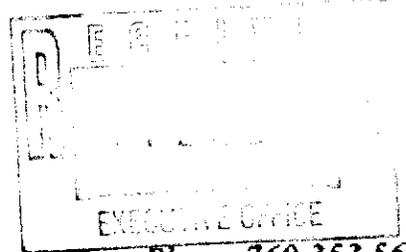


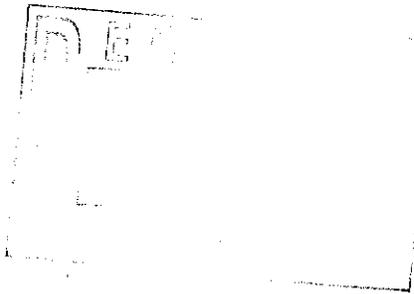
BONANZA FARMS, INC.
2121 Dogwood Road
PO Box 1811
El Centro, Ca. 92244



Phone 760 353 5645
Fax 760 353 0072

June 21, 2002

Arthur Baggett, Jr.
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, Ca. 95812-0100



Dear Sir:

As a business owner in the Imperial Valley, I feel compelled to express my concerns over the impending water transfer from Imperial Valley to San Diego. The idea of fallowing productive farmland to produce water for the transfer is outrageous.

The original intent was to transfer conserved water from the Imperial Valley to San Diego. The signed transfer agreement prohibits land fallowing as a means of conserving water for the transfer. It also states that San Diego will not have to pay for water that is gained by fallowing instead of conservation. Where would that leave us?

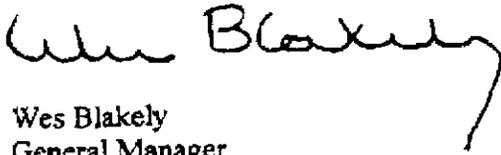
Now there are many groups calling for the preservation of the Salton Sea which is fed by the Imperial Valley drain water. If the Imperial Valley conserves water for the transfer, the sea will diminish in size and quality as less water is drained there. The Imperial Valley farmers and the Imperial Irrigation District will probably be held accountable for the environmental mitigation which could run into the hundreds of millions of dollars. None of the agencies involved in the transfer are willing to accept responsibility for the environmental costs.

Politicians from all over the state are insinuating that fallowing is the only solution and that if we do not fallow the thousands of acres necessary, they will take our water, possibly with no compensation

Most of us here in the Imperial Valley feel we are in a David vs. Goliath situation. What started out as an effort to help our San Diego neighbors and also benefit Imperial Valley has turned into a lose-lose situation for us. As many as 35,000 to 50,000 acres of farmland would have to be fallowed and the effects on our economy would be disastrous. The offers of job training to those that lose their jobs are not a solution. The jobs they are trained for will likely take them from this area and transplant them in larger areas with the demands for those skills. This, of course, would further weaken our local economy.

It is clear to us that the Imperial Valley cannot transfer water to the coast and be faced with the problems of following to save the Salton Sea.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wes Blakely". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Wes Blakely
General Manager