



DIANNE JACOB

SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT
SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

September 30, 2013

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Honorable Todd Gloria
Interim Mayor, City of San Diego
City Administration Building
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Mayor :

Thank you again for hosting a meeting to discuss the City of San Diego's planned drawdown of Lake Morena. I appreciate you taking the time to listen to my concerns and allowing me to convey the negative impacts this plan truly will have on public safety, the environment, recreational activities and the local economy for residents of both the County and City of San Diego.

I fully understand the budget constrains for the City of San Diego and the tough decisions that lie ahead in an attempt to overcome these challenges. However, I can't emphasize enough that jeopardizing public safety, the environment and recreational opportunities in turn for a one-time cash savings is the imprudent thing to do.

We truly are at the peak of wildfire season in this region. The firestorms of 2003 and 2007 both occurred in the months of October. At the very least, I am hopeful that you can see the importance of keeping Lake Morena at its most maximum level during this heighten time of fire risk.

Your staff also informed us that there was a 5-month window needed during this fiscal year to fully complete the transfer of water from Lake Morena to Otay Lakes. It seems sensible that delaying this drawdown to January 2014 would keep this region safer during the high-fire season and give the City enough time to complete the transfer before next fiscal year.

Upon commencement of any City drawdown, I remain hopeful that the City will consider a compromise of not going lower than the 2980-foot elevation level. As we discussed, the County believes the 2980-foot level will reduce the footprint to the deeper sections of the lake, and the evaporation at that level will be same as Lake Barrett. Lastly, I would respectfully request that the City keep the County informed of any course of action in

which the City pursues and to inform all stakeholders and any residents or businesses that might be impacted by any drawdown plans.

Again, thank you for meeting with me. I look forward to any follow-up that you may have regarding this matter. If I can be of any additional help or you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (619) 531-5522.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dianne", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

DIANNE JACOB
Vice-Chairwoman

cc: Mr. Walt Ekard, Chief Operating Officer, City of San Diego
Mr. Scott Chadwick, Assistant Chief Operating Officer, City of San Diego
Mr. Brian Albright, Director, Dept. of Parks & Recreation, County of San Diego