CITIES OF THE 27TH SENATE DISTRICT
ARTESIA, AVALON, BELLFLOWER, CERRITOS, DOWNEY, HAWAIIAN GARDENS, LAKEWOOD, LONG BEACH,
LYNWOOD, PARAMOUNT, SIGNAL HILL, SOUTH GATE, FLORENCE, GRAHAM AND WILLOWBROOK



City of Commerce

February 7, 2008

Robert C. Fierro
Mayor

Tina Baca Del Rio
Mayor Pro Tem

Joe Aguilar
Councilmember

Hugo A. Argumedo
Councilmember

Rosalina G. Lopez
Councilmember

Linda Kay Olivieri, MMC
Acting City Administrator
City Clerk

Mr. Tim Brick, Chairman of the Board
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

RE: Metropolitan's Proposed Allocation Plan

Dear Mr. Brick:

On behalf of the City of Commerce, I am writing this letter to express our concerns about the implications of the MWD's proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan (Plan) for 2008.

We have been informed by Central Basin Municipal Water District (Central Basin) and Southeast Water Coalition (SEWC) that despite requests for delay, your Board plans to take action on the matter on February 12, 2008, disregarding input from cities such as ours. We are extremely disappointed that you did not address how the Plan will affect our region, including the economically disadvantaged communities.

The Plan could have very significant impacts on our local economy and customers. The cities and agencies that pump water from the Central Groundwater Basin are heavily reliant on groundwater as its primary supply, but we are also very dependent on imported water as supplemental source to meet our communities and region's demands.

We are also greatly concerned about the environmental justice ramification of the proposed Plan. While we understand that in times of shortage the disparate impacts throughout the MWD service area must be addressed, the impact on disadvantaged communities could be severe. Combined with a projected 14-20 percent increase in imported water rates next year, the penalty rate structure in the Plan could mean significant financial burden to our residents and businesses.

If this allocation Plan is activated this summer, the member agencies of the Central Basin (our inner city communities) stand to lose a considerable amount of their allocation while having to pay higher rates to subsidize those areas that have experienced significant economic growth and developed beyond their water supply availability.

Additionally, under the proposed Plan the following interests will WIN:

- Agencies that used high volume of MWD water during the base year period (2004 - 2006) instead of being successful in conversation,

2535 Commerce Way
Commerce, CA 90040
Phone:323•722•4805
Fax:323•888•6841

“Where Quality Service Is Our Tradition”

- Areas with growth (commercial and residential), regardless of whether or not they are growing beyond their means,
- Agricultural communities will continue to receive a discount rate,
- Agencies such as Los Angeles Department of Water & Power that experience significant loss in local supply will receive higher allocations,
- Agencies such as San Diego County Water Authority with higher dependence on imported water will receive higher allocations.

Are the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power and San Diego County Water Authority receiving preferential treatment because they made up such a large portion of board?

We recognize the complexity of the issues associated with the Plan and appreciate the efforts of Metropolitan and its member agencies to develop an equitable solution to water supply shortage in Southern California; however, given the importance and the environmental justice impact of the Plan, we feel that there are several significant and unresolved key issues that require more time for further discussion, definition and wider participation by all Metropolitan's member agencies and customers.

We strongly urge you to delay the adoption of the Plan until these issues and concerns are addressed.

I can be reached at (323) 722-4805.

Sincerely,



Robert C. Fierro
Mayor of the City of Commerce

cc: City Council – City of Commerce
Jorge Rifa, City Administrator – City of Commerce
Robert Zarrilli, Director of Community Development – City of Commerce
President Bob Apodaca, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Phil Hawkins, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Art Aguilar, Central Basin General Manager
Jeff Kighlinger, MWD General Manager

Environmental Justice Coalition for Water

654 13th St
Preservation Park
Oakland CA 94612
510-286-8400



2515 Wilshire Blvd.
Santa Monica, CA 90403
310-829-1229 x 221
www.ejcw.org

January 24, 2008

Mr. Jeff Kightlinger, General Manager
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
PO BOX 54153
VIA FACSIMILE: 213-217-6655

RE: Water Supply Allocation Plan

Dear Mr. Kightlinger

On behalf of the Environmental Justice Coalition for Water, I am writing to request that you provide adequate time for analysis of the proposed Water Allocation Plan. We are particularly concerned that this plan may have serious environmental justice ramifications, particularly for the communities we represent in South Los Angeles.

