

International Boundary & Water Commission  
United States Section

Office of the Commissioner  
4171 N. Mesa, Suite C-310  
El Paso, TX 79902  
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CD-09/01

SNQ11  
TISKANT



September 20, 2004

Chairman James L. Connaughton  
Council on Environmental Quality  
722 Jackson Place, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Connaughton,

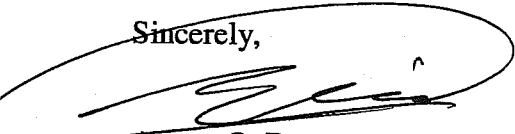
With this letter I wish to thank you for your support and assistance on the Public Law 106-457 project and also to update you on the identification of a preferred alternative for the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) now being prepared to address Clean Water Act Compliance at the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant.

On September 8, 2004, the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) participated in its monthly Policy Committee conference call with the Environmental Protection Agency (Region IX and Washington D.C. offices). Also participating in the call were David van Hoogstraten and Ted Boling of your staff and our defense litigation team from the Department of Justice (DOJ). During the policy meeting the identification of the preferred alternative was discussed and it was agreed to identify SEIS alternative 4(c) as the preferred alternative. Alternative 4(c) is a project proposed and developed by a private company and presented to the USIBWC during the SEIS scoping period. The private company's proposal is for the construction and operation of a treatment facility in compliance with the provisions of Public Law 106-457 and Minute 311.

As I discussed with you while in Washington D. C., we expect to release the Draft SEIS to the public in December of 2004. The Commission is committed to ensure compliance with NEPA requirements.

I want to thank you for your leadership and the support we have received from all of your staff and look forward to working hand in hand to bring increased results and improve the health and quality of life of our border communities.

Sincerely,



Arturo Q. Duran  
Commissioner

cc: Congressman Duncan Hunter



# International Boundary & Water Commission

## United States Section

Office of the Commissioner  
Engineering Department  
4171 N. Mesa, Suite C-100  
El Paso, TX 79902

SEP 29 2004

Juan Vargas  
Assemblymember  
California Legislature  
79<sup>th</sup> District  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 942849-0000

Mark Wyland  
Assemblymember  
74<sup>th</sup> District  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 942849-0000

Dear Sirs:

I wish to acknowledge that the expressed support of the Assembly of the California Legislature as noted in your letter dated August 25, 2004 for the advancement and the implementation of the Tijuana River Valley and Estuary Beach Clean-up Act of 2000 (PL 106-457) is commendable and well received. Our utmost efforts have been strengthened by taking assertive actions toward the fulfillment of our mission to improve the environmental conditions of our stakeholders in the San Diego – Tijuana region, and are congruent to the requirements of the Public Law.

My staff continues to make significant progress toward achieving a permanent and sustainable sanitation project through diligent and concerted efforts aimed at implementing the Public Law. In the next few months, the United States - International Boundary and Water Commission will be rolling out a series of actions, including the issuance of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement by December 2004, which will be conducive to the selection of a preferred alternative and issuance of a Record of Decision by October 2005. We are also diligently working with federal agencies to enhance the Public Law and facilitate its implementation and funding. Additionally, we anticipate that the procurement process for implementing the Public Law will commence in the first part of 2005.

On behalf of the USIBWC, I thank you for the fervor in supporting the implementation of the Public Law. I look forward to remaining in contact with you in the years to come.

Sincerely,



Arturo Q. Duran  
Commissioner

bcc: Commissioner, PE Olague, Susan Daniel, Rick Porras, Carlos Pena/San Diego  
Engr/lh/0033-04