

Laura Piper

From: Anastasia Maier <aebutler53@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 2:44 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: [PUBLIC COMMENT] Inyo/LA Standing Committee (05/15/20)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear Los Angeles City Representatives,

I am reaching out today as a citizen of LA (zip code: 90042) and ally to the stakeholders of Inyo County. I am concerned with the unprecedented amount of water proposed to be taken out of Inyo County over the next 12 months (more than any other year in the past 30 years). I call upon my local officials to listen to the communities LA is impacting and restrict the water usage to 71,000 acre-feet based rather than the proposed 93,000 acre-feet based in LADWP's operational plan.

Furthermore, I would like our LA City Representatives to consider how LA can (1) decrease dependency off of the aqueduct and (2) rectify relations with the Inyo local community. LA likes to market itself as a "cleantech capital" with Garcetti's Sustainability pLAN and partner organizations but I have seen no public effort to educate Angelenos about the trauma the aqueduct has caused and ways in which LA is addressing decades of modern resource extraction and social injustice.

Thank you,

Anastasia Maier

Laura Piper

From: hkanz@kanzoutdoors.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 7:46 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: LADWP pumps more water

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hi Laura,

When I drive near laws in Bishop and hear the massive DWP pumps humming it feels like they sucking the blood out of the region.

I wished I could help.

This is regarding the zoom meeting this Friday.

Thanks,

Harald Kanz
North Hills, CA 91343

Laura Piper

From: Leslie Horwitz <leslie.horwitz@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 10:58 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public comment - INYO COUNTY/LOS ANGELES STANDING COMMITTEE 10:00 a.m.May 15, 2020

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To whom it may concern,

I dissent to pumping additional water from the Owen's Valley. I support LADWP working with the Tribes to reconcile past injustices and to cease exploiting tribal resources which are already highly constrained. I believe that LADWP can creatively implement solutions to recapture both local stormwater and wastewater. We do not have decades to act. With natural water sources drying up, we must seek systematic and behavioral changes to how we consume water in the City of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,
Leslie Horwitz

Laura Piper

From: Maya Bon <mayabonfire@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 11:41 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: INYO COUNTY/LOS ANGELES STANDING COMMITTEE (5/15) Public Comment

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Each year, LA County uses approximately 213 billion gallons of water. 50-60% of that water is imported from the Colorado River Basin, from mountain rivers in Northern California, and from Payahuunadü. Each year, 112 billion gallons of water runs across Los Angeles' streets, picking up pollution before being washed out to the ocean — that's 50% of Los Angeles' total water use that we allow to wash away without hydrating the people, the plants, the animals of Los Angeles.

How could you propose pumping more water out of this valley when you allow the very amount Los Angeles needs to import to go to waste. How could you propose to pump more water out of this valley, when the people who are *from* here, the people whose land you are on, the Nüümü people, are telling you to stop and to stop now. Will you allow another hundred years to go by living on stolen water?

LADWP continues to make bad decisions and bad investments. We cannot afford to continue to pump water out of the Sierras when climate change has already significantly lessened its snowpack. We must invest in stormwater capture, in remediating contaminated groundwater, in filling the 800,000 acre-feet of unutilized available storage capacity in our groundwater basins, in more "pump-and-treat" systems, in personal rooftop water systems, in depaving our city.

We must end this system of theft and oppression. Please stand with us and fight for *all* life. Stand with us to create long term solutions.

Laura Piper

From: Ian Walker <ian@ian-walker.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 12:08 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Inyo county water pumping

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Hello:

I'm a Los Angeles resident with connections to the Owens valley and I want to voice my concern regarding the unprecedented level of pumping planned for next year. I strongly urge the committee to minimize pumping in order to mitigate damage to the ecosystem and peoples of Inyo county. I understand that the Paiute tribe there has provided all the supporting information and guidance needed to begin to honor agreements reached with the city and the LADWP. All that's missing is the will power and ethical backbone on the part of the committee and elected officials to make better choices. I demand better from you as my representatives.

Thank you

Ian Walker
1623 1/2 Elevado St
LA, CA 90026

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Ian

Laura Piper

From: Maria Karras <mkarras@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 12:40 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: INYO-LA Standing Committee Meeting

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To whom it may concern,

As an LA resident for 47 years now, I do not support taking groundwater from the Owens Valley.

Thank you.

