

Santa Fe Irrigation District



September 11, 2020

Jeff Kightlinger, General Manager
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054
Via Email Transmission Only

Mr. Kightlinger,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well from the myriad of issues our nation and state are experiencing. First, I would like to extend my congratulations on your retirement announcement. While I am sure this is not the ideal scenario to begin your retirement year, I hope you are looking forward to some rest and relaxation before your next endeavor.

Secondly, the challenges of COVID-19 and extensive wildfires have had broad economic and psychosocial impacts to our region and ratepayers. Many public agencies, including Santa Fe Irrigation District, have adjusted programs and projects to mitigate rate impacts to our ratepayers. We have also encouraged our wholesale provider, the San Diego County Water Authority to thoroughly review their budget to find cost savings whenever possible while maintaining services.

As a general manager, I understand the importance of operating and maintaining critical infrastructure while ensuring that long-term programs and projects move forward to the benefit of the communities we serve. I would respectfully ask that you and your staff work diligently with your Board to find ways to reduce costs without impacting the quality and reliability of service to the region. As our community deals with unprecedented challenges during a global pandemic, widespread unemployment, and a devastating wildfire season, any reductions would be welcomed and provide much needed economic relief to all of our ratepayers.

Thank you for your consideration of our District's request during these difficult times.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Albert C. Lau".

Albert C. Lau, P.E.
General Manager

cc: Sandy Kerl, General Manager, SDCWA