

June 1, 2023

Dear Water Authority Board Members,

This is to provide you with a copy of a letter Director Bebee sent to Water Authority member agency managers yesterday ([LINK](#)), with a cc to the CEO of LAFCO. As you know, this Monday LAFCO's eight Commissioners will be discussing the detachment issue. This letter involves important Water Authority business, and since you were not copied on the letter, we wanted you to be included. You will recognize that in his letter, Director Bebee says things he has said many times during our board meetings.

I do not think we have any disagreement about issues to be addressed, we only disagree about the process and timeline of the Water Authority's ongoing long-term planning to maintain a reliable and affordable water supply in San Diego County. We think the right process is continued decision-making by you, our Board of Directors, on the timeline we have discussed and established leading to a retreat at the end of summer. We do not believe that the Water Authority is in "imminent" danger of any kind.

In addition to our own planning processes, the Water Authority and its MWD board members and professional staff are also directly involved in MWD's long-term resource and financial planning ("climate action masterplan for water"), which is just beginning. We expect our planning processes to be integrated and may very well result in the kind of partnerships Director Bebee mentions in his letter. However, as in the case of our agency, this will be for the MWD Board of Directors to decide.

Similarly, and as you know from closed session information, our Board is extremely knowledgeable about the issues in the litigation and how they might best be resolved in a mutually satisfactory way that protects San Diego County water ratepayers and taxpayers and avoids future litigation.

We do not believe these are appropriate subjects for LAFCO to decide in connection with the detachment applications or otherwise.

Sincerely,



Mel Katz

**MEMBER AGENCIES**

Carlsbad MWD • City of Del Mar • City of Escondido • Fallbrook Public Utility District • Helix Water District • Lakeside Water District • City of National City  
City of Oceanside • Olivenhain MWD • Otay Water District • Padre Dam MWD • Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base • City of Poway • Rainbow MWD  
Ramona MWD • Rincon del Diablo MWD • City of San Diego • San Dieguito Water District • Santa Fe Irrigation District • Sweetwater Authority  
Vallecitos Water District • Valley Center MWD • Vista Irrigation District • Yuima Municipal Water District

cc: Adan Ortega, MWD Board Chair  
Sandy Kerl, General Manager  
Water Authority Member Agency General Managers  
Keene Simonds and LAFCO Commissioners

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Vallecitos Water District • Valley Center MWD • Vista Irrigation District • Yuima Municipal Water District

**From:** JimPeg <jimpegjordan1@twc.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, June 1, 2023 10:15 AM

**To:** Mumpower, Priscilla <Priscilla.Mumpower@sdcounty.ca.gov>

**Subject:** [External] FPUD/RMWD Detachment

Ms. Mumpower,

My wife and I are homeowners and residents of Fallbrook and customers of FPUD. I would like to register my disagreement with the proposed detachment of FPUD from SDCWA and attachment to the Riverside County EMWD. FPUD suggests that the detachment will result in a cost savings to their customers, but their rate studies do not support that the savings will be significant enough to support this drastic change.

We certainly would not support deannexation of Fallbrook from San Diego County and will oppose every step of that process. We support Option Five of your staff recommendations.

Thank you for allowing me to comment.

James A Jordan

2416 Hummingbird Hill Lane

Fallbrook, CA 92028

(442) 444-8423

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

## Sellen, Erica A

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**From:** Dale New <dale.new@caltropic.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 2, 2023 1:46 PM  
**To:** Sellen, Erica A; Mumpower, Priscilla  
**Subject:** [External] Comment on LAFCO June 5, 2023 Hearing Agenda Item No. 6a: " Proposed Rainbow MWD and Fallbrook PUD Reorganizations"

Dear LAFCO Commissioners:

I am a 47-year resident of Fallbrook and own a home and 7 acres of property within the boundaries of the Fallbrook Public Utility District. My wife, Marion, and I came to Fallbrook upon my securing employment as a field representative with Calavo Growers of California. Having begun my business career in the then-flourishing California avocado industry, I am deeply saddened to have witnessed its downward trajectory, due in large part to ever-increasing water costs. Changing water suppliers from the San Diego County Water Authority to the Eastern Municipal Water District will help Fallbrook Public Utility District provide water to its agricultural users at rates that will at least give them a fighting chance of remaining in business. At your June 5, 2023 hearing, I urge you to approve "Option 2" of the alternatives proposed by County staff. Protect North County agriculture and the jobs, commerce and tax revenue that it generates.

Thank you,

**Dale W. New, MS**  
President & General Manager  
*Cal-Tropic Producers*  
Fallbrook, CA 92028  
Cell Phone: (760) 271-3657  
[www.caltropic.com](http://www.caltropic.com)

## Sellen, Erica A

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**From:** Duane Urquhart <duane@ncinvests.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 2, 2023 3:58 PM  
**To:** Sellen, Erica A  
**Subject:** [External] Reminder LAFCO Meeting Monday 8 AM.

Corrected some typos. Pls use this version. Thanks

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**From:** Duane Urquhart  
**Sent:** Friday, June 02, 2023 3:53 PM  
**To:** erica.sellen@sdcounty.ca.gov  
**Subject:** LAFCO Meeting Item 6a

Commissioners:

I am a second generation avocado farmer and would like to see future farmer generations be able to prevail. I writing to request your support for the Rainbow MD and Fallbrook PUD de-annexation from the San Diego County Water Authority. There are some pertinent facts to consider.

Historically, agricultural production has been predominant in N. San Diego County for many different types of crops and agricultural pursuits. In the case of avocado production because the unique growing environmental requirements, there are only a few distinct USA locations in which this crop can be grown- N. San Diego County being one such location. Back in the 1960's and 1970's avocado acreage significant increased along with demand for this very nutritious produce.

Since that early period of avocado industry water costs have increased significantly along with the substantial increase in San Diego County population. As a result, producing avocado acreage has declined while the residential population in San Diego County has grown dramatically. This I believe is where the disconnect exists between northern section and southern sections of San Diego County. Since the evidence is that overall water costs have gone up and the amount of agricultural producing acreage has declined, it would be a logical extension to presume that the majority of the increase in water costs as been related to overall population growth in the southern section of the County.

As a result, this increase in water costs has placed a undue burden of farmers and growers in the N. San Diego County. We have a special opportunity to obtain water at a lower cost which is critical if we are going to maintain our agricultural base in this County and the ability to grow fresh specialty fruits, vegetables, and nursery crops. But, its not just the farmers that are impacted by this decision, there are many agricultural service related industries which are affected along with thousands of workers important to the local economy.

In addition, the Rainbow and Fallbrook water districts are at risk. The large portion of the water sales in these districts are still directed towards agriculture. To the extent that increasing water costs displace more agricultural production, it adversely impacts the water districts themselves and forces them to increase water costs even more to maintain their district infrastructure.

When looked at from a County wide perspective, this is a common sense decision. The impact of de-annexation is of marginal impact to the southern County residents amounting to approximately a \$1 per

month in added costs. I would respectfully suggest this is not an unreasonable cost sacrifice to in order to maintain the exceptional attributes that Northern San Diego County helps contribute to the rest of the County at large.

I recommend LAFCO support **Option 1.** Thank you for your consideration.

Duane Urquhart