

**MWD**

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Executive Office

August 31, 2001

Mr. Tom Hannigan  
Director  
California Department of Water Resources  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1115-1  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Director Hannigan:

On August 27, 2001, I wrote to you concerning the Colorado River Interior Surplus Guidelines. In my letter, I stated that the Guidelines provide some flexibility for the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate California's progress in reducing Colorado River water use.

Nonetheless, the four agencies believe everything possible must be done to facilitate execution of the QSA by December 31, 2002, including state and federal legislation to deal with the Salton Sea issue and the state fully protected species provisions. We hoped that these issues could be resolved administratively, however, I am informed that it has now been concluded after a great deal of effort by all concerned, including the relevant state and federal administrative officials, that appropriate state and federal legislation is needed this year to achieve the December 31, 2002 deadline and to avoid a potential water crisis.

Given the limited time remaining in this legislative session, the passage of the CESA legislation for the Salton Sea issues and fully protected species legislation for the California River Water Use Plan will not be possible without the administration's direct support and leadership.

Your continuing understanding and support for the QSA is much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ronald R. Gastelom'.

Ronald R. Gastelom  
Chief Executive Officer

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