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2000 JAN -3 AM 8:30
CALIF. DESERT DISTRICT
RIVERSIDE, CA.

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P35

December 29, 2000

Bureau of Land Management
California Desert District
6221 Box Springs Boulevard
Riverside, CA 92507-0714

Dear Mr. Williams,

I write to comment on the SEIS on the proposal of Cadiz, Inc. to draw water from the aquifer beneath the Mojave National Preserve and Bureau of Land Management wilderness areas. The SEIS is deficient in a number of important areas.

P35-1

Impacts from draining water in a desert area need to be more fully examined. The fragile ecology will likely suffer from serious and perhaps irreversible damage. The SEIS should carefully evaluate the impacts on all threatened and endangered species and the ecosystem as a whole. The mitigation plan inadequately deals with the management of environmental impacts. It is the responsibility of the Bureau of Land Management to safeguard the natural resources that belong to the citizens of the United States. Allowing a private company to profit from a project that degrades public resources is a violation of the Bureau's responsibility. It is critical that the SEIS completely address the process for preventing and mitigating any negative impacts.

P35-2

The SEIS needs to more fully address the need for this project. Water supplies for the Southern California region should not be augmented unless and until all possible water conservation measures have been implemented. The Southern California area has a history of exorbitant water use and inadequate conservation. Federal funds should not be allocated for this project without stringent requirements for the implementation of conservation measures.

P35-3

I urge you to carefully reconsider the feasibility and necessity of this proposed project.

P35-4

Sincerely,

Kristina Golden

10 Stone Creek Lane
Laguna Hills, CA 92653

(949) 425-1456