

## Santa Fe Irrigation District



September 17, 2020

Keene Simonds, Executive Director  
San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission  
9335 Hazard Way, Ste 200  
San Diego, CA 92123

***SUBJECT: Comments – Fallbrook Public Utility District/Rainbow Municipal Water District Detachment Proposal***

Dear Keene:

As one of the San Diego County Water Authority's member agencies, Santa Fe Irrigation District would like to provide comments regarding the detachment proposal from Fallbrook PUD and Rainbow MWD, respectively.

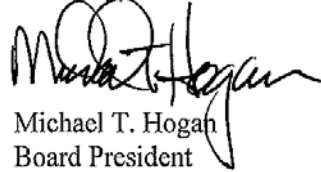
The San Diego County Water Authority was formed during World War II to ensure that large-scale infrastructure would be built to bring a precious resource to our region, ensuring our economy and quality of life would continue to flourish. That spirit of cooperation has continued for 75 years as the Water Authority has worked through its 24 member agencies to ensure a safe and reliable water supply as the population has grown to more than three million residents. Every business sector in our region from breweries to biotech to agriculture are dependent on a reliable and cost-effective water supply. The Water Authority's efforts to diversify the region's water supply portfolio and prepare for emergencies such as drought and earthquakes are critical to the continued growth of our region's economy. But those diversification efforts have come at a cost to every single ratepayer in our region and vary amongst water districts based on their local operating costs. Each water district has the duty to represent their ratepayers fairly and responsibly, according to their board policy, and work to manage costs now and in the future.

It is our hope that all parties involved will work cooperatively and respectfully to discuss and resolve the issues, with the ratepayer in mind. Each of the 24 retail agencies will be impacted financially by the proposed detachments. As the LAFCO committee works through these complex organizational and financial issues, it is imperative that they consider those impacts on retail agency customers and the effects on the financial viability of all the water agencies in San Diego County.

SFID appreciates the complex nature of the proposed detachment, appreciates LAFCO's diligence and thoughtful approach on this matter, and we hope that a mutually beneficial agreement can be reached.

Thank you for considering our comments. Please feel free to contact us should you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael T. Hogan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" and last name "Hogan" clearly distinguishable.

Michael T. Hogan  
Board President

cc: Sandy Kerl, GM, SDCWA  
Jack Beebe, GM, Fallbrook PUD  
Tom Kennedy, GM, Rainbow MWD