

**HUTCHINSON and****BLOODGOOD LLP**

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND CONSULTANTS

1221 State Street  
El Centro, CA 92243  
t 760.352.1021 f 760.352.3325  
www.hblip.com

June 20, 2002

Mr. Arthur Baggett, Jr., Chairman  
State Water Resources Control Board  
P.O. Box 100  
Sacramento, CA 95812

Fax No. (916) 341-5252

Re: San Diego Water Authority and Imperial Irrigation District Water Issue

Dear Mr. Baggett:

I am writing you to express my concerns regarding the proposed water transfer agreement between the San Diego Water Authority and our Imperial Irrigation District. My knowledge of this water transfer issue comes mainly from public news reports, my agricultural clients, and public presentations, i.e. our Rotary Club, etc.

Until recent months, I along with many of my friends favored the water transfer agreement. I believed our Valley water users could help California's water needs by using compensation from the water transfer to pay for voluntary conservation measures like "pump back systems", etc. Because the transfer prohibited "fallowing", our agricultural economy would not be hurt and in fact more jobs could be generated from installing and maintaining the new conservation measures.

Now recently all seems to have changed.

The change is not in the water transfer, but in the fact that it will be Imperial Valley's responsibility to transfer the water and save the Salton Sea. In the past "fallowing" was not in the discussion, now all you hear are news reports effectively saying "all this can be accomplished if Imperial Valley will "fallow" farm acres". How does Imperial Valley pay for saving the Salton Sea and also pay for the cost of the conservation measures? Where do our agricultural employees get jobs when farming activity is reduced because land is fallowed and the jobs disappear?

Now Imperial Valley residents support for the water transfer agreement seems to be in doubt, because Valley residents fear the rest of California will force measures on us which will destroy our agricultural economy and our way of life.

I request you resist the call for mandatory fallowing.

Sincerely,

HUTCHINSON AND BLOODGOOD LLP

Billy R. Carver