



June 29, 2017

Honorable Dianne Feinstein
US Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Kamala Harris
US Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Susan Davis
US House of Representatives
1214 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Duncan Hunter
US House of Representatives
2429 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Darrell Issa
US House of Representatives
2269 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Scott Peters
US House of Representatives
1122 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Juan Vargas
US House of Representatives
1605 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Administrator Scott Pruitt
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 NW Pennsylvania Avenue
Mail Code: 1101A
Washington, D.C. 20460
Pruitt.scott@epa.gov

Subject: Request to Maintain and Increase the US-Mexico Border Water Infrastructure Program with funding appropriation

Dear Elected Officials & Administrator Pruitt:

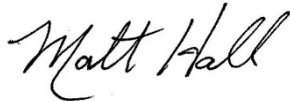
As representatives for communities in San Diego County, we respectfully urge the US Congress to appropriate funds to the FY2018 budget for the United States-Mexico Border Water Infrastructure Program (BWIP). This federal program which was established in 1996, provides critical funding to support wastewater infrastructure projects for the San Diego-Tijuana border region. This program is important to eliminate the direct discharge of untreated sewage in the Tijuana River, which

effects not only water quality at the beach but also compromises national security interests along the US-Mexico border. The failure of wastewater infrastructure in Mexico results in untreated sewage flowing across the international border where it impacts US Navy Seal training operations in the ocean off Imperial Beach and Border Patrol operations in the Tijuana River valley.

The purpose of the BWIP is to support binational cooperation on deficient water and wastewater infrastructure in the border region as a result of the enhanced economic activity and rapid population growth associated with the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement. The BWIP was initially funded at \$100 million per year but over the last 20 years the program has been continuously reduced to its current level of less than \$10 million per year. The proposed elimination of BWIP funding as proposed in the current presidential budget will result in the additional failure of water and wastewater infrastructure in Mexico and will absolutely devastates the coastal activities in Imperial Beach and Coronado from prolonged beach closures, social instability in the communities immediately south of the border, and create unintended consequences on US Border Patrol security and Navy training operations. The intentional budget cuts to the existing BWIP over the last decade has already resulted in the delay of necessary wastewater infrastructure projects in the City of Tijuana that have resulted in the continued pattern of catastrophic infrastructure failures like the February 2017 sewage spill of 143 million gallons into the Tijuana River.

The BWIP is a program that works in the San Diego-Tijuana border region and is a necessary component of the North American Free Trade Agreement. We respectfully request that you protect the allocation of funding for the US-Mexico Border Water Infrastructure Program and encourage you to find a way to increase program funding to support wastewater infrastructure in Mexico that directly benefits the economic and national security interests of the US. Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Mayor Matt Hall
City of Carlsbad



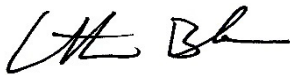
Mayor Mary Salas
City of Chula Vista



Mayor Richard Bailey
City of Coronado



Mayor Bill Wells
City of El Cajon



Mayor
Catherine S. Blakespear
City of Encinitas



Mayor Sam Abed
City of Escondido



Mayor Serge Dedina
City of Imperial Beach



Mayor
Mark Arapostathis
City of La Mesa



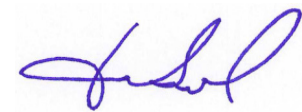
Mayor Racquel Vasquez
City of Lemon Grove



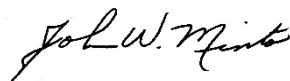
Mayor Ron Morrison
City of National City



Deputy Mayor
Chuck Lowery
City of Oceanside



Mayor Jim Desmond
City of San Marcos



Mayor John W. Minto
City of Santee



Mayor Mike Nichols
City of Solana Beach



Mayor Judy Ritter
City of Vista

CC: Bill Kratz, Senator Dianne Feinstein, bill_kratz@feinstein.senate.gov
Serena Hendle, Senator Kamala Harris Office, Serena_hendle@harris.senate.gov
Lee Steuer, Congresswoman Susan Davis Office, lee.steuer@mail.house.gov
Mike Harrison, Congressman Duncan Hunter Office, michael.harrison@mail.house.gov
Chelsea Cuellar, Congressman Darrell Issa, chelsea.cuellar@mail.house.gov
Howard Ou, Congressman Scott Peters, howard.ou@mail.house.gov
Paola Guzman, Congressman Juan Vargas, Paola.Guzman@mail.house.gov

U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations, 188 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20510
Senator Thad Cochran, *Chair, U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee*; United States Senate, 113 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-2402
Senator Lamar Alexander, *Chair, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development*; United States Senate, 455 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
Senator Dianne Feinstein, *Ranking Member on Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development*; United States Senate, 331 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
Senator Lindsey Graham, *Chair, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs*; United States Senate, 290 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
Senator Lisa Murkowski, *Chair, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies*; United States Senate, 800 Glacier Ave, Suite 101, Juneau, AK 99801
Senator Tom Udall, *Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies*; United States Senate, 531 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington DC, 20510
U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations, H-305, The Capitol, Washington, DC 20515
Congressman Rodney P. Frelinghuysen, *Chair, U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Committee*, United States House of Representatives, 2306 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515-3011
Congressman Mike Simpson, *Chair, Subcommittee on Energy and Water*, United States House of Representatives, 2084 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515
Congressman Ken Calvert, *Chair, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies*; United States House of Representatives, 2205 Rayburn Building, Washington, DC 20515
Congressman Hal Rogers, *Chair, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs*, United States House of Representatives, 2406 Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20515
Congressman Henry Cuellar, Member, U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, United States House of Representatives, 2209 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
Mike Flynn, US EPA Acting Deputy Administrator, **Mail Code: 1101A**, 1200 NW Pennsylvania Ave, Washington, D.C. 20460
Michael H. Shapiro, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Water, US EPA HQ, **Mail Code: 4101M**, 1200 NW Pennsylvania Ave, Washington, D.C. 20460
Andrew Sawyers, Director, Office of Wastewater Management, US EPA HQ, **Mail Code: 4201M**, 1200 NW Pennsylvania Ave, Washington, D.C. 20460
Sheila Frace, Deputy Director, Office of Wastewater Management, US EPA HQ, **Mail Code: 4204M**, 1200 NW Pennsylvania Ave, Washington, D.C. 20460
Sam Coleman P.E., US EPA Region 6 Acting Regional Administrator, **Mail Code: 6RAD**, 1445 Ross Ave., Ste. 1200, Dallas, TX 75202
Alexis Strauss, US EPA Region 9 Acting Regional Administrator, **Mail Code: ORA-1**, 75 Hawthorne St., San Francisco, CA 94105
Maria Elena Giner, BECC General Manager, P. O. Box 221648, El Paso, TX 79913
Alex Hinojosa, NADB General Manager, 203 S. St. Mary's, Ste. 300, San Antonio, TX 78205



City of Del Mar



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US Senate
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry Sinnott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'T' and a distinct 'S'.

Terry Sinnott
Mayor

CC: Mayor Serge Dedina, Imperial Beach