

Wednesday, March 11, 2015

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov



Dear Ms. Townsend,

I am writing to express my support for the Imperial Irrigation District's (IID) petition regarding the Salton Sea. As stated in the workshop notice, *IID has brought an issue of statewide importance to the Board's attention.* This issue affects the health and welfare of every resident of Imperial County, including our children, as well as the businesses and industries in our valley and our overall quality of life.

I am writing to express my support for the Imperial Irrigation District's petition regarding the Salton Sea. Due to the impending public health crisis that will undoubtedly be created as the Salton Sea shrinks, this issue needs to be considered of paramount statewide importance. Thank you for giving it the attention it deserves by scheduling the March 18 public workshop. Albeit a late start, this is a positive move in the right direction. As a resident of Imperial County and as a father, the future of the Salton Sea affects my livelihood, wellbeing and health of myself and my children, as well as the businesses and industries in our valley and our overall quality of life. Now, the San Diego County Water Authority, Coachella Valley Water District and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California -- all of whom benefit from the water conservation efforts in the Imperial Valley by acquiring conserved water for transfer from IID since 2003 -- they all will be opposed to almost any proposed solution. It's because they want "their water" and they don't care what they have to do to get it -- which, could be, one of the reasons that NOTHING has been done since the signing of the Quantification Settlement Agreement in October 2003 to restore the sea. Please remind all parties, the QSA agreements call for restoration of the Salton Sea. Please get them to the table to collectively develop concrete, long-lasting solutions. IID itself has a number of wonderful ideas to work toward a restored Salton Sea, and IID should be commended for this. But rather than platitudes, we need to see action through commitment. With the state's support -- and clear direction -- I know the parties, including the State of California, can come together to address this issue once and for all. I am delighted to see so much state, local, regional and even federal support for a restored Salton Sea. And I am proud that Imperial Irrigation District -- my hometown water and electric utility -- can play a huge role in solving the issue of a restored Salton Sea. Please look at the issue seriously and do all you can. What you do or not do will affect the lives and futures of the Imperial and Coachella valleys. And the Salton Sea is just too important not to save. Sincerely, Robert Schettler P.O. Box 31 Imperial, CA 92251

The current condition of the Salton Sea and the accelerated decline expected post 2017 is an issue that cannot be ignored. I request that your Board continue to work with IID and all other stakeholders to achieve the goal of a feasible and fully funded restoration plan for the Sea. I am

hopeful that the Board's involvement in this critical matter will encourage participation and commitment from all stakeholders involved, while producing a path forward that we can all support.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Robert Schettler

Signature

Robert Schettler

Print Name

P.O. Box 31

Address

Imperial, CA 92251

City, State and Zip Code

cc: Stephen W. Benson, Board President, Imperial Irrigation District
Ryan E. Kelley, Chairman of the Board, County of Imperial