The Environmental Justice Coalition for Water (EJCW) is a statewide coalition of more than sixty community based and non-profit organizations working to ensure that low-income people and communities of color have access to safe and affordable water resources for all beneficial uses through an open and participatory public process. We strongly disapprove of any process that excludes the voice of the affected community and Metropolitan is truncating its duty as a public agency by expediting the approval of a plan that has not been properly vetted through its member agencies and affected stakeholders.

The water allocation plan proposes increased water rates and a penalty rate structure that will adversely impact disadvantaged communities. The plan would place a disproportionate burden on low-income communities, which would not be able to afford costly technological fixes for water conservation. While the staff attempted to address "disparate impacts," we strongly believe that further review is needed to truly assess the long-term effects of the plan on the most vulnerable members in your service area. We appreciate Metropolitan's efforts to set in motion a plan to address our use of increasingly scarce water resources and we believe that an equitable allocation is possible when all stakeholders have the opportunity to voice their concerns.

We strongly urge you to open the planning process and provide a 45-day review period for affected stakeholders to provide critical input.

Sincerely,

Miriam Torres
Southern California Project Coordinator

cc: MWD Board of Directors
Art Aguilar, General Manager, Central Basin MWD

RICK RAMIREZ
Mayor
MICHAEL MENDEZ
Vice Mayor
CHERI KELLEY
Councilmember
JESSE M. LUERA
Councilmember
GORDON STEFENHAGEN
Councilmember
ERNIE V. GARCIA
City Manager



12700 NORWALK BLVD., P.O. BOX 1030, NORWALK, CA 90651-1030 * PHONE: 562/929-5700 * FACSIMILE: 562/929-5773 * WWW.CI.NORWALK.CA.US

February 7, 2008

Mr. Tim Brick, Chairman of the Board
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Re: Metropolitan Water District's Proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan

Dear Mr. Brick:

On behalf of City of Norwalk, I am writing this letter to express our concerns about the implications of the MWD's proposed water supply allocation plan (Plan).

We have been informed by Central Basin Municipal Water District (Central Basin) that despite requests for delay, your Board plans to take action on the matter on February 12, disregarding input from cities such as ours. We are extremely disappointed that you did not address how the Plan will affect our region, including the economically disadvantaged communities.

The Plan could have very significant impacts on our local economy. The cities and agencies that pump water from the Central Groundwater Basin are heavily reliant on groundwater as its primary supply, but we are also very dependent on imported water as a supplemental source to meet the region's demands.


We are also greatly concerned about the environmental justice ramification of the approved plan. While we understand that in times of shortage the disparate impacts throughout the MWD service area must be addressed, the impact on disadvantaged communities could be severe. Combined with a projected 14-20 percent increase in imported water rates next year, the penalty rate structure in the allocation plan could mean significant financial burden to our residents and businesses.

Presently, the communities in the Central Basin MWD service area are receiving imported water from MWD well below what is allocated under Preferential Rights.

If this allocation plan is activated this summer, inner city communities stand to lose more water while having to pay higher rates to subsidize those areas that have experienced significant economic growth and developed beyond their water supply availability.

We strongly urge you to delay the adoption of the Plan until these issues and concerns are addressed.

Sincerely,



Rick Ramirez
Mayor

cc: City Council
Ernie V. Garcia, City Manager
President Bob Apodaca, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Phil Hawkins, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Art Aguilar, Central Basin General Manager
Jeff Kightlinger, MWD General Manager



February 6, 2008

Mr. Tim Brick, Chairman of the Board
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Metropolitan Water District's
Proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan

Dear Mr. Brick:

On behalf of Orchard Dale Water District, I am writing this letter to express our concerns about the implications of the MWD's proposed water supply allocation plan (Plan).

We have been informed by Central Basin Municipal Water District (Central Basin) that despite requests for delay, your Board plans to take action on the matter on February 12, disregarding input from cities such as ours. We are extremely disappointed that you did not address how the Plan will affect our region, including the economically disadvantaged communities.

