

Strengthening the Voice of Business

- Chambers of Commerce**
- Alhambra
- Arcadia
- Bell Gardens
- Beverly Hills
- Burbank
- Central City Association
- Century City
- Calver City
- El Monte/South El Monte
- Glendale
- Greater Lakewood
- Harbor City / Harbor Gateway
- Hollywood
- Inglewood Airport Area
- Irwindale
- La Canada Flintridge
- LAX Coastal Area
- Long Beach Area
- Los Angeles Area
- Los Angeles Junior
- Malibu
- Pacific Palisades
- Pasadena
- Pomona
- Redondo Beach
- Regional San Gabriel Valley
- Rosemead
- San Pedro Peninsula
- Santa Monica
- Santa Monica Junior
- South Bay Association
- Toluca Lake
- Torrance Area
- United Chambers San Fernando Valley
- Universal City North Hollywood
- United States-Mexico
- Vernon
- West Hollywood
- West Los Angeles
- Westside Council
- Wilmington
- Woodland Hills-Tarzana
- Trade Associations**
- AIA Los Angeles
- American Beverage Association
- Antelope Valley Board of Trade
- Apartment Association, California Southern Cities
- Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles
- Arcadia Association of Realtors
- Beverly Hills / Greater LA Association of Realtors
- Building Industry Association, LA / Ventura Counties
- Building Owners & Managers Association, Greater LA
- Burbank Association of Realtors
- California Apartment Association, Los Angeles
- California Business Roundtable
- California Cannabis Industry Association
- California Construction Industry and Materials Association
- California Contract Cities Association
- California Fashion Association
- California Grocers Association
- California Independent Bankers
- California Independent Petroleum Association
- California Metals Coalition
- California Restaurant Association
- California Small Business Alliance
- California Trucking Association
- Carson Dominguez Employers Alliance
- Citrus Valley Association of Realtors
- Coalition for a Prosperous America
- Community Associations Institute, Los Angeles
- Construction Industry Air and Water Quality Coalitions
- Employers Group
- Engineering Contractor's Association
- Entrepreneurs Organization, Los Angeles
- F.A.S.T.-Fixing Angeles Stuck In Traffic
- FilmLA
- FuturePorts
- Glendale Association of Realtors
- Greater Los Angeles New Car Dealers Association
- Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce
- Harbor Trucking Association
- Hospital Association of Southern California
- Hotel Association of Los Angeles
- Industry Manufacturers Council
- International Warehouse Logistics Association
- Leadership for Urban Renewal Network
- League of California Cities
- Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator
- Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition
- Los Angeles County Waste Management Association
- Los Angeles Urban League
- Los Angeles World Affairs Council
- Motion Picture Association of America
- MoveLA
- NAIOP Southern California Chapter
- National Alliance for Jobs and Innovation
- National Association of Women Business Owners, LA
- Pacific Merchant Shipping Association
- Pasadena-Foothills Association of Realtors
- Recording Industry Association of America
- Rotary Club of Los Angeles
- San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
- Santa Clarita Valley Economic Development Corp.
- South Bay Association of Realtors
- Southern California Golf Association
- Southern California Grantmakers
- Southland Regional Association of Realtors
- Town Hall Los Angeles
- Tri-Counties Association of Realtors
- U.S. Green Building Council-LA
- Valley Economic Alliance
- Valley Economic Development Center
- Valley Industry & Commerce Association
- Valley International Trade Association
- We Care for Humanity
- West San Gabriel Valley Association
- Western Manufacture Housing Association
- Western States Petroleum Association
- Young Professionals in Energy - LA Chapter
- Youth Business Alliance
- Minority Organizations**
- Asian American Business Women Association
- Asian American Economic Development Enterprise
- Asian Business Association
- Council on Trade and Investment for Filipino Americans
- Filipino American Chamber SEC
- Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber
- Los Angeles Black MBA Association
- Los Angeles Latino Chamber
- Los Angeles Metropolitan Hispanic Chamber
- Regional Black Chamber - San Fernando Valley
- Regional Hispanic Chamber
- Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers - Los Angeles
- South Asian Business Alliance Network
- Southern California Minority Supplier Development Council Inc.
- Vietnamese American Chamber
- Business Improvement Districts**
- Gateway to LA
- South Park Stakeholders Group
- Westside Center Association

August 26, 2015

Randy A. Record
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA
90054-0513

Re: SUPPORT- Cadiz Valley Water Conservation, Recovery & Storage Project

Dear Randy Record:

On behalf of BizFed, the Los Angeles County Business Federation – representing 150 business organizations with more than 272,000 employers with 3 million employees across our region – we are writing to express our support for the Cadiz Valley Water Conservation, Recovery & Storage Project. This public-private partnership will **conserve groundwater** in California’s Mojave Desert currently being lost to evaporation and salt contamination and create a **new, reliable water supply for 400,000 people in Southern California.**

There is no question that our region has no water to waste. As you are well aware, California is entrenched in the fourth year of a historic drought, and every water provider, including the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, has implemented cutbacks and strategies to sustain our population and economy during the crisis. But in order to build a strong economy and be prepared for future droughts, we also must innovate and invest in smart, sustainable solutions that can improve our long-term water supply outlook.

That is why agencies throughout Los Angeles County and the greater region have reserved supplies from the Cadiz Water Project, and we support these forward-thinking efforts.

Over the last several years, the Cadiz Water Project has been reviewed and approved under the California Environmental Quality Act and been found to be safe and sustainable by numerous independent experts, public agencies and the Orange County Superior Court. Today, the Project is nearly shovel-ready and could soon make available a sustainable and environmentally benign water source, while also providing significant **economic benefits.**

Key Water & Economic Benefits of the Cadiz Water Project, include:

- Provides a new, **reliable, cost-effective water supply** for 100,000 families AND new local **groundwater storage opportunities.**

- The Project will make available up to 2.5 million acre-feet of renewable groundwater for Southern California communities by stopping the ongoing loss of this water to evaporation. This water can be captured and conserved via a wellfield to be constructed on private property without taxpayer dollars.
- The Project offers 1 million acre-feet of local, Southern California-based groundwater storage capacity for future wet years, creating new options for agencies trying to prepare for future droughts.
- Every new drop of water made available by the Project through conservation or storage is a benefit to the entire region and can help manage our long-term supply needs.
- **Improves water quality** by lowering the salt content in Southern California supplies.
 - Groundwater at Cadiz has very low total dissolved solids (TDS), or salts. Introduction of this water into the Colorado River Aqueduct and Southern California water system is expected to reduce treatment costs and economic damages currently experienced as a result of high salt content in local supplies imported from the Colorado River.
- Expected to generate **\$4 billion in savings and avoided costs** for all water users throughout the entire Southern California region over the 50-year life of the Project.
 - The water economics firm Stratecon Inc. estimated significant savings after evaluating the water supply reliability, groundwater storage and water quality improvements made available by the Project.
- Would create and support over **5,900 jobs** and generate more than **\$878 million in economic activity** during construction.
 - The Project has pledged to hire locally and union workers are expected to build some of the project.
- Would also infuse **millions of dollars in tax revenue** to local governments over the long-term.

Soon, the Cadiz Water Project will come before the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for consideration of water transportation arrangements. We urge you to support the Project and approve its use of the Colorado River Aqueduct to convey water throughout Southern California, so that we may enjoy its benefits as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



MC Townsend
BizFed Chair
Regional Black Chamber -
San Fernando Valley



David Fleming
BizFed Founding Chair



Tracy Rafter
BizFed Founding CEO
IMPOWER, Inc.