

4 December 2000
Kalispell MT 59901

P22

Mr. Jack Safely
Metropolitan Water District
P O Box 54153
Los Angeles CA 90054

Re: Mohave Desert Aquifer water drain by underground mining.

Dear Mr. Safely:

I understand that the Cadiz Company has plans to sell the water from an aquifer in the Mohave Desert to the Metropolitan Water District of southern California. I also understand there is a chance this water is contaminated by the toxic chromium 6.

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On two counts the decision should be carefully considered:

First, the danger of a cancer causing contamination would appear to immediately eliminate any socially responsible and rational support for continuing with the project.

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Second, the answer to water problems is not to continually rely on new sources of water. Water is becoming a serious problem around the planet. I believe you will find studies show that on all the continents of the world water shortages are becoming a concern to all nations. Keeping that consideration in mind, far-seeing individuals, cities, states and nations should begin adopting political strategies to *conserve* rather than *deplete* water sources whenever possible. A very well-researched current source on the global water issue (we are a part of the globe) is Marq De Villiers' *Water: The Fate of Our Most Precious Resource*.

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I urge you to strongly consider long-term implications of a possible threat to health and to water depletion.

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Sincerely,



Barbara Paschke
Citizen of the World

Cc: Mr. James Williams, Bureau of Land Management