

January 6, 2021

MEMBER AGENCIES

**VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL**

Carlsbad  
Municipal Water District  
City of Del Mar  
City of Escondido  
City of National City  
City of Oceanside  
City of Poway  
City of San Diego

Susan Tatayon, Chair  
Delta Stewardship Council  
980 Ninth Street  
Suite 1500  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(Susan.Tatayon@deltacouncil.ca.gov)

Fallbrook  
Public Utility District  
Helix Water District  
Lakeside Water District  
Olivenhain  
Municipal Water District  
Otay Water District  
Padre Dam  
Municipal Water District  
Camp Pendleton  
Marine Corps Base  
Rainbow  
Municipal Water District

Dear Chair Tatayon:

The Delta Stewardship Council was recently sent a submittal from the Fallbrook Public Utilities District (“Fallbrook”) related to a September 17, 2020, letter from the Bay Delta Watermaster. That letter had been submitted by our agency, the San Diego County Water Authority (“Water Authority”) in regards to a LAFCO proceeding here in San Diego. Both Fallbrook and Rainbow Municipal Water District (“Rainbow”) have sought to detach from the Water Authority and move water wholesalers, a request being reviewed by our local LAFCO.

Ramona  
Municipal Water District  
Rincon del Diablo  
Municipal Water District  
San Dieguito Water District  
Santa Fe Irrigation District  
South Bay Irrigation District  
Vallecitos Water District  
Valley Center  
Municipal Water District  
Vista Irrigation District  
Yuima  
Municipal Water District

Apparently, Fallbrook’s submittal was intended to show two things to the Delta Stewardship Council: (1) that Fallbrook and other agencies are reducing their overall demands on the Bay-Delta via various programs; and (2) that Fallbrook’s sought reorganization will not have any effect on Bay-Delta water usage. As to the first point, that is not at issue in the San Diego LAFCO proceeding. If agencies are developing their own local supplies to reduce Bay-Delta water usage, this is full in accord with State law and policy, all of which is well known by your Council. Indeed, the Water Authority has worked diligently to further such goals, most notably by the landmark QSA water transfers which helped move the San Diego region away from MWD’s Bay-Delta reliance and onto firm Colorado River supplies.

OTHER REPRESENTATIVE

County of San Diego

As to the second point, however, the Fallbrook submittal is in error. The proposed reorganizations by Fallbrook and Rainbow would increase water usage from the Bay-Delta. This is all detailed in the Water Authority’s Response submitted to the local LAFCO, which Response and exhibits can be found at this LAFCO website: [San Diego County Water Authority Response \[9/18/20\] | San Diego LAFCO \(sdlafco.org\)](https://www.sdlafco.org) See, in particular, pages 95-100. Notably, the Bay-Delta friendly QSA water supply is what Fallbrook and Rainbow now seek to leave, moving onto MWD’s more Bay-Delta reliant supplies.

Additionally, the Water Authority has recently submitted to LAFCO a reply to various submittals, including the Fallbrook submittal to your Council, as well as new reports from its consultant Stratecon, Inc., related to the Bay-Delta. They are all included with this letter.

Susan Tatayon  
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The Water Authority presents these materials to the Council so that you have in front of you the full explanation of what is being addressed at the San Diego LAFCO. If you or the Council have any questions, please feel free to contact me and I can put you in touch with appropriate staff at the Water Authority. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mark J. Hattam  
General Counsel

Enclosures

cc via email:

Michael George, Bay Delta Watermaster  
Jessica Pearson, Executive Director Delta Stewardship Council  
Keene Simonds, Executive Officer San Diego County LAFCO  
Sandra L. Kerl, General Manager, SDCWA  
Nick Kanetis, Deputy General Manager, EMWD  
Jeff Kightlinger, General Manager, MWD  
Jack Bebee, General Manager Fallbrook Public Utility District  
Tom Kennedy, General Manager Rainbow Municipal Water District  
Water Authority Board of Directors