



MONO LAKE COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 29
Hwy 395 at Third Street
Lee Vining, CA 93541
Phone (760) 647-6595
Fax (760) 647-6377

Board of Directors

Chair:
Sally Gaines

Martha Davis
Vireo Gaines
David Kanner
Richard Lehman
Tom Soto
Sherryl Taylor
Doug Virtue

Directors Emeriti

Helen Green
Ed Grosswiler
Genny Smith

Executive Director

Geoffrey McQuilkin

Southern California Office

1718 Wellesley Avenue.
Los Angeles, CA 90025-3634

On the Internet

www.monolake.org
www.monobasinresearch.org

November 13, 2013

Robert Katherman
President, Board of Directors
Water Replenishment District of Southern California
4040 Paramount Boulevard
Lakewood, CA 90712

RE: Support for the Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD)
Groundwater Reliability Improvement Program (GRIP)

Dear President Katherman,

I am writing on behalf of the Mono Lake Committee to express our support for the Water Replenishment District of Southern California's Groundwater Reliability Improvement Program (GRIP). We understand that water use in Southern California is interconnected, and that water use efficiency is critical to the people of California to ensure future supplies while maintaining the health of watersheds. In the case of Mono Lake, water recycling and groundwater replenishment enabled the City of Los Angeles to offset a portion of its Mono Basin diversions.

The Mono Lake Committee is a non-profit citizen's group dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Mono Basin ecosystem; educating the public about the impacts on the environment of excessive water use; and promoting cooperative solutions that meet real water needs without transferring environmental problems to other areas.

Groundwater recharge with reclaimed water has a proven record of success, and the Water Replenishment District (WRD) has successfully used recycled water to recharge underground supplies since 1962. GRIP is forward-thinking and a beneficial use of water. The program will augment a reliable source of water by using locally available, treated wastewater to replenish groundwater. Water efficiency efforts that lead to self-reliance and protecting against future reductions of imported water are a wise investment.

GRIP provides the District the ability to diversify its recharge sources and reduce the dependence on imported water. The Mono Lake Committee supports the opportunity to stretch the supply of locally available water while reducing the dependence on limited and expensive water from regions like the Bay Delta and the Colorado River. Like Mono Lake, these water resources are public trust resources valued by people all over California. GRIP takes a further step towards balancing the competing needs placed on our water resources.

WRD continues to be a regional leader in groundwater replenishment. The Committee applauds WRD's commitment to developing and implementing solutions that consider future generations of water users and the health of the water resources on which we all depend.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey McQuilkin
Executive Director