

Board of Directors

Lawrence A. Watt, President
Kristie Bruce-Lane, Vice President
Christy Guerin, Treasurer
Edmund K. Sprague, Secretary
Robert F. Topolovac, Director



General Manager
Kimberly A. Thorner, Esq.
General Counsel
Alfred Smith, Esq.

March 15, 2021

Sandy Kerl, General Manager
San Diego County Water Authority
4677 Overland Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123-1233

RE: SDCWA Interference with Member Agency Proxy Selections

Dear Ms. Kerl,

I am writing in my role as the Olivenhain Municipal Water District's (OMWD) appointed representative to the San Diego County Water Authority Board to express my disappointment that the San Diego County Water Authority, by way of its leadership and paid consultant, lobbied against and interfered with a member agency issue between the City of Oceanside (Oceanside) and OMWD, wherein Oceanside was to consider making OMWD its proxy on the San Diego County Water Authority this month.

The agenda item to consider OMWD as its proxy was pulled by Oceanside last week, after pressure and captious remarks were made about OMWD and me by representatives of SDCWA to Oceanside. Specifically, two SDCWA Board Members and the paid SDCWA consultant under your signature authority, David Alvarez, reached out to Oceanside Councilmembers urging them not to appoint OMWD as their proxy.

The proxy consideration between OMWD and Oceanside was ultimately about similar agency positions on the Regional Conveyance Project (RCP), future demands and rates. Oceanside and OMWD are similarly aligned in agency adopted viewpoints on key regional water issues. SDCWA, by way of its paid consultant, interfered with matters between two member agencies, which should not have happened.

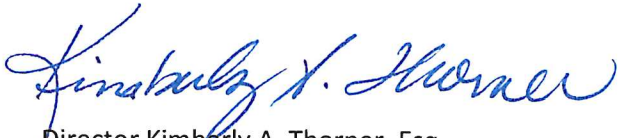
This is not the first time that a paid SDCWA consultant has interfered with member agency matters relative to appointments and proxies, but it should be the last. I am asking that you take whatever steps necessary and within your control as General Manager to ensure that it does not happen again. While I realize that Board Members of the SDCWA are free to engage on matters on their own, the same is not true for paid consultants. They do work at your direction as the General Manager.

I would like to find a path forward for us all. We can accomplish more as a team than we can divided. I am a believer that diverse opinions at the table lead to better ultimate decisions. It is perfectly acceptable, and expected, that we may all have different opinions on regional water issues. It is our diversity of opinions that makes us better. With the common goal of protection of the San Diego



regions' ratepayers at heart, we should all be able to express our own independent opinions on regional water issues and move forward with respect and equity.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kimberly A. Thorner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Director Kimberly A. Thorner, Esq,
OMWD Representative to the SDCWA Board of Directors

cc. OMWD Board of Directors, SDCWA Board of Directors