



Los Angeles Area
Chamber of Commerce

October 4, 2010

Timothy F. Brick
Chairman, Board of Directors
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, California 90054

Re: MWD Integrated Resources Plan, Recommendations for Regional Water Supply Reliability

Dear Chairman Brick:

The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) wants to emphasize that water is our most fundamental economic and environmental resource and that the availability of clean and safe drinking water is vital to Southern California businesses and residents.

The Chamber's historical understanding of these facts provided the basis for our consistent and longstanding support for the City of Los Angeles and communities throughout Los Angeles County to make long-term multi-billion dollar investments in the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) regional water system. Metropolitan's regional system working with local water systems are together critical to the health of our community and business environment.

With this in mind, the Chamber urges Metropolitan to reaffirm its commitment to an affordable high quality water supply for the region. To this end, the Chamber recommends adoption of Metropolitan's updated Integrated Resources Plan by your Board at its October 2010 meeting. In particular we support the following initiatives included in the Plan:

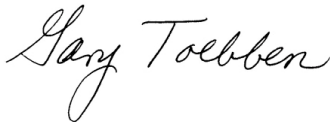
- Develop an operational buffer supply that promotes water use efficiency by implementing local and regional water conservation and recycled water efforts to accomplish a 20 percent reduction in per capita water use by 2020.
- Maintain Metropolitan's existing supplies from the State Water Project and Colorado River to continue to meet the beneficial uses of the region.
- Implement a strategy that ensures future demand in the region can be met through investments in local and regional projects such as advanced treatment technologies that promote water recycling and groundwater cleanup projects.
- Insure the public's money is spent wisely and that prudent water rates are set that support necessary investments to secure a reliable and safe water supply.

- Develop an adaptive management approach to water resource development that can change in response to future water supply uncertainties including climate change, Delta restoration, earthquake, environmental, legal, regulatory, or other unforeseen circumstances.
- Adopt a strategic vision for the future of southern California's water supply that reaffirms Metropolitan's historic commitment to the development of adequate water supplies to meet the expanding and increasing needs of water users throughout southern California into the future.

Water is the region's economic lifeblood and vital to our communities quality of life. Unfortunately, we are living and working on borrowed time, the vibrant economy we seek to build for tomorrow cannot be accommodated within the region's current water policy framework. California's water supply and reliability crisis has gone largely unaddressed for years. Without implementing the new strategies outlined in Metropolitan's updated Integrated Resources Plan, southern California will face continued water shortages.

The Chamber urges Metropolitan to take action to adopt the Integrated Resources Plan at its October 2010 meeting so that these policy initiatives will become a reality and move southern California closer to the goal of having a reliable and safe water supply well into the future. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jessica Duboff at jduboff@lachamber.com or 213.580.7558.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary Toebben".

Gary Toebben
President & CEO