

I understand the need for strong leadership at the level that I dealt with back in 2003-5. If there had been leadership back then, we wouldn't have the problems with a solution today. When the lack of a secure water source arose early into the Advisory meetings, as Mike Cohen told me it did, a strong leader would have gone to Mike Chrisman and told him straight out: NO WATER--NO SOLUTIONS. I will hope this is the position taken by your anticipated selection. If not, I would pass on him and look for someone that will send the Governor that message.

The facts should be clear.

A long term fix for the Salton Sea must of necessity entail the use of water. The only water available to the Salton Sea without import is inflow from irrigation drains. IID could continue to allow this water to flow for the next 100 years, but with the current drought IID could sell it all tomorrow if it didn't contain salt. And I think they have plans along those lines for the future of that water. I hope you understand their "mandate": Keep the cost of water to the farms as cheap as possible.

I might suggest that the State could purchase the irrigation drain water and a good strong contract would then provide that security, but---- a nominal fee for that water could run up the OM&R on any of those Alternatives by another 250-500 million every year or even more!

You have the best solution in your letter.

Just move the Salton Sea to San Francisco. Not literally of course, but move it in the public eye! That is within the power of the Little Hoover Commission to do if they want. Well drafted news releases. That is my suggestion to the Commissioners. Skip the Legislators who all seem to have some agenda not consistent with the needs of their constituents. Go Public with the information that you now possess. Don't duplicate the actions that have got us this far! And for the sake of the taxpayers, tell them to quit spending money on worthless projects. The Salton Sea is way over budget for that already. No more money until Resources settles the water problem!

Cliff

PS: The attachment was sent to me by IID and the "Alamo River" is totally drain flow.

Horizontal Axis: Years  
Vertical Axis: Feet above Mean Sea Level

§ Source: Imperial IRWMP (Oct 2012) <http://www.imperialirwmp.org/2013%20Updates/finalirwmp.html>

**Table 12-5. IID Capital Project Alternatives and Cost**

Name	Description	Capital Cost	O&M
GW 18	Groundwater Blending- East Mesa Well Field Pumping to All-American Canal	\$ 39,501,517	\$ 198,000
GW 19	Groundwater Blending- East Mesa Well Field Pumping to All-American Canal with Percolation Ponds	\$ 48,605,551	\$ 243,000
WB 1	Coachella Valley Groundwater Storage Project	\$ 92,200,000	\$ 7,544,000
DES 8	25 KAF East Brawley Desalination with Well Field and Groundwater Recharge	\$ 100,991,177	\$ 6,166,000
AWC 1	Systems Conservation Projects (2)	\$ 56,225,000	N/A
DES 12	East Mesa 25 KAF Desalination with Well Field and Groundwater Recharge	\$ 112,318,224	\$ 6,336,000
DES 4	50 KAF Keystone Desalination with IID Drainwater/Alamo River	\$ 147,437,743	\$ 15,323,901
DES 14	South Salton Sea 50 KAF Desalination with Alamo River Water and Industrial Distribution	\$ 158,619,378	\$ 15,491,901
DES 15	South Salton Sea 50 KAF Desalination with Alamo River Water and MCI Distribution	\$ 182,975,327	\$ 15,857,901