

From: [terry GOODBODY](#)
To: [DL-Board Support Team](#)
Subject: The election of Adel Hagakhalil to the MWD board
Date: Monday, June 7, 2021 3:43:50 PM

Ladies and gentlemen of the board,

In light of my being a California property taxpayer and San Diego Waste and Water rate payer for the last forty years, I would like to use this minuscule influence to urge you to vote for or revote for Adel Hagakhalil to be the chairman of your board. I have been informed by articles in the Los Angeles Times and the periodicals of the Sierra Club that Mr. Hagakhalil is very inventive and used to thinking out of the box. The ongoing water crisis in our state demands nothing less than that, faced as we are with a smaller snow pack and a drying and deepening water aquafier in most of America's western states. At 75 years of age, I have watched California go through countless water crises, with our Indian tribes and farmers getting the worst of it. It is really time to find new solutions. Thanks, Terence G. Goodbody, 3225 Granada Avenue, San Diego, CA, 92104.



California LABOR Federation

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Art Pulaski Executive Secretary-Treasurer **Kathryn Lybarger** President

www.CaliforniaLabor.org

June 7, 2021

Chairwoman Gloria Gray
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
700 North Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2944
Via email: BoardExecutiveSecretary@mwdh2o.org

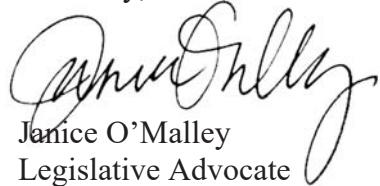
Dear Chairwoman Gray:

The California Labor Federation is writing in support of the selection of Adel Hagekhalil as the new General Manager of the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) of Southern California. The California Labor Federation represents 2.1 million working people and their families and is dedicated to defending and protecting their interests for the betterment of California's communities.

Workers have been very vocal of their concerns related to the MWD management over the past few years. The selection of Hagekhalil, who currently serves as the Executive Director and General Manager with the City of Los Angeles' Bureau of Street Services, will be a welcomed change.

We applaud the MWD Board for its selection of Adel as the new General Manager and look forward to his productive partnership with AFSCME Local 1902.

Sincerely,



Janice O'Malley
Legislative Advocate
SM: OPEIU 29 AFL CIO

Cc: Metropolitan Board of Directors
Alan Shanahan, AFSCME Local 1902
President pro Tempore Toni Atkins, California State Senate

From: [Audrey Prosser](#)
To: [DL-Board Support Team](#)
Subject: Item 10 on Board of Directors Meeting Agenda June 8th
Date: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:36:06 PM

Dear MWD Board Members,

I just found out that the MWD Board cast a conditional vote at your last meeting to hire Mr. Adel Hagekhalil for General Manager. I urge you to postpone this new hire until there is more opportunity for public input on this very important position and about Mr. Hagekhalil's ability to change the culture of the MWD. There is a lot to lose by rushing into hiring Mr. Hagekhalil and 30 days is not unreasonable to wait to get it right and have the confidence of those that you serve.

I am a resident of Huntington Beach. I have deep concerns about hiring a candidate to change the culture of the MWD that is coming from another agency where he was second in command that had a culture of harassment and retaliation that is well documented in a lawsuit. The Sanitation District where Mr. Hagekhalil was 2nd in command paid out \$12.4 million dollars for a harassment and retaliation claim. It is my understanding that the claim was over an employee being harassed and retaliated against based on the assumption that he was gay. As a member of the LGBTQ Community, I find this alarming.

In addition, I have reviewed Mr. Hagekhalil's resume and it pales in qualifications for the job compared to Ms. Pat Mulroy. That brings up a second question for me, and that is why are you hiring a man over a woman who appears to be better qualified for the position? This is of particular interest since the culture that the MWD wishes to change came to light when 6 out of 18 female apprentices filed complaints for harassment and retaliation.

If the issues that I have described are not addressed prior to the hiring of the next General Manager, they will be issues for women and the LGBTQIA Community when this hiring becomes public. Mistrust can be avoided by delaying the hiring for 30 days and giving the public an opportunity to ask questions and get answers.

The board may have a reason for their preliminary vote in favor of Mr. Hagekhalil of which I and other members of the public are not aware. The public deserves to know the reason for that vote. At the time of the affirmative vote did the board know of the information regarding lawsuits Mr. Hagekhali's employment that has recently surfaced?

Please vote on Item 10 of the Agenda to delay the hiring of a General Manager for 30 days.

Respectfully,

Audrey Prosser
9382 Sunridge Dr

Huntington Beach, CA 92646
949-683-2715



June 8, 2021

Sent via email

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Office of the Board of Directors
1121 L Street, Suite 900
Sacramento, CA 95814
dl-boardsupportteam@mwdh2o.com

Re: Support for Adel Hagekhalil as General Manager of MWD

Dear MWD Board of Directors,

The undersigned organizations are writing in support of Adel Hagekhalil for General Manager of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). Adel Hagekhalil is the preferred candidate for general manager of MWD because of his commitment to sustainable, innovative, local water projects that will reduce the region's reliance on imported water from the Delta and Colorado river.

He is also committed to working with environmental and community organizations and has the support of over 40 environmental, social justice, and Tribal organizations, as well as his current employee union, MWD's employee union, and the MWD Women's Caucus- the group that exposed the years of harassment at MWD.

Mr. Hagekhalil is the fresh perspective the agency needs in the 21st century. His expertise as an engineer and a leader in integrated water management is exactly what MWD needs to survive the drought and plan for the continued impacts of climate change. MWD's status quo is not equipped to deal with these challenges and thus we need someone like Mr. Hagekhalil to implement new innovative systems for the future of water in Southern California.

Mr. Hagekhalil expertise won him the position in a vote by the MWD board on May 8, but we want to ensure that he secures the vote to approve his contract today.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Reid-Wainscoat
Urban Wildlands Campaigner
Center for Biological Diversity

Carolee Krieger
President and Executive Director
California Water Impact Network

CC:
Steve Hines, shines@mwdh2o.com