



June 14, 2023

Keene Simonds, Executives
San Diego LAFCO Commissioners
San Diego County LAFCO
2550 Fifth Avenue, Suite 725
San Diego, CA 92103

Subject: Reiterating EMWD's Position of Neutrality, Readiness to Serve, and Support of the LAFCO Process

Dear Mr. Simonds and LAFCO Commissioners:

We are writing to clarify and to reiterate Eastern Municipal Water District's (EMWD) position on the LAFCO proceedings related to Rainbow Municipal Water District (Rainbow) and Fallbrook Public Utilities District (Fallbrook). Recent correspondences have inferred that EMWD's position on this LAFCO process have changed, which is inaccurate. EMWD's position has not changed.

In addition, EMWD's neutrality on the outcome of this LAFCO process has been mischaracterized as opposition, which is also not accurate.

Due to these recent misstatements, we wanted to clearly reiterate EMWD's position on this matter:

- 1) EMWD supports the San Diego LAFCO process moving forward;
- 2) EMWD remains neutral on the outcome of this LAFCO process; and
- 3) EMWD stands ready to fulfill its commitment to serve Rainbow and Fallbrook if that is the determination made by San Diego LAFCO.

In addition, at the Metropolitan Water District ("MWD") Finance, Audit, Insurance, and Real Property (FAIRP) Committee meeting on June 14, 2023, the committee was clear that it would not weigh in on this particular LAFCO proceeding. However, the committee members, including Director Armstrong,

Board of Directors

Philip E. Paule, *President* Stephen J. Corona, *Vice President* Jeff Armstrong Randy A. Record David J. Slawson

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Mr. Keene Simonds, Executive Director

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communicated interest in exploring whether a policy addressing internal boundary changes among MWD member agencies is necessary for the future. Please see attached FAIRP Committee discussion transcript.

We encourage San Diego LAFCO to move forward expeditiously with its process, especially now that the MWD FAIRP Committee communicated that MWD will not be weighing in on this LAFCO proceeding. The public has already invested over four years of time and resources into this process, and we believe that it is in everyone's best interest for San Diego LAFCO to make its final determination as soon as possible. As such, EMWD has no concerns or objections with LAFCO staff's recommendation to re-calendar the next LAFCO Commission hearing from August 7th to July 10th.

Thank you for your prompt consideration of this correspondence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip E. Paule". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Philip E. Paule
Board President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeff Armstrong". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeff Armstrong
Board of Director
EMWD's Representative
on the MWD Board of Directors



Joe Mouawad, P.E.
General Manager



Attached: Transcript of MWD's FAIRP Committee Meeting, June 13, 2023

CC: Adán Ortega, Chair, and MWD Board of Directors
Mel Katz, Chair, and Water Authority Board of Director
Adel Hagekhalil, General Manager, MWD
Tom Kennedy, General Manager, Rainbow MWD and Rainbow Board of Directors
Jack Bebee, General Manager, Fallbrook PUD and Fallbrook Board of Directors
Holly Whatley, LAFCO General Counsel
Adam Wilson, Ad Hoc Committee Moderator

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