Maria Karras

mkarras@gmail.com
626 233 3345

Laura Piper

From: Bz (Brenda) Zhang <bz@spaceindustri.es>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 3:18 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Inyo - LA Standing Committee Meeting Public Comment

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hi, my name is Bz (pronounced "beez") and I live in Los Angeles. I am voicing my dissent for LADWP's water grabs against Payahuunadü. We must listen to and agree to terms set by Inyo County and the communities of Payahuunadü. LADWP's proposal is shameful, and it sets Los Angeles back in achieving the social, economic, racial, and environmental progress that we're in need of.

Laura Piper

From: Marieclaire Wilcox <marieclairewyntreaux@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 3:28 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Do not pump more water from native land! Standing up for sustainable water practices

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To whom it may concern,

This Los Angeles resident is against the irresponsible water allocation practices of the LADWP. Stop pumping water from Payahuunadü!

Each year, LA County uses approximately 213 billion gallons of water. 50-60% of that water is imported from the Colorado River Basin, from mountain rivers in Northern California, and from Payahuunadü. Each year, 112 billion gallons of water runs across Los Angeles' streets, picking up pollution before being washed out to the ocean — that's 50% of Los Angeles' total water use that we allow to wash away without hydrating the people, the plants, the animals of Los Angeles.

How could you propose pumping more water out of this valley when you allow the very amount Los Angeles needs to import to go to waste. How could you propose to pump more water out of this valley, when the people who are from here, the people whose land you are on, the Nüümü people, are telling you to stop and to stop now. Will you allow another hundred years to go by living on stolen water?

LADWP continues to make bad decisions and bad investments. We cannot afford to continue to pump water out of the Sierras when climate change has already significantly lessened its snowpack. We must invest in stormwater capture, in remediating contaminated groundwater, in filling the 800,000 acre-feet of unutilized available storage capacity in our groundwater basins, in more "pump-and-treat" systems, in personal rooftop water systems, in depaving our city.

We must end this system of theft and oppression. Please stand with us and fight for all life. Stand with us to create long term solutions.

Marieclaire Wilcox

Sent from my iPhone

Laura Piper

From: Cici Cyr <abundantlagardens@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 4:12 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: General Public Comment for LADWP Standing Committee

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General Public Comment:

Dear LA Standing Committee Members,

I speak as a resident of LA county (zip code 90063), an ally of the Paiute, the indigenous people of Inyo County, an ally to all residents of LA and Inyo counties, and someone who is sensitive to the needs of our lands and indigenous communities who are impacted by the actions of the LADWP. As we speak of water allocations for LA, we need not forget those people and lands from whom we take water in Inyo county. I have several questions, which get to the root of my concerns and invite this committee to listen to the voices who don't have a seat at the table where water allocation decisions are made.

The Paiute people have lived on this land with this water for thousands of years. Are these lands (Payahuunadu), plant and animal ecosystems, and people (Paiute) getting the water they need first and foremost? Additionally, are there indigenous voices represented in this standing committee? If not, why not? I believe that the people whose water we take each year must have a say in how much is allocated for LA. Further, though only 74% of normal runoff is estimated for the next year, LADWP proposes to pump more than they have in the past 30 years, since the water agreement was signed. Paiute people say they aren't being allocated enough water and that the people and the land are suffering, and yet LA is taking more. How can LADWP justify these actions?

Thank you, all my best,
Cici Cyr

www.AbundantLA.com

@abundant_la

Food and Medicine Gardens, Homegrown Plant Medicine, Earth-Based Community Education

Laura Piper

From: Celia Ruskin <celia.ruskin@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 4:14 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Consider empathy for the Nüümü People

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Hello,

Please consider that pumping water from the Payahuunadü is currently destroying the land of the Nüümü people.

Indigenous communities have been hurt enough by greed and mismanaged power. You have the power to stop some of this injustice by drastically limiting the amount of water that is pumped.

The earth needs our support now more than ever, and pumping is an act of destruction. We need to focus on using water supplies that are best for the earth and best for all people.

The current plans to pump are outrageously recorded high, destructive, greedy and inhumane.

The consequences of these plans will deeply and negatively effect the Nüümü people, while benefiting the bank accounts of a few greedy people.

To continue to pump is to completely lack compassion. The consequences will soon reveal themselves most brutally upon the souls of the greedy.

Please do the right thing for your fellow humans and for the Earth.

