



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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October 2, 2014

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE:

WW-3

Mr. Gary Bardini
California Department of Water Resources
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management
Financial Assistance Branch
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Mr. Bardini

PROPOSITION 84 INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT DROUGHT SOLICITATION FOR THE LAHONTAN FUNDING REGION

The Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) regions within the Lahontan Funding Area have been working collaboratively regarding a division of the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Proposition 84 IRWM Program funds and potentially future IRWM grant funds. During July 2014, the IRWMs of the Lahontan Funding Area notified DWR of a proposed methodology of an agreed division of Proposition 84 funds allocated for the funding area (table enclosed). DWR responded to the Lahontan Funding Area on September 15, 2014, acknowledging the proposed method of distributing Proposition 84 funds within the funding area and encouraged the funding area IRWMs to implement the collaborative agreement in future grant solicitations. Copies of the aforementioned correspondence are enclosed.

The Lahontan Funding Area Proposition 84 Drought Solicitation (3a) applications scored competitively statewide. The Mojave, Tahoe-Sierra and Antelope Valley IRWMs are respectfully requesting that the 3a applications be reconsidered for funding under the current solicitation. We appreciate DWR's efforts to stay under the 200 million dollar cap set by the legislature for 3a, but on behalf of the Antelope Valley IRWM Region request the additional 6.1 million it would take to fully fund all 3 applications in 3a be appropriated now from the Proposition 84 Final Solicitation (3b). Funding the Lahontan Funding Area 3a applications now will eliminate the costly process of reapplying during the Proposition 84 Final Solicitation (3b), maintain local IRWM stakeholder momentum, result in the timely implementation of important water resource projects and more importantly act as a strong show of support for encouraging collaboration within Funding Areas.

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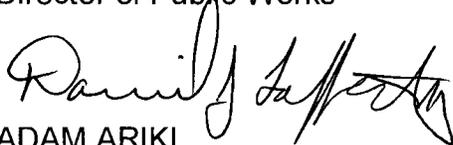
The Lahontan Funding Area acknowledges that the Proposition 84 Drought Solicitation (3a) was designated to assist regions within the State that were experiencing acute resource challenges associated with the drought. The Mojave, Tahoe-Sierra, and Antelope Valley IRWMs are all impacted by this drought. The groundwater basins in our regions are in a state of overdraft. Also, with the low State Water Project allocations in 2013 and 2014, both the Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40 (District) and Mojave Water Agency depleted their banked reserves to make up for the water supply shortfalls. The banked reserves will not be available should the drought continue. A prolonged drought could result in the District violating the arsenic maximum contaminant level regulation because the District relies on State Water Project water to blend with high arsenic water from 15 drinking water wells. The drought conditions have also prohibited the Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency (AVEK) from providing agricultural users with adequate water supplies. The Mojave, Tahoe-Sierra, and Antelope Valley IRWMs have applied for Proposition 84 funds under 3a in an effort to implement projects that are important to our respective regions as soon as practical. The Mojave, Tahoe-Sierra, and Antelope Valley IRWMs have each expended considerable resources to prepare a competitive 3a grant application as well as worked closely with our respective stakeholder groups who are anxious to exercise the agreed-upon funding area agreement and initiate much needed locally driven water projects.

The requested grant funds are consistent with the Lahontan Funding Area Proposition 84 fund allocation agreement. If all 3 applications are fully funded, the Mojave, Tahoe-Sierra, and Antelope Valley IRWMs will consider their fair share of Proposition 84 IRWM grant funds fully allocated and not participate in 3b.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Dave Rydman at (626) 300-3357 or at drydman@dpw.lacounty.gov.

Very truly yours,

GAIL FARBER
Director of Public Works



FOR ADAM ARIKI
Assistant Deputy Director
Waterworks Division

DR:dvt
LTS906

Enc.

cc: Muzaffar Eusuff

**ATTACHMENT
PROPOSAL TO ALLOCATE PROPOSITION 84 IRWM GRANT FUNDS IN THE LAHONTAN FUNDING AREA**

IRWM Region	Antelope Valley	Inyo-Mono	Mojave	Tahoe-Sierra	Fremont Valley*	Lahontan Basins
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE:	\$24,705,000 (\$27,000,000 less DWR administrative and bond financing costs)					
ALLOCATION TO EACH IRWM REGION	\$7,302,704	\$3,314,736	\$7,922,242	\$3,277,788	\$0	\$2,887,532
PREVIOUSLY AWARDED GRANTS						
Round 1 Planning	\$472,919	\$237,615	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Round 2 Planning	\$0	\$480,270	\$0	\$557,480	\$0	\$427,614
Subtotal (Planning Grants)	\$472,919	\$717,885	\$0	\$557,480	\$0	\$427,614
Notes: Half of this amount is taken from Prop 84 funding from Lahontan Region. Total is \$2,175,898 with \$1,087,949 from Prop 84 funding for Lahontan region.						
Round 1 Implementation	\$5,400,000	\$1,075,000	\$2,000,000	\$1,437,000	\$0	\$0
Round 2 Implementation	\$427,000	\$0	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal (Implementation Grants)	\$5,400,000	\$1,075,000	\$5,000,000	\$1,437,000	\$0	\$0
Notes: Antelope Valley was credited the \$427,000 given to Boron CSD during Round 2						
GRAND TOTAL FUNDS AWARDED	\$5,636,460	\$1,433,943	\$5,000,000	\$1,715,740	\$0	\$213,807
FUNDS REMAINING	\$1,666,244	\$1,880,793	\$2,922,242	\$1,562,048	\$0	\$2,673,725

*Fremont Valley IRWM Region has indicated they will not be prepared to participate in Prop 84