



Susan Zwinger

PO Box 493
Langley, WA 98260

Phone/FAX 360 / 221-2347

RECEIVED
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

2001 JAN -3 AM 8:32

CALIF. DESERT DISTRICT
RIVERSIDE, CA.

December 29, 2000

BLM California District
6221 Box Springs Blvd.
Riverside CA 92507-0714

P29

Dear Mr. James Williams:

The water storage and groundwater-draining project under Cadiz Dunes is very destructive to the fragile Mojave environment through the years. The SEIS does not determine the quality of groundwater nor of the Colorado, which would be stuffed into this natural aquifer. This new water would endanger rare species such as the desert tortoise, bighorn and threatened pasque flowers.

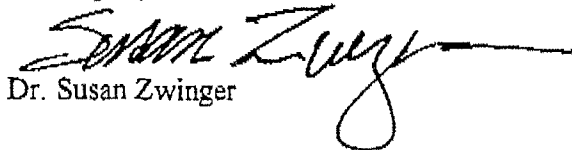
The plan for monitoring is not clear and offers poor guidelines for environment impact. Profit-makers and the Metropolitan water district are biased toward making money, not protecting the desert. Analysis for environment is not done. Negotiations may be defined behind closed doors, and I am not sure how the BLM authority will be involved.

P29-1

The SEIS does not examine sustainable alternatives, nor look at safer methods less harmful to the ecosystem. Joshua Tree and Mojave National Monument would be badly impacted by the lowering water table. Get a clue: when one takes out money from one's checking account faster than it is pouring in, one bounces checks. It is the same with this water. Valuable indigenous groundwater would be sucked out faster than Colorado water, of questionable cleanliness would come in.

This is not good planning. I am a natural history book author writing about this beautiful area: I intend to watch and write.

Thank you,


Dr. Susan Zwinger

Note: This letter was also sent to the Metropolitan Water District