-Celia

Laura Piper

From: Sierra Morris <sierraemorris@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 7:04 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comment for Inyo-LA Standing Committee Meeting

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Hello,

I'm a resident of Los Angeles and I'm writing to express my concern regarding LADWP's decision to pump 93,000 acre-feet of groundwater from Payahuunadü. The health of the valley continues to decline primarily due to Los Angeles' groundwater pumping and poor surface water management practices.

How could you propose to pump more water out of this valley, when the people who are from here, the people whose land you are on, the Nüümü people, are telling you to stop. Will you allow another hundred years to go by living on stolen water? We cannot afford to continue to pump water out of the Sierras when climate change has already significantly lessened its snowpack. We must invest in stormwater capture, in remediating contaminated groundwater, in filling the 800,000 acre-feet of unutilized available storage capacity in our groundwater basins, in more "pump-and-treat" systems, in personal rooftop water systems, in depaving our city.

Going forward, there should also be more online meetings like this so that they are accessible to residents of Los Angeles who live about 200 miles away.

We must end this system of theft and oppression. Please stand with us and fight for all life. Stand with us to create long term solutions.

Sincerely,
Sierra Morris

Laura Piper

From: Sharonryan <sharon@sharonryan.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 6:57 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: My Comment

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Please....invest in stormwater capture, in remediating contaminated groundwater, in filling the 800,000 acre-feet of unutilized available storage capacity in our groundwater basins, in more "pump-and-treat" systems, in personal rooftop water systems, in depaving our city.

And can we also stop treating the First Nation people poorly ?

Thank you

Laura Piper

From: Erin Shea <ekshea@alum.mit.edu>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 8:08 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment in Reference to Item 3

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I am a resident of Payahuunadü and I hold a PhD in Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences from MIT. As an earth scientist and someone who lives in the valley, it is clear that the continued over-pumping and diversion of water in the valley is not sustainable and has deleterious effects on the water table, residents of the valley, and native vegetation. Many areas throughout the valley still have not recovered from over-pumping that occurred nearly 50 years ago; it is time for LADWP to start listening to the communities that are being affected by their actions and to limit their exploitation of the precious water resources of the valley. The pumping proposed by LADWP is unacceptably high and should be kept to far less than the 71,000 acre-feet proposed by Inyo County.

Thank you-

Erin K Gilpin (Shea)

Laura Piper

From: Jenae McDonald <jenae.mcdonald@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 8:36 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment on Report on LADWP's 2020-2021 Owens Valley Annual Operation Plan

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LADWP's plan to pump more water than they have in the last 30 years is unacceptable in a year with snowpack levels 54% of normal. The effects of previous years of drought have not been fully taken into account. As a lifelong Eastern Sierra resident, I stand with Inyo County in demanding that no more than 71,545 ac-ft be pumped. More importantly, I stand with the sovereign tribes of this valley in their proposals and demands.

-Jenae McDonald, Crowley Lake resident

Laura Piper

From: Grace Driscoll <graceldriscoll@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 8:55 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Water

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Hello,

Please keep LADWP away from the water of the Payahuunadü. This is a human rights violation as well as an environmental rights violation.

-Grace

Laura Piper

From: Kai Blatt <kaiopposite@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 9:11 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comment for May 15th Inyo/LA Standing Committee Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

As an Angeleno, I am ashamed of the ecological devastation caused by the greed of our city. Just as we are now staying home, making individual sacrifices for the long-term health of our communities, we must practice responsible water management so that our ecosystems and their stewards can thrive. Los Angeles must stop pumping groundwater from the Owens Valley.

Kai Blatt

90065

Laura Piper

From: tara mcdonald <oftara@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 9:30 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: LADWP Annual Operations plan

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I am submitting a comment on LADWP's Annual Operation Plan asking them to reconsider the amount of water they plan to pump. At minimum LADWP should adhere to Inyo County's recommendation of 71,545 ac-ft. Previous drought years and the long term effects on the land must be considered, as well as the long term sustainability of taking water from its source to a city that wastes billions of gallons of water per year. Furthermore, LADWP must stand by their Tribal Engagement Policy in action and consult with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe as they requested and all the tribes of the valley with regard to their sovereignty on these lands. Please honor the Tribe's request that less water be pumped and respect their sovereignty on their homeland.

