



*...Dedicated to Community Service*

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**otaywater.gov**

September 17, 2020

Chair Dianne Jacob  
San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission  
9335 Hazard Way, Suite 200  
San Diego, CA 92123

Re: Fallbrook PUD and Rainbow MWD Proposals to Detach from CWA and Annex to Eastern MWD

Dear Chair Jacob:

As one of 22 member agencies of the San Diego County Water Authority (CWA), the Otay Water District will be greatly affected by LAFCO's determination concerning the unprecedented proposals submitted by Fallbrook Public Utility District (Fallbrook) and Rainbow Municipal Water District (Rainbow) to annex to Eastern Municipal Water District (Eastern) for Wholesale Water Service with concurrent Detachment from the CWA.

We support the Resolution adopted by the CWA's Board of Directors on May 28, 2020 and, we too request that LAFCO conduct a comprehensive evaluation of all the impacts of Fallbrook and Rainbow's proposals including financial, water supply reliability, governmental, and environmental impacts, and ensure that the public and all affected agencies have a meaningful and balanced opportunity to engage in the evaluation process.

We also request that the LAFCO evaluate and determine the following:

1. That the proposed detachments will not adversely affect the Otay Water District, other CWA member agencies, and San Diego County as a region financially or environmentally; and
2. That the proposed detachments from CWA and annexations into Eastern will not increase reliance on the Bay-Delta; and
3. That the proposed detachments will not result in a diminution of the CWA's voting power at MWD to represent the interests of all San Diego county repairs and property owners.

The Otay Water District appreciates both Rainbow and Fallbrook's desire to secure the most advantageous rate for the water they provide to their customers, but we oppose their proposals to the extent that either

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the Otay Water District, CWA and its member agencies, and/or the San Diego region are adversely affected in the above-described areas by their detachment from CWA and/or annexation to Eastern.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Croucher", written in a cursive style.

Gary Croucher,  
President, Board of Directors  
Otay Water District

cc: Director Mark Robak, Otay Water District  
Director Tim Smith, Otay Water District  
Director Mitch Thompson, Otay Water District  
Director Hector Gastelum, Otay Water District  
Jose Martinez, General Manager Otay Water District  
Jeanne Blumenfeld, Esq.  
Dan Shinoff, Esq.  
Keene Simonds, LAFCO Executive Officer  
Sandy Kerl, General Manager, San Diego County Water Authority  
Mark Hattam, General Counsel, San Diego County Water Authority