

Introduction:

~~Madame~~ ^{Mr.} Chair and honorable members of the commission welcome to Fresno (bienvenidos). My name is Javier Guzman member of the Water for the Land Committee. For your review and consideration we have prepared a packet with some documents that clearly illustrate where we stand on the problems associated with the Mal-Distribution of Water and the Unprecedented (4) year drought. In particular we have provided a CD that outline our concern and more importantly a (43) year old message from then President Kennedy during the inauguration of the San Luis Reservoir. Please take the time to listen his power message regarding the water needs of the Central Valley

With that said, let get down to business folks you are at the Epicenter of the Drought in California and as a reminder of that we had an (8) car pile up on Highway 180 on the west side of the Valley yesterday. No it was not a drunk drive or the fog it was a dust storm that was cause by high winds and fallowed land. To further exacerbate the problem here are some of the condition that now prevail in our rural and farm working communities:

- Our business and schools and families are systematically being dismantled
- Our small business and shop are being dismantled
- Unemployment is at an all-time high
- Eviction notices are growing where crops use to grow
- Food lines a growing
- We are losing a valuable skilled labor force

- Head of Households are having to leave to other states in search of water
- Families are receiving rental and utilities payment assistance
- The number of dislocated workers is growing. Shall I stop!!!

AS members of the Commission do you have to worry about your children or grandchildren will water to take a shower? So here is our position on the Temperance Project:

- We support the Temperance project 100% because we are live on 0 % water allocation. Moreover, this is an expansion project that can be undertaken immediately. In other words, there is an existing infrastructure-So stamp it Expedite.
- We support the temperance project because in the Central Valley we need a minimum of 500,000 acre feet of water in increase water capacity to contain and repair the damage that has been done by the drought and Mal-Distribution of water.
- We support the Temperance Project as a mean to carry out the 43 year old dream that President Kennedy eloquently identified a long time ago.
- We also support that a similar plan be carried out at the San Luis Reservoir site

Again, we urge you to listen to President Kennedy profound wisdom and message and proceed with this and other projects as water decontamination post haste. We are ready to answer any questions.



Water for the Land Committee

Comité Agua para la Tierra

Because those who feed us can no longer support themselves without water.



March, 30 2015

Comite Agua para la Tierra

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David Murillo, Regional Director
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RE: Problems Associated with Mal-Distribution of water and drought

Dear Mr. Murillo,

As the Water for the Land Committee predicted, the 4th year of drought is here. It is now abundantly clear that we are in the midst of some tragic events in the coming months. The conditions brought on by the drought continue to ravage our communities with no relief to be delivered. In 1962, President John F. Kennedy visited California in the midst of another water issue and so eloquently proclaimed that *"things do not happen, they are made to happen."* Then he *added "as this state [California] does well, so does the United States."* Fifty-three years later and those words still ring true, yet no action have been take to effectively address the problem. At our last meeting, in recognition of this terrible dilemma you offered to set up a meeting with some of the most important Government representatives to help address these pressing issues. As such, please be informed that we are ready to proceed with this meeting at your earliest convenience. In advance, below please find some of the topics that were discussed during our last meeting. They are:

- ***Expedite the release of the 600 million dollar appropriation which has been bottlenecked in the bureaucracy for more than a year.***
- ***Move to declare an urgency clause for the implementation of the Water Bond Act that was passed last year.***
- ***Expedite the release of drought relief funding in areas of the state that are declared "water shortage areas."***
- ***Allow for the use of waivers to streamline the process in bringing relief to communities that are declared "water shortage areas."***
- ***Reduce the hideous red tape involved the executing water transfers***
- ***Expedite the provisions in the Water Bond Act that can recycle and decontaminate water for farming and clean water uses.***
- ***Expedite the provisions in the Water Bond Act that affect the increased capacity for water storage and reservoirs.***
- ***Increase the use of water technology to clean up existing water wells and reduce contamination with the use of current year funding allocation.***

Finally, our committee will be in contact with your office to make appropriate arrangements to meet with you. In the meantime, should you have any questions or require more information on this matter please do not hesitate to contact me at (559) 349-3656 or Mr. Guzman at (559) 408-1276.

Sincerely,





Water for the Land Committee

Comité Agua para la Tierra

Because those who feed us can no longer support themselves without water.

March 26, 2015

Comite Agua para la Tierra

Martha Gzman-Aceves, Deputy
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Dear Martha

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The time to respond to the tragic consequences of drought is NOW. Please spare us the buzz words such as "real time ". Forus that time was three years ago. There are actions that can be taken immediately and in accordance with the Governor's Disaster Relief Declaration, such as:

- ***Expedite the release of the 600 million dollar appropriation which has been bottlenecked in the bureaucracy for more than a year.***
- ***Move to declare an urgency clause for the implementation of the Water Bond Act that was passed last year.***
- ***Expedite the release of drought relief funding in areas of the state that are declared "water shortage areas."***
- ***Expedite the release of funding to protect rural school districts that are affected by the drought and in danger of closing due to job loss and financial distress. USE THE DISASTER RELIEF DECLARATION TO PROTECT THEM!!!!***
- ***Allow for the use of waivers to streamline the process in bringing relief to communities that are declared "water shortage areas."***
- ***Reduce the hideous red tape involved the executing water transfers***
- ***Expedite the provisions in the Water Bond Act that can recycle and decontaminate water for farming and clean water uses.***
- ***Expedite the provisions in the Water Bond Act that affect the increased capacity for water storage and reservoirs.***
- ***Increase the use of water technology to clean up existing water wells and reduce contamination with the use of current year funding allocation.***

For the above referenced reasons, we would to meet with your office to address discuss some

of these critical problems that are having a severe impact on our communities throughout the Central Valley of California. As you know, "necessity is the mother invention" and we are confident that by working together; with the affected communities we can find those badly needed solution.

Finally, our committee will be in contact with your office to make appropriate arrangements to meet with you. In the meantime, should you have any questions or require more information on this matter please do not hesitate to contact me at (559) 349-3656 or Mr. Guzman at (559) 408-1276.

Sincerely,



Baldomero Hernandez, Superintendent
Westside Elementary School