Tara McDonald
Crowley Lake resident

Laura Piper

From: Emily Ontiveros <emilyjontiveros@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 9:49 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Inyo/LA Standing Committee - Public Comment - Item 3

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Public Comment regarding Item 3: OV Annual Operations Plan

I urge LADWP to reconsider the amount of water they plan to pump this year. Considering that the Sierra snowpack is 37% of average and that it is very possible we will see drought conditions return in the near future, pumping groundwater at an unsustainable rate is completely unacceptable. In addition, the Big Pine Paiute Tribe has not received the consultation they have requested regarding the annual operations, and no operations should move forward without giving them, and other Tribes of Payahuunadu, the consultation and communication that they are due as sovereign nations. Please consider a more sustainable and collaborative approach before you make decisions affecting the lands that others call home.

Thank you,

Emily Ontiveros

Laura Piper

From: Olivia Weber <olweber@lawnet.uci.edu>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 11:04 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public comment for 5-15-20 meeting, Item 3

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May 14, 2020

To the Inyo/LA Standing Committee:

My name is Olivia Weber. I am a California resident, and my comment is in reference to Item 3, LADWP's 2020-2021 Owens Valley Annual Operation Plan.

The majority of Los Angeles County's water, each year, is imported. This includes water from Payahuunadü, otherwise known as the Owens Valley.

First and foremost, please consult with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe as well as each of the other tribes of Payahuunadü with respect to the proposed increase in pumping. These tribes are crucial stakeholders. They are sovereign entities that must be respected, consulted, and part of the water planning process. Simply reviewing their public comments is insufficient.

Second, please reconsider the proposed increase in the amount of water to be pumped from Payahuunadü. As the Committee is aware, California goes through cyclical droughts and has long been over-pumping its groundwater. Over-pumping leads to ground subsidence, ground compression, and arsenic contamination of groundwater. It leads to depletion of water below rooting zones of groundwater-dependent vegetation—which leads to "desertification." Over-pumping has depleted the Mono Lake watershed, which as the Committee is also aware, has contributed to horrific, particulate-matter-based air pollution through the creation of dust. As a result, hard-earned taxpayer funds will increasingly be spent combatting these unnatural dust flats and environmental degradation, along with the resulting pollution.

I strongly urge the Committee to reconsider its proposed increase of groundwater pumping. Please look for alternatives to pumping water from Payahuunadü.

Thank you,

Olivia Weber
208-339-5489
olweber@lawnet.uci.edu

Laura Piper

From: O-Lan Jones <o-lan@overtoneindustries.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 11:20 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Pumping water

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Doesn't seem like a good idea to pump more water out of this valley when you allow the very amount Los Angeles needs to import to go to waste.

Thanks for thinking about this!

--
O-Lan Jones
Artistic Director
OVERTONE INDUSTRIES
6535 Wilshire Blvd. #202
Los Angeles, CA 90048

ph/f 323 655 2410
www.overtoneindustries.org

Laura Piper

From: Armand Ferreccio <apferreccio@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 11:22 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: In reference to Item 3 (discussion of the Annual Operations Plan)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

In reference to Item 3 (discussion of the Annual Operations Plan)

Hello,

We need to start using the water we have in LA more effectively. The people whose ancestral land we are on are asking Los Angeles to find ways to make do with what we have. Enough is enough. Each year LA County uses approximately 213 billion gallons of water. 50% of Los Angeles' total water use is allowed to wash away without hydrating the people, the plants, the animals of LA. Please consider resolving this issue rather than taking more water and harming lands 260 miles away. LADWP needs to be consulting with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe. The fact that they have not received any communication back is unacceptable. All tribes of Payahuunadu deserve consultation beyond just making public comments.

In conclusion, please reconsider the amount of water you will be pumping from Payahuunadu (Owens Valley). It is time to use what we have more effectively and stop taking more.

Thank you.

Laura Piper

From: Samantha Chavez <samicat11@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 11:28 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Item 3 Standing Committee LADWP

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Greetings,

Los Angeles has always been protected from the struggles of drought years by continuing to draw water from the Owens Valley beyond what is reasonable. The LADWP must understand that this water must be shared with Inyo County and in fact Inyo County should decide how much of their water should be removed from the Valley. Please also consult with the Big Pine Paiute tribe before drawing water from the Owens Valley.

