

Dear Ms. Bean:

First, I would like to note this is not a personal attack on you as an individual- *I really tried to just get to the point.....

Secondly, I am submitting my “ Formal Written Protest” regarding the proposed calculated percentages of water cuts per district/area within the County of San Diego (more specifically Valley Center -35%). I have a few valid questions, **for which I absolutely want answers to.**

I want to express my disappointment with the governing water board/s - I called VCMWD first thing this morning with questions on Brown’s proposed water restrictions – which has tentatively been set at 35% for Valley Center per SDUT’s article. My disappointment stems with the lack of communication within the governing boards that ultimately must answer to the public. It took some time to get your contact info, since NO ONE at VCMWD immediately knew who I could contact with my questions/concerns (more like a couple of hours-not a big deal with the exception of your 5:00pm deadline today).

Also, I am curious if even 25% of SD County residents are aware we/they can send a Protest Comment until 5pm this afternoon!

Please respond if there will be any notice sent to the public via our local water billings, newspaper, pigeons or any other form of media notification.

Below are a few concerns/issues/”protest comments” I have presented to VCMWD (they were unable to answer). I respectfully request a response within a reasonable time frame:

1. Who and how did they come up with 35% reduction for Valley Center and 20% for larger cities within the county?
 - a. This is an agriculture/farming area. Many residents in VC have already cut down groves, orchards, and given up livestock in order to comply with previous restrictions- For many in VC this is a form of punishment for already having complied and reduced our water usage/consumption over the past five years or so.
 - b. I am so tired of our paid officials –elected and/or appointed- who lack the basic fundamental principals in determining EQUITABLE and FAIR solutions across the county/state. What was proposed in the SDUT is inequitable beyond the outer limits of the universe in fairness. Oceanside will have to cut use by 20%? WHY only 20%?
2. Situation:
 - a. House 1- My partner and I have two homes in VC- One we have resided in for 12 years- 1800sq ft on 3.5 acres - we made the changes to reduce water usage as requested. We have a small –very small- grove of avocados (from 180 down to about 50 trees in the past five years). We have ceased growing vegetables, pretty much allowed garden landscape to die off and replaced with rocks and cactus, changed out toilets, hose bibs, valves etc. all in an effort to comply with previous water use restrictions.
 - b. House – 2 We purchased another property in VC in April 2013 – 2900 sq ft on two acres-. We have been remodeling it slowly but surely. He (my partner) stays at that house about 2-3 days during the week (mainly to show a presence for security reasons). There is a swimming pool- and the vegetation is limited. He does laundry, and of course uses the toilet and showers while he is there.

3. THE QUESTION no one can/will commit an answer to: If we (Dan and myself) move into House #2, the 35% reduction COULD NOT BE MET – As the number of residents increase within a household, so shall water usage. HOW will Water Districts adjust for life changes within households ??? (i.e., single man marries a woman with 3 kids etc). Well, VCMWD did not have an answer, yet concurred it was a valid question. ** HOW will the water districts decide an “EQUITABLE and FAIR water use rate/reduction for changes in a residence and for AGRICULTURAL needs?
4. How will you penalize condo, apartments and multi-residential properties/owners; how will you police and monitor these properties?
5. There is a Government office in San Diego (will not say which one)- It was RAINING late one evening and the sprinklers were full blast. This IS AN Office with Government employees – JERRY BROWN’S employees!! If you look at growth under the bushes, there is NONE! Why?? Because the ground is always wet! The dirt is wet, and the bushes look awful- but they keep watering it. ***it is Government office that is leased*** however, point being... and a question I DO WANT AN ANSWER TO: WHO PAYS FOR THIS WATER and WHY are they allowed to waste??
6. How do we sustain our livestock and pets in the country? Are we supposed to turn them over to a shelter because we cannot provide them water? People that reside in the city are allowed pets who consume water (you just can’t eat those pets).

A few more concerns/questions I would like addressed:

7. HOW is it determined that a 35% reduction in Valley Center is equitable to compare to Oceanside’s 20%? Basing the reductions on current usage –with the lack of rain and thus greater water usage- is an absolute outrage, not to mention downright silly.

I understand that there are more residents per capita in the city, but that does NOT mean that those of us who want to reside in a rural, agricultural or farming property consume more than they do. In fact, I came from Oceanside where 90% of the residential track housing properties still have REAL LAWNS with REAL grass and palms, trees, landscaping and water consuming vegetation, and swimming pools- not to mention they have cooler, moister weather- YET, they will be subject to a 20% reduction? Valley Center residences do not really have much in lawns or ornately landscaped front and back yards- unless you considered a vegetable garden, grove or orchard ornate landscape!

County wide- The schools and parks, golf courses, shopping centers etc...are all large consumers of water. I have witnessed sprinklers running while it’s raining in Escondido. I believe we have three schools in VC -

Also, if you look at the water tables for reduced usage over the past Five years, you will see that VC was one of the areas with the highest reduction in water consumption- we relied heavily on rain, which we have not received.

I neglected to ask the really important question here:

How are they going to eradicate the goldfish up in that mountain lake? Are they still considering “draining” the pond/lake to exterminate them? just asking.

Respectfully,

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