



October 22, 2014

Mr. Terry Catlin, President  
Inland Empire Utilities Agency  
6075 Kimball Ave.  
Chino, CA 91708

**RE: Cadiz Water Conservation, Recovery & Storage Project**

Dear Mr. Catlin,

The Building Industry Association of Southern California, Inc. (BIASC) is a regional trade association that represents more than 1,400 member companies within a six-county region. Our Baldy View Chapter represents more than 152 member companies in San Bernardino County. Together, BIASC's members build most of the homes and communities throughout the six counties we serve.

The availability of a safe, reliable and affordable water supply is critical to meeting the needs of future generations of residents and growing businesses throughout Southern California. Like all Southern Californians, we have been reminded by the current extreme drought just how challenging and important the work of the water community is, and we commend the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) for its efforts to secure and protect reliable water supplies.

BIASC is committed to responsible development including a diversity of regional water supply sources, so the building industry and the larger economy may continue to grow. Since the region is dependent upon importing a significant portion of its water through the State Water Project and the Colorado River Aqueduct, both of which are threatened by continuing drought and regulatory restrictions, we support continued investment in local and regional water supply projects and infrastructure.

The Cadiz Valley Water Conservation, Recovery & Storage Project is designed to provide a new source of water to Southern California sufficient to meet the annual needs of 100,000 families every year for the next 50 years. The project was reviewed and approved in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in 2012, and as part of the approvals, the County of San Bernardino will enforce a strict groundwater management plan to ensure operations are safe and sustainable. Last month, the CEQA approvals for this project were upheld in Superior Court and all outstanding legal challenges against the project were denied.

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We therefore urge the IEUA Board of Directors to consider the Cadiz Project as a potential new supply source. The Inland Empire faces particularly challenging water supply problems that could slow economic growth and harm the quality of life of County residents, and we believe the Cadiz Project, as approved, could be a valuable additional supply for water users within IEUA's service area.

Sincerely,



Steven S. Schuyler  
Executive Vice President Government Affairs  
Building Industry Association of Southern California

CC: Hon. Michael Camacho, Vice President  
Hon. Gene Koopman, Director, Division Two  
Hon. Steven J. Elie, Director, Division Three  
Hon. Jasmin A. Hall, Director, Division Four  
Mr. Joseph Grindstaff, General Manager