

Ralph Landers
5381 East Grain Mill Road
Pahrump, NV 89061-7700

P49

2 January 2001

James Williams
Bureau of Land Management
6221 Box Springs Blvd.
Riverside, CA 92507-0714

Dear Mr. Williams:

Being a frequent visitor and camper to the Mohave National Preserve, and the adjacent desert areas, I am interested in preserving the natural beauty, wildlife, and air quality of the area. Being a semipro photographer and writer I find that as time goes by, plants and natural formations (dunes, etc) seem to vanish or diminish in size. Why is that? For one thing, water resources are either absent or polluted, or foreign sources of water are introduced which affect plant life in the desert.

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One of the most destructive introductions would be the importation of Colorado River water which upon analysis has shown to be full of undesirable elements such as chromium 6, radon gas, methyl-ethyl-tertiary-butyl-ether, and perchlorates. All of these could cause carcinogenic tumors in animals and humans drinking this water. Trying to treat the water containing these undesriables would cost a fortune and may not be 100% effective as traces would remain in the water supply, cling onto pipelines, etc. Perchlorates are very corrosive to metal piping and would eventually destroy the pipe walls.

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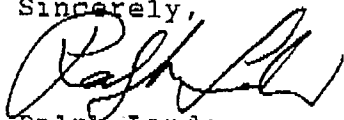
Management of the "extracted" water supply would be supervised by the Cadiz, Inc. and the Los Angeles Metropolitan Water District both of whom look at the bottom line first regardless of the consequences. The fact that rare plants and endangered animals such as the bighorn sheep and desert tortoses would be at risk does not bother the water "extractors" one bit.

P49-3

The BLM needs to examine alternate water sources which are less environmentally destructive. Public lands which are effected include two national parks and five wilderness areas managed by the BLM. Please reconsider this plan: for our future and the animals/plants who need clean water in order to survive. Thank you.

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Sincerely,



Ralph Landers

RIVERSIDE, CA
WATER DISTRICT

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