

**From:** Lauren Cazares  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 3:41 PM  
**To:** Simonds,Keene <[Keene.Simonds@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Keene.Simonds@sdcounty.ca.gov)>  
**Subject:** [External] Comments to LAFCO Staff

Good afternoon,

I am writing on behalf of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce to share our deep concerns with the proposed detachment of Fallbrook Public Utilities District and Rainbow Municipal Water District. The proposed departure of the Water Authority and its member agencies to join a Riverside-based entity poses grave concerns for San Diego County's economy. Local businesses, especially those with narrow profit margins, would face millions in additional costs, compounding their challenges and hindering the region's competitiveness.

LAFCO must conduct thorough and updated financial and environmental analyses to accurately reflect the economic landscape of San Diego. Fallbrook and Rainbow must be held accountable, ensuring they fully cover their costs to prevent an unjust burden shift onto the rest of the region's water ratepayers. Protecting local businesses and avoiding an unnecessary water rate hike is crucial for sustaining San Diego's economic well-being.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,  
Lauren Cazares  
Policy Advisor  
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce