



September 13, 2020

The Honorable Eric Garcetti
Mayor of the City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Mujeres de la Tierra Statement of Qualifications and Resumes

Dear Mayor Garcetti:

I proudly recommend the election of Adán Ortega, of the City of Fullerton, as Chairman of the Board of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California ("MWD"). Adán and I met when he was helping to host a "watershed summit" as Board Vice President for Issues at Heal the Bay in 2004. More recently, he served seven years as Board Chair of Mujeres de La Tierra, and continues as the only male on our Board of Directors.

While Adán resides in the City of Fullerton, which he represents on the MWD Board, I've observed that he loves Los Angeles where he spent his childhood years. His parents arrived in Boyle Heights as immigrants when Adán was only two-months old in 1962. He has lived in mid-Wilshire and Brentwood as well. Among his cherished projects as a public policy professional is the Los Angeles River Revitalization Project in 2005-07; and in 2017, helping the Department of Water and Power with the implementation plan for an industrial stormwater capture incentive program.

Adán's leadership and experience in water sustainability mirrors your goals as Mayor. He was Assistant General Manager at West Basin Municipal Water District when the agency forged a partnership with the City of Los Angeles to re-use water from the Hyperion Treatment Plant in the 1990's, at what is now the Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility in El Segundo. While at Metropolitan Water District from 1999 to 2005, as Vice President of External Affairs, Adán is widely credited as the creator of Bewaterwise.com, and the lasting effort to replace lawns with "California Friendly Plants."

Adán has been a leading force for diversity and inclusion in the water and environmental arena. During his activism with Mujeres de La Tierra, he has helped many women gain confidence in making public presentations at regulatory agency air and water proceedings. As co-founder of Water Education for Latino Leaders, Adán supported expansion of outreach to African-American and white officials who represent Latino and other minority communities. He is also a champion for safe drinking water for disadvantaged communities throughout California.

Adán would be a great Board Chair at MWD who truly understands and supports your goals to create local water reliability. My hope is that you will truly consider lending Adán support from the City of Los Angeles in his effort for election by the MWD Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

Irma R. Muñoz
CEO/President
Mujeres de la Tierra

Cc: Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors
The Fullerton City Council