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INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

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May 23, 2000

USDA Forest Service
Content Analysis Enterprise Team
Attn: UFP, Building 2, Suite 295
5500 Amelia Earhart Drive
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

RE: Unified Federal Policy to Ensure a Watershed Approach

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to the above mentioned policy where management of water resources is accomplished through a watershed basis. Conceptually this may be adequate, however, the federal agencies are moving into this direction without adequate input from those it affects most. In fact, most everyone is not even aware of this drastic change in policy.

Many questions prevail regarding the use of this approach and should be answered before the entire national policy shifts to this process. For example, will this approach open a legal argument that detrimental effects to the watershed must occur before any enforcement can be applied? How much watershed influence must occur before any action is justified. There are simply too many questions unanswered to blindly shift to this approach.

Who is the primary Agency for this program and what powers do they have? I could go on and on regarding the questions that should be addressed before any formal adoption of this process occurs.

Consequently, I am recommending that you postpone any final decision on this issue until you have conducted a thorough public involvement program. We strongly urge you to delay your decision at this time.

Sincerely,

Arden Wallum
General Manager

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MAY 25 2000

500 West Ridgecrest Boulevard - Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1329, Ridgecrest, California 93556-1329
(760) 375-5086 FAX (760) 375-3969
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INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
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Date: 5/24/00

To: USDA Forest Service
Content Analysis Enterprise Team

Telecopier Number: (801) 517-1021

Number of Pages Sent (Including Transmittal): 2

_____ Please Review & Call

_____ Per Your Request

X For Your Information

If there are any complications in receiving this information, please call immediately, Our number is (760) 384-5511. Ask for Rose.

Remarks:

Hard copy to follow.

Thank You!

From: **ARDEN WALLUM, GENERAL MANAGER**
(We transmitted these pages from a HP Laserjet 3100 all-in-one System.)

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