The Plan could have very significant impacts on our local economy. The cities and agencies that pump water from the Central Groundwater Basin are heavily reliant on groundwater as its primary supply, but we are also very dependent on imported water as a supplemental source to meet the region's demands.

We are also greatly concerned about the environmental justice ramification of the approved plan. While we understand that in times of shortage the disparate impacts throughout the MWD service area must be addressed, the impact on disadvantaged communities could be severe. Combined with a projected 14-20 percent increase in imported water rates next year, the penalty rate structure in the allocation plan could mean significant financial burden to our residents and businesses.

Presently, the communities in the Central Basin MWD service area are receiving imported water from MWD well below what is allocated under Preferential Rights. If this allocation plan is activated this summer, our inner city communities stand to lose more water while having to pay higher rates to subsidize those areas that have experienced significant economic growth and developed beyond their water supply availability.

We strongly urge you to delay the adoption of the Plan until these issues and concerns are addressed.

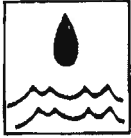
I can be reached at (562) 305-2254.

Sincerely,



Yvette Stevenson-Rodriguez
Director
Orchard Dale Water District

CC: President Bob Apodaca, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Phil Hawkins, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Art Aguilar, Central Basin General Manager
Jeff Kightlinger, MWD General Manager



Southeast Water Coalition

A joint powers authority to protect the Central Groundwater Basin

Honorable Tom Hansen
Chair

February 6, 2008

Honorable Todd Rogers
Vice Chair

Mr. Tim Brick, Chairman of the Board
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Member Agencies

- City of Cerritos
- City of Commerce
- City of Downey
- City of Lakewood
- City of Norwalk
- City of Paramount
- City of Pico Rivera
- City of Santa Fe Springs
- City of South Gate
- City of Vernon
- City of Whittier

Metropolitan Water District's
Proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan

Dear Mr. Brick:

Last month, the Southeast Water Coalition (SEWC) and several cities associated with SEWC sent letters urgently requesting that the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Board of Directors delay the adoption of the proposed allocation plan (Plan) for input from those affected cities and local agencies.

SEWC members provide water service to a residential population of over 650,000 and countless commercial and industrial businesses in a service area of approximately 100 square miles. SEWC members include the cities of Commerce, Cerritos, Downey, Lakewood, Norwalk, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs, South Gate, Vernon, and Whittier.

We have been informed by Central Basin Municipal Water District (Central Basin) that despite our request for delay, your Board plans to take action on the matter on February 12, disregarding input from our cities. We are extremely disappointed that you did not address how the Plan will affect our region, including the economically disadvantaged communities.

The Plan could have very significant impacts on our local economy. The cities and agencies that pump water from the Central Groundwater Basin are heavily reliant on groundwater as its primary supply, but we are very dependent on imported water as a supplemental source to meet the region's demands.

Linda Benedetti-Leal
Authority Secretary

Steve Dorsey
Authority Legal Counsel

Karina Lam
Authority Treasurer

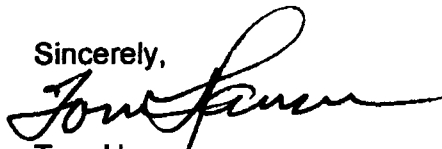
City of Paramount
Lead Agency

We are also greatly concerned about the environmental justice ramification of the plan. While we understand that in times of shortage the disparate impacts throughout the MWD service area must be addressed, the impact on disadvantaged communities could be severe. Combined with a projected 14-20 percent increase in imported water rates next year, the penalty rate structure in the allocation plan could mean significant financial burden to our residents and businesses.

Presently, the communities in the Central Basin service area are receiving imported water from MWD well below what is allocated under Preferential Rights. If this Plan is activated this summer, our inner city communities stand to lose more water while having to pay higher rates to subsidize those areas that have experienced significant economic growth and developed beyond their water supply availability.

We strongly urge you to delay the adoption of the Plan until these issues and concerns are addressed.

Sincerely,



Tom Hansen
Chairman, Board of Directors
Southeast Water Coalition Joint Powers Authority
Council Member, City of Paramount

CC: President Bob Apodaca, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Phil Hawkins, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Art Aguilar, Central Basin General Manager
Jeff Kightlinger, MWD General Manager
Board of Directors, Southeast Water Coalition Joint Powers Authority
Kevin L. Wattier, Long Beach Water Department
Tim Jochem, Upper San Gabriel MWD
SEWC JPA Members-Cities of Cerritos, Commerce, Downey, Lakewood, Norwalk, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs, South Gate, Vernon, Whittier



11710 Telegraph Road • CA • 90670-3679 • (562) 868-0511 • Fax (562) 868-7112 • www.santafesprings.org

February 7, 2008

Mr. Tim Brick, Chairman of the Board
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Subject: Metropolitan Water District's Proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan

Dear Mr. Brick:

On behalf of City of Santa Fe Springs, I am writing this letter to express our concerns about the implications of the MWD's proposed water supply allocation plan (Plan).

We have been informed by Central Basin Municipal Water District (Central Basin) that despite requests for delay, your Board plans to take action on the matter on February 12th, disregarding input from cities such as ours. We are extremely disappointed that you did not address how the Plan will affect our region, including the economically disadvantaged communities.

The Plan could have very significant impacts on our local economy. The cities and agencies that pump water from the Central Groundwater Basin are heavily reliant on groundwater as a primary supply, but we are also very dependent on imported water as a supplemental source to meet the region's demands.

We are also greatly concerned about the environmental justice ramification of the approved plan. While we understand that in times of shortage, the disparate impacts throughout the MWD service area must be addressed, the impact on disadvantaged communities could be severe. Combined with a projected 14-20 percent increase in imported water rates next year, the penalty rate structure in the allocation plan could mean significant financial burden to our residents and businesses.

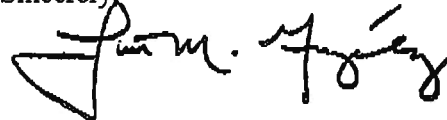
Presently, the communities in the Central Basin MWD service area are receiving imported water from MWD well below what is allocated under Preferential Rights. If this allocation plan is activated this summer, our inner city communities stand to lose more water while having to pay higher rates to subsidize those areas that have experienced significant economic growth and developed beyond their water supply availability.

Mr. Tim Brick, Chairman of the Board
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
February 7, 2008
Page 2

We strongly urge you to delay the adoption of the Plan until these issues and concerns are addressed.

I can be reached at (562) 868-0511.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luis M. González". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Luis" and last name "González" clearly distinguishable.

Luis M. González
Mayor Pro-Tem

xc: Santa Fe Springs City Council
Frederick W. Latham, City Manager
Donald K. Jensen, Director of Public Works
Ted Spaseff, Director of Maintenance and Utility Services
President Bob Apodaca, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Phil Hawkins, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Art Aguilar, Central Basin General Manager
Jeff Kightlinger, MWD General Manager



CITY OF SIGNAL HILL

2175 Cherry Avenue • Signal Hill, California 90755-3799

February 6, 2008

Mr. Tim Brick
Chairman of the Board
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Subject: Opposition to Metropolitan Water District's Proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan

Dear Mr. Brick:

The purpose of this letter is to express the City of Signal Hill's opposition to MWD's scheduled adoption of the proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan. The Allocation Plan lacks the clarity necessary to determine how the plan will affect our residents and businesses. The plan also appears to encourage greater reliance on imported water rather than encouraging water conservation.

The MWD Board plans to take action on the proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan on February 12, 2008 despite requests from member agencies to delay the adoption until the impacts of the Plan can be further analyzed and responsibly addressed. The City of Signal Hill is a member of the Central Basin Municipal Water District. The Central Groundwater Basin is our primary source of water. The City is also very dependent on imported water as a supplemental source to meet our annual demands. The City has been unable to determine the quantity of imported water that will be available to the City or the threshold that will trigger the penalty rate structure. The combination of MWD's projected 14 to 20 percent increase in imported water rates and the penalty rate structure in the Allocation Plan leaves Signal Hill very concerned about the uncertain financial impact the Allocation Plan will have on our community.

The Allocation Plan also ignores the preferential rights of member agencies and instead gives preference to communities that are creating a demand beyond their water supply availability. This strategy seems counterintuitive during periods of drought when import water supplies that are normally available to meet existing demand are being cut back. Presently, members of the Central Basin Municipal Water District service area are receiving imported water from MWD well below the levels that are allocated under preferential rights. The Allocation Plan takes water away from these communities and forces them to pay higher rates to subsidize communities that are creating more water demand.

Water Supply Allocation Plan

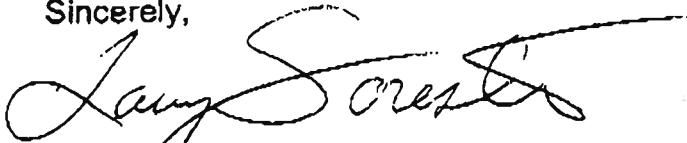
February 8, 2008

Page 2

The City of Signal Hill understands that water management measures must be put in place in times of shortage. However, we respectfully request that the MWD Board delay the adoption of the proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan. We feel additional time is necessary to better understand the implications of the Allocation Plan and allow for greater engagement from all communities that will lead to a more equitable plan.

The City of Signal Hill appreciates your consideration of our request. If you have any questions, please call Charlie Honeycutt, Deputy City Manager at (562) 989-7356.

Sincerely,



Larry Forester
Council Member

cc: Mayor and City Council Members
President Bob Apodaca, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Phil Hawkins, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
Art Aguilar, Central Basin General Manager
Jeff Kightlinger, MWD General Manager



City of South Gate

8650 CALIFORNIA AVENUE • SOUTH GATE, CA 90280-3075 • (323) 563-9543
www.cityofsouthgate.org FAX (323) 569-2678

W. H. (BILL) DE WITT, Mayor
GIL HURTADO, Vice Mayor
MARIA DAVILA, Council Member
HENRY C. GONZALEZ, Council Member
GREGORY MARTINEZ, Council Member

February 7, 2008

Mr. Tim Brick, Chairman of the Board
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Subject: *Metropolitan Water District's Proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan*

Dear Mr. Brick:

On behalf of City of South Gate, I am writing this letter to express our City's concerns about the implications of the MWD's proposed water supply allocation plan (Plan).

We have been informed by Central Basin Municipal Water District (Central Basin) that despite requests for delay, your Board plans to take action on the matter on February 12, disregarding input from cities such as ours. We are extremely disappointed that you did not address how the Plan will affect our region, including economically disadvantaged communities.

The Plan could have very significant impacts on our local economy during emergency water demand conditions. The cities and agencies that pump water from the Central Groundwater Basin are heavily reliant on groundwater as our primary supply, but we are also very dependent on imported water as a supplemental source to meet our city's water demand in cases of emergencies or mechanical failures.

We are also greatly concerned about the environmental justice ramification of the approved plan. While we understand that in times of shortage the disparate impacts throughout the MWD service area must be addressed; however, the impact on disadvantaged communities can not be disproportionately severe. Combined with a projected 14-20 percent increase in imported water rates next year, the penalty rate structure in the allocation plan could mean significant financial burden to our residents and businesses.

Presently, the communities in the Central Basin MWD service area are receiving imported water from MWD well below what is allocated under Preferential Rights. If the proposed allocation plan is activated this summer, our inner city communities stand to lose water availability while

***Metropolitan Water District's Proposed Water Supply Allocation Plan
February 7, 2008
Page 2***

having to pay higher rates to subsidize those areas that have experienced significant economic growth and developed beyond their water supply availability.

We strongly urge you to delay the adoption of the Plan until these issues and concerns are addressed and would look forward to working with MET on this very serious policy issue.

I can be reached at (323) 563-9543.

Sincerely,



W.H. (Bill) De Witt
Mayor

- cc: South Gate City Council
- Ronald Bates, City Manager
- Robert T. Dickey, Director of Public Works
- President Bob Apodaca, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
- Phil Hawkins, Central Basin Board of Directors & MWD Director
- Art Aguilar, Central Basin General Manager
- Jeff Kightlinger, MWD General Manager