



United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504
<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

August 15, 2017

Mr. Jeffrey Kightlinger, General Manager
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Dear Mr. Kightlinger,

It is my understanding that should the Cadiz, Inc. project move forward, the Metropolitan Water District's (MWD) Colorado River Aqueduct would be the primary conveyance mechanism to move Mojave Desert groundwater to customer-agencies in Southern California. Considering MWD's potential role, I write with several questions about MWD's understanding of Cadiz Inc.'s project proposal and MWD's potential role.

1. Please provide any information you have about the water quality of the groundwater in the Fenner, Bristol and Cadiz basins, including levels of chromium 6, arsenic, and other water quality constituents of concern.
2. How would MWD evaluate the introduction of the Cadiz project's water into the Colorado River Aqueduct, and what factors would MWD consider before introducing water from the Cadiz project into the aqueduct?
3. How would MWD ensure that the Cadiz project's water wouldn't negatively impact the quality of MWD's water supplies? Please provide a range of projected costs for water treatment, especially regarding constituents of concern in the Cadiz project basins.
4. What is the current and projected available capacity to move additional water in the Colorado River Aqueduct, including water from the Cadiz water project?

5. What infrastructure requirements may be necessary to successfully integrate Cadiz project water into the Colorado River Aqueduct system? Please provide a range of projected costs for these facilities.
6. What type of additional California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance may be required for introduction of Cadiz water in to the Colorado River Aqueduct?
7. How might other water agencies besides MWD be impacted by the introduction of the Cadiz project's water into the Colorado River Aqueduct?

As you know, I am a strong proponent for investing in California's water infrastructure. However, we need to focus on smart uses of resources and sustainable projects, including, recycling, desalination, and surface and groundwater storage projects. While I strongly support water infrastructure investments, I have very serious concerns about the Cadiz project.

Thank you for your attention to these questions and any additional assistance you can provide to help me and other interested Californians learn more about the potential impacts of the Cadiz water extraction project. I ask that you share my concerns and this letter with the members of the MWD Board of Directors. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

DF:as