



**MWD**

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Executive Office

November 10, 2004

Ms. Cheryl A. Schmit  
P.O. Box 355  
Penryn, CA 95663

Dear Ms. Schmit:

I am responding to your letter of September 10, 2004 inquiring about The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's annexation policies regarding land owned by members of the Old Barona Road Association and the Barona Band of Mission Indians' reservation.

As we stated in our letter to Barona Chairman La Chappa dated August 9, 2004, there are three options in our view which the Barona Band could consider to receive imported water for use on its reservation in San Diego County. In our opinion, the most economical and reliable method for an Indian reservation to receive imported water from Metropolitan is through annexation. The Jamul Indian Reservation and a portion of the Pala, San Pasqual, and Yuima Indian Reservations are located within Metropolitan's service area. These areas were annexed to Metropolitan's member agency, San Diego County Water Authority. They are within the service areas of the Authority's member agencies, Yuima Municipal Water District, Valley Center Municipal Water District, or Otay Water District. Also, property owned by the state and federal governments are located in Metropolitan's service area. Because annexation to Metropolitan involves only water service issues, such annexation does not require a waiver of sovereignty regarding reservation lands. As to the specifics of the facilities that would be constructed by which entity, and what areas would be part of the annexation, that depends on the facts of each situation. In your letter, you stated that the Barona Band has indicated to the press and Representative Duncan Hunter that the Band would provide untreated water to the homeowners you represent. You should be aware that untreated water is water that has not been treated to render such water potable or safe for human consumption.

Further, if the Barona Band imports that water from Metropolitan, the land owned by members of the Old Barona Road Association would be required to annex to Metropolitan, as well as to

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the San Diego County Water Authority, our member agency, and Ramona Municipal Water District, the Authority's member agency. If you would like more information regarding Metropolitan's annexation policies, please contact Ethel Young of my staff at (213) 217-7677; she can also direct you to appropriate staff persons at the San Diego County Water Authority.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald R. Gastelum". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ronald R. Gastelum  
Chief Executive Officer