



San Diego County Water Authority

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September 20, 2015

Randy Record and
Members of the Board of Directors
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

MEMBER AGENCIES

- Carlsbad Municipal Water District
- City of Del Mar
- City of Escondido
- City of National City
- City of Oceanside
- City of Poway
- City of San Diego
- Fallbrook Public Utility District
- Helix Water District
- Lakeside Water District
- Olivenhain Municipal Water District
- Otay Water District
- Padre Dam Municipal Water District
- Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base
- Rainbow Municipal Water District
- Ramona Municipal Water District
- Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District
- San Dieguito Water District
- Santa Fe Irrigation District
- South Bay Irrigation District
- Vallecitos Water District
- Valley Center Municipal Water District
- Vista Irrigation District
- Yuima Municipal Water District

OTHER REPRESENTATIVE

- County of San Diego

RE: Board Memo 8-5: Express Support and Seek Amendments to S. 1894 (Feinstein, D-CA) – California Emergency Drought Relief Act of 2015 – **SUPPORT WITH MODIFICATIONS**

Chair Record and Members of the Board:

We write in response to Board Memo 8-5, asking the board to express support and seek amendments to Senator Feinstein’s S. 1894 – California Emergency Drought Relief Act of 2015. We have the following requests and comments.

At its August board meeting, the Water Authority board adopted a Support and Seek Amendments position on S. 1894. Specifically, the Water Authority has requested an amendment to include on the list of entities eligible for federal funding assistance for water recycling projects, the San Dieguito Water District and the San Elijo Joint Powers Authority. We request that MWD add this provision to the amendments it is requesting.

We are concerned with staff’s third bullet point recommendation to delete references to the need to “reduce reliance on imported water supplies.” Given that it is the express policy of the State of California to reduce reliance on the Delta in meeting California’s future water supply needs (Water Code Section 85021), we are concerned that this requested amendment sends the wrong message. We do not support and do not believe that MWD should request this amendment.

Subject to these changes, we support staff recommendation in Board Memo 8-5. On a separate note, Board Memo 8-5 was not available with the regular board mailing. MWD’s consistent late delivery of a majority of the board reports makes it extremely difficult for our staff to provide the technical support necessary for our deliberation of MWD staff recommendations. We renew past requests that board memoranda be distributed at least seven days in advance of MWD board meetings.

A public agency providing a safe and reliable water supply to the San Diego region

Sincerely,



Michael T. Hogan
Director



Keith Lewinger
Director



Fern Steiner
Director



Yen C. Tu
Director