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● | Mr. Jack Safely

Metropolitan Water District  
Water Resources Mgmt Group P109-1  
P.O. Box 54153  
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

● | Dear Mr. Safely,

I am strongly opposed to the Cadiz, Inc. proposal to drain an ancient aquifer the underlies the Mojave National Preserve and five Bureau of Land Management wilderness areas.

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The SEIS does not fully examine the potential problems that could result from draining a desert ecosystem of its precious and scare water supply. These problems are many. The SEIS does not contain complete information on the water quality of the ground water. The project could endanger

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the unique and rare plants and animals of the desert community, including the threatened desert tortoise and desert bighorn sheep. The

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"monitoring and mitigating" plan is ill defined and offers questionable management for environmental impacts. The document needs to examine

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alternatives that are actually sustainable, safer and less environmentally destructive, including water conservation measures.

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The public lands that will be impacted by this project include lands that were set aside by Congress to be permanently protected for their nationally significant natural and cultural resource values. This project is likely to undo that protection. I urge the MWD and BLM to make a decision that is informed, reasoned, and that promotes the public interest rather than private profit.

Sincerely,

  
Jason Hashmi