



September 4, 2009

Mr. Tom Fayram
Deputy Director of Public Works
123 East Anapamu St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Dear Tom:

As you are aware, the recent California drought and, more importantly, multiple regulatory agency pumping restrictions in the Sacramento San Joaquin Bay Delta (Delta) have severely cut State Water Project allocations to the Santa Barbara water agencies that make up the Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA). State experts inform us that at least until a comprehensive plan for managing all aspects of the Delta and the construction alternative conveyance facilities around the Delta are completed, we will continue to see water supply impacts. Consequently, several Santa Barbara water agencies have asked CCWA to provide programs to mitigate these impacts and to firm up the reliability of the State Water Project.

CCWA views the reacquisition of 12,214 acre feet of State water that the County relinquished back to the State in 1981, to be a critical element in firming up reliability of high quality imported water to its member agencies. Use of State water over the last twelve years has curtailed most over-drafting of Santa Barbara County groundwater basins and has provided a cost effective alternative to overtaxing local surface supplies during dry years and expensive energy intensive technologies such as desalination.

Therefore, pursuant to the various Water Supply Retention Agreements, the various 1991 Water Supply Contracts between CCWA and its contractors, and the 1991 Transfer of Financial Responsibility Agreement between CCWA and the Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (the District), we request that the District submit a letter to the Department of Water Resources (DWR), requesting that it immediately initiate the process to reacquire the 12,214 acre-feet of Table A allotment that was suspended in 1981.

CCWA would be happy to assist your staff in drafting the request. Please contact me at (805) 688-2292 extension 215 if you have questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bill Brennan", written over a horizontal line.

William J. Brennan
Executive Director

WJB

Larry Lavagnino
Chairman

Fred Lemere
Vice Chairman

William J. Brennan
Executive Director

Brownstein Hyatt
Farber Schreck
General Counsel

Member Agencies

City of Buellton

Carpinteria Valley
Water District

City of Guadalupe

City of Santa Barbara

City of Santa Maria

Goleta Water District

Montecito Water District

Santa Ynez River Water
Conservation District,
Improvement District #1

Associate Member

Cumbre Mutual
Water Company

Industrial Way
Santa Barbara, CA 93427-9565
(805) 688-2292
FAX: (805) 686-4700

cc: Scott McGolpin, County of Santa Barbara
Steve Amerikaner, Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber, Schreck
Rob Cooke, California Department of Water Resources, SWPAO