Thank you,
-Samantha Chavez

Laura Piper

From: Kiana Tom <kianatom2013@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 11:41 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: In reference to Item 3 (discussion of the Annual Operations Plan)

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Dear Standing committee,

Please consult with the Big Pine Paiute tribe as well as the other tribes of Payahuunadu. They deserve better communication. I am writing to you to please reconsider and decrease the amount of water you will be pumping from Owen's Valley.

Kiana

Laura Piper

From: Cristina Martinez <cristina.martinez.guzman@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 11:45 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comment for Inyo- LA Standing Meeting- May 15th

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello,

Here is my public comment in reference to Item 3(Discussion of the Annual Operations Plan)

As a voter in Los Angeles County, in 2018 I voted for ballot Measure W "Safe Clean Water Parcel Tax" proposed by the LA County Flood Control District because the county must increase the percentage of drinking water that comes from local ground water sources. Los Angeles' current storm water system was built 100 years ago to quickly divert storm-water to the ocean to prevent flooding; however, in this current system LA County has failed to capture more than 100 billion gallons of water each year for future use. This unsustainable system has negatively impacted not only the health of humans and the various aquatic ecosystems within LA County through water pollution, but also that of the people and ecosystems of Payahuunadü (Owens Valley) through extreme resource extraction.

Water extraction over the span of a century has changed Owens Lake to a salt flat the size of San Francisco and the largest single source of dust pollution in the nation, worsening air quality for various communities in the valley. For this and many reasons, the Big Pine Paiute Tribe and other tribes of Owens Valley deserve to be consulted and included by LADWP in any management decisions that will further stress resources in the valley. I call for LADWP to please reconsider the amount of water to be pumped from the area, as the Big Pine Paiute Tribe considers the proposed to 93,000 acre-feet of groundwater far too much. Sustainable water management can only be possible with the inclusion of the original stewards of Payahuunadü.

Cristina Martinez
900 E. Denni St.
Wilmington, CA 90744

Laura Piper

From: Mark Lopez <mlopez@eycej.org>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 12:00 AM
To: Laura Piper
Cc: AnMarie R. Mendoza
Subject: Public Comment - Inyo County/Los Angeles Standing Committee

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Item 3 (Annual Operations Plan)

I'm mark! Lopez, I am a member and Executive Director of East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, and a resident of East LA. We live within the man made watershed that extends from the Eastern Sierra to the San Pedro bay. Every year we take a group of youth members, including LADWP served residents in Boyle Heights, to the Manzanar museum, where Japanese families who used to farm the land that was stolen during World War II to become the East Yard Union Pacific Intermodal Facility, were taken and forced into an internment camp. For some, this is their first trip out of Los Angeles and first knowledge of this tragic history. For others of us we have been connected to the struggles in the region for generations, specifically the water struggles. My grandparents, Juana Beatriz and Ricardo Gutierrez, founders of the Mothers of East Los Angeles Santa Isabel, began to take our community members up the Los Angeles Aqueduct in the early 90s, to connect our communities and be accountable in addressing wrongs from the past. Because of innovative programming from that period, unprecedented water conservation was achieved and continues to grow. Of course much more needs to be done to be responsible and accountable to the Indigenous Tribes of the Inyo region, and increasing ground water extraction is a step in the wrong direction. Don't make successive generations work harder to heal the land, the water, and the peoples because of wrongs from the past and from today.

mark! Lopez
Member/Executive Director
East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice
2017 North American recipient of the Goldman Environmental Prize

--

mark! Lopez
East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice
EYCEJ.org

Laura Piper

From: Marina Magana <mmucla2014@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 12:02 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comment - May 15 Standing Committee Meeting

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Discussion of Item 3 - Annual Operations.

The City of Los Angeles claims they are working towards sustainable water management, but there is nothing sustainable about the continued over-extraction of the Owen's Valley Basin. Sustainable sources of water are supposed to be local, yet LADWP continues to increase the amount of groundwater pumped from 400 miles away. The City of LA needs to actually implement actions to reduce the use of imported water and collaborate with stakeholders and tribal communities, rather than just write these goals in planning documents and then completely dismiss stakeholder input. Sustainable water management is not something LADWP needs to do in the future, this is something that needs to be done now. The City of LA needs to put its words in actions and stop over-extracting groundwater from drought-prone disadvantaged communities!

- Marina Magana

Laura Piper

From: Emma Ginchereau <emma.ginchereau@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 12:22 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public comment for Standing Committee Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

This comment is in reference to Item 3: discussion of the annual operations plan

I am writing to support the aims expressed by the Big Pine Paiute Tribe in their letter to LADWP outlining their request to be consulted as part of the decision-making process for the annual operations plan as well as their concerns over the environmental impact of extracting 93,000 acre-feet of water from the valley this year.

The (mis)management of water resources by LADWP demonstrates the continued policies of resource extraction and colonization of indigenous lands. The lack of legally guaranteed water rights threatens the economic security, and cultural resources, of the tribe. These impacts are visible when comparing economic outcomes between the Fort Independence Tribe which owns a 14% share of Oak Creek and the other tribes in Payahuunadü which lack any official water rights and instead depend on an annual allocation from LADWP (<https://packages.trust.org/running-dry-california/index.html>).

This years operations plan to extract more water than any year since 1991 is especially irresponsible in the face of another drought year, when run-off this spring/summer is only projected to be 74% of normal flows (https://www.inyowater.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/2020_dwp_pplan_comment_letter-FINAL-signed-2.pdf). This level of extraction threatens the ecology of the valley—the ecological impacts cited by the Big Pine Tribe in their letter and the Inyo County Water Department include a decrease of groundwater-dependent vegetation below baseline levels in certain areas, an increase of non-native weeds, and air pollution from the Owens Dry Lake among others.

Collaboration with the tribes is critical to a more equitable and beneficial water policy—a policy that recognizes the cultural and environmental value of water resources to the valley in general and their value to indigenous communities in particular.

Laura Piper

From: Teresa Mei Chuc <teresa.meichuc@goddard.edu>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 12:41 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public comment on Item 3 (discussion of the Annual Operations Plan)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Public comment on Item 3 (discussion of the Annual Operations Plan)

Dear LADWP staff, Water and Power Commissioners, City Council Representative,

I am a public high school teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District. I taught our youth where Los Angeles's water comes from when they turn on the faucet. My students watched the important documentary, "The Aqueduct Between Us" directed by Annie Mendoza which tells the oral history of Los Angeles' water from the perspective of the indigenous people of the land, the Tongva people and the Nüümü and Newe people in Payahüünadü (Owens Valley). My 11th and 12th grade students learned about Payahüünadü and how the water L.A. takes from Payahüünadü affected and continues to affect the Nüümü and Newe. The choices we make and how we manage water, we teach our youth how to be. We can teach them to better manage and care for water in a more sustainable and regenerative way. We can teach the youth to respect water as a life source. My students know that LADWP affects many lives beyond Los Angeles (Tongva territory) into Payahüünadü (Owens Valley); they are watching and listening. You all have the power to lead our youth with integrity and conscience, to listen to the needs of the first peoples of the land. I recently visited Payahüünadü and saw Owens Lake which is now dried out because L.A. took all of its water. What is the history/legacy you want to create? Thank you for your time.

--Teresa Chuc

Laura Piper

From: Anna Hohag <annahohag@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 12:49 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment on Item 3 - Standing Committee Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Dear Standing Committee Members:

My name is Anna Hohag. I am a member of the Bishop Paiute Tribe and I was born and raised in Payahuunadu (now known as the Owens Valley). I strongly urge the committee to oppose the proposed groundwater pumping by LADWP. There are many reasons why you should oppose this level of continued, unsustainable pumping, however, I will address one main reason: DWP's failure to comply with the requirement of their lease terms with the State Lands Commission and its own Tribal Engagement Policy to meaningfully consult with all tribes in Payahuunadu.

Not only has DWP ignored the Big Pine Tribe's objections in this instance, but they have failed their obligations under their terms with the State and their own Policy to develop separate tribal policies with each individual tribe. This level of continued groundwater pumping and the subsequent exportation to a city almost 300 miles away is unsustainable, unethical, and a prime example of continued water policy based on colonialism and environmental racism. Our peoples' long history tells stories that centered around the abundance of water and lush ecosystems in Payahuunadu. Yet, my generation has only seen the result of DWP's century-long extraction from our home that turned it into a desert dust bowl with drained lakes. I urge the Committee to deny DWP's proposal.

Laura Piper

From: Ryan Albert <ryanalbertmusic@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 5:27 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Standing Committee Meeting 5/15 Public Comment

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In Reference to Item 3 (discussion of the Annual Operations Plan)

The in-person version of the Standing Committee meetings are over a 3 hour drive from Los Angeles. These meetings need to continue online and be easily accessible for residents of Los Angeles to voice their opinion on how they get their water. As a resident of LA, I am appalled by the extractive practices of LADWP in Payahuunadü.

Please consult with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe that has not received any communication back from the letter they drafted to ask that less water be pumped. Please also consult the other Tribes of Payahuunadü, who deserve consultation beyond just making public comment.

Laura Piper

From: Christine Jimenez <crjim1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 5:48 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: The annual operations plan

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

In reference to item 3, as a third generation Los Angeles resident I am very concerned about the plan for drilling. I was not aware of previous drilling projects in the past. This one I am aware and do not support or accept this project plan. As a long time steward of the land and knowledge about regenerative practices this is not a way to be a long term steward for future generations. I have a 6 year old son and I see the demise of the land and the results that can happen if we do not take our future generations seriously. There are other solutions for obtaining water. Please research and plan differently.

Christine Jimenez

Laura Piper

From: Chloe Schulman <chloe.m.schulman@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 6:27 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: LA Water

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Good morning,

I would like to voice concern regarding L.A. County's demand for more water from the Inyo and surrounding areas. This is a horrible and continued violation of the Inyo's water accessibility and further tips the scales for disadvantaged and marginalized communities in that area (example: native communities). I am a resident in the L.A. area, and my husband and I frequently visit Inyo. Our marriage license is from Inyo. We said our vows on the Owens River. People have lived there for hundreds of years and thrived there. LA should put their greediness aside, practice more sustainable water consumption, and not pull more water from the Inyo area. This water issue has made my family and I plan to move away from LA area because we do not want to support this practice of removing water from the Inyo.

Thank you for all you do for your great community.

The Schulman Family

Laura Piper

From: Julissa Castillo <juleak89@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 6:48 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Come y in reference to Item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To whom it may concern,

Please consult with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe that has not received any communication back from the letter they drafted to ask that less water be pumped. As well as the other Tribes of Payahuunadü who deserve consultation beyond just making public comments.

Also, please reconsider the amount of water you will be pumping from Payahuunadü (Owens Valley). It is a drought year and will likely experience another.

Sincerely,
Julissa Castillo

Laura Piper

From: Elke Reimer <elkereimertruscott@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 6:50 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Stop the water grab

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Good morning,

I would like to voice great concern regarding L.A. County's demand for more water from the Inyo and surrounding areas. This is a horrible and continued violation of the Inyo's water accessibility and further tips the scales for disadvantaged and marginalized communities in that area (example: native communities). It also disrupts the fragile ecosystem.

I am a resident Placer County area, and frequently visit Inyo and Mono counties. LA should put their greediness aside, practice more sustainable water consumption (no lawns, modified manufacturing, etc), and not pull more water from the Inyo area.

Thank you for all you do for your great community.

Elke Reimer

Laura Piper

From: Samantha Bode <sammy.bode@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 7:17 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: COMMENT - INYO COUNTY/LOS ANGELES STANDING COMMITTEE - May 15th, 2020 10 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Good morning!

As part of Agenda Item #3 on the May 15th, 10 AM agenda of the Inyo County/LA Standing Committee, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is requesting to pump excessive amounts of groundwater from Payahuunadu (the Owens Valley). The amount of water they have proposed is up to 93,000 acre feet, the most they have pumped in 30 years. Inyo County has requested they not pump more than 71,000 due to the effects pumping could do to the vegetation and water levels that have yet to recover from the massive California drought a few years back.

In Mayor Garcetti's Green New Deal, he states that we will source 70% of all water locally by 2035. Unless LADWP is considering Payahuunadu (the Owens Valley) water as local water, this seems to be going against the Mayor's plan. Instead of pumping more water and exporting it from Payahuunadu (the Owens Valley), I encourage the LADWP and the City of Los Angeles to explore more ways to capture stormwater and recycle wastewater that already exists within the 450 square miles of the city of Los Angeles.

Thank you,

Samantha Bode

Documentary Filmmaker & Editor

The Longest Straw (Watch Now on [Amazon Prime](#) or [tubi](#))

Yukon Calling (@yukoncalling)

Laura Piper

From: Red Rotkopf <RedRotkopf@live.co.uk>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 7:27 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment in reference to Item 3 (discussion of the Annual Operations Plan)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Dear standing committee,

My name is Red Rotkopf, I have lived in Los Angeles / Tovaangar, for the past 3 years and have been residing in the Owens Valley / Payahuunadu for the past few months.

It is overwhelmingly evident that water is life, that all living things need water to live and thrive. It is therefore a deeply violent history that we are living in, where the city of LA continues to colonize and extract water from the occupied territory of the Paiute-Shoshone here in Payahuunadu.

The unquenchable draining of water from this sacred place is damaging the people, and the land, plants and animals, that call this valley their home. It can't go on like this, and the LADWP certainly shouldn't be ramping up water extraction up this year.

I ask that the city of LA enter a more meaningful and restorative relationship with the native people of this land, enacting true free, prior and informed consent prior to all decisions made about natural resources, especially water, on their territory.

This means reducing as much as possible, not increasing, the levels of water extraction by LADWP. There are ways that LA can choose to evolve and restructure in order to become more autonomous and water independent. We must follow these possibilities and stop the growth of one place being the violent destruction of another.

LA should also give the land back to the Paiute-Shoshone.

Thank you for listening. Water Is Life

Red Rotkopf

Laura Piper

From: Sophie Isabelle Burgess <Sophie.Burgess@colorado.edu>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 8:03 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comments on Item 3 - Owens Valley Groundwater Pumping

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

This comment is in reference to item 3. The Owens Valley has suffered extensive damage from LADWPs groundwater pumping practices. I ask that there please be further consideration of the amount of water that is planned to be pumped from the Valley, and restrict the pumping to a maximum of 71000 acre-feet. Further pumping would result in further desertification of the area, putting its plants, people, and future water stores at great risk. The current proposal is far from sustainable and is being carried out without and consideration for the Valley's current population and environment. I suggest looking into UCLAs comprehensive study which outlines how 100% local water is possible for LA.

Please consider how this will affect those who are 260 miles away. This is blatant and inexcusable environmental racism.

-Sophie Burgess
University of Colorado

Laura Piper

From: Paula PengWins <paulapengwins@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 8:21 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Leave the water alone

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Stop pumping the ground water from the Payahuunandü people. This is stealing! Urban LA people such as myself do not have priority over the rights of indigenous folks minding their own business and caring for their land. Urban folks need to work together to restore our natural water systems by healing the river basins. More equitable systems in urban areas and access to green space and regenerative living is important for the aquifers where we live in Los Angeles. Work together with us to solve problems. Do not perpetuate extractive economic interests that favor patriarchal colonial systems over indigenous sovereignty.

In respect for Rights of Nature,
Paula Peng
3127 Livonia Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90034
Tongva Lands

--

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Laura Piper

From: Amina Simon <amina@wheretherebedragons.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 8:39 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment: Item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To whom it may concern,

It has come to my attention that LADWP is discussing an increase in groundwater pumped from the Payahuunadü (Owens Valley), with an upper limit of 93,000 acre-feet (a massive amount of water). I understand that California and the LA area are consistently water-challenged, but LADWP is confronting this problem with band-aid solutions that do far more harm than good. Pumping groundwater harms the soil and the ecosystems that depend on it, further degrading and further drying California's already struggling ecosystems. Furthermore, this proposal is an act of violence to the Payahuunadü itself and to the Paiute people who, for millennia, have been its stewards.

YOU have the opportunity to break the cycle of violence, to **listen** to the valley's original citizens, and to employ creative and regenerative solutions to LA's water problems. Now is a time for courage and innovation, not cowardice through the exploitation of others. Do better.

Regards,
Amina Simon

--

AMINA SIMON, Partnerships Associate

PRONOUNS: She/Her PRONUNCIATION: AH-mina

WHERE THERE BE DRAGONS

Laura Piper

From: Kris Hohag <kris.hohag@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 8:40 AM
To: Laura Piper; Kristopher Hohag
Subject: Public Comment - Item 3 (discussion of Annual Operations Plan)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

I would like to propose a voluntary land tax be implemented for rate payers that would like to see their water dollars go toward the tribal communities of Payahuunadu and the Eastern Sierra. For anyone who knows the history of the Owens Valley, they know that the Tribes have received zero compensation in exchange for the land and water L.A. now proudly claims ownership of and manages.

Also, where is the Tribal Consultation as required by Federal Law when proposing plans that will alter Tribal peoples' way of life and cultures? Tribal Consultation is a