10/22/13 Board Meeting 2014 IUP Deadline: 9/16/13 by 12 noon



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September 11, 2013

Thomas Howard Executive Director State Water Resources Control Board 1001 I St. Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Hi-Desert Water District CWSRF 2014 IUP Participation

Dear Mr. Howard:

On behalf of Mojave Water Agency, please accept our support for the Hi-Desert Water District's (HDWD) Wastewater Reclamation Project, as well as the District's financing plan for repayment for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan.

As you are aware, the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) is preparing the annual Clean Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan (IUP) for submission to the US EPA in October, and has identified the HDWD's project as an "A" priority in the draft IUP draft document.

The HDWD's Wastewater Reclamation Project will help Yucca Valley eliminate all septic systems by 2016, thereby ensuring a safer, reliable local water supply for disadvantaged communities. Currently, 99 percent of HDWD's homes and businesses are served by septic systems, ranking among the highest communities served by septic systems in the State. In 2011, US EPA found that septic percolation in the region violated drinking water safety standards for nitrates and other materials.

Monitoring well data in local groundwater basins show pollution associated with septage is accumulating, and will ultimately negatively affect groundwater production aquifers. This condition has resulted in a Cease & Desist Order from the CRBRWQCB, and increases the urgency for this reclamation project.

The District has researched and planned this project with local collaboration. Design is complete, and the project has secured memorandums of agreement from major local entities. The District has conducted a local ratepayer survey, and held community meetings to gather input and inform the public about the importance of the project.

For these reasons, Mojave Water Agency supports the Hi-Desert Water District's Wastewater Reclamation Project as an "A" priority in the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan.

Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 760-946-7000.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Cox, President Mojave Water Agency

CC:

Felicia Marcus, SWRCB Chair Liz Havens, SWRCB Deputy Director Robert Perdue, CRBRWQCB Executive Officer Jackson R. Guacos, The Guacos Group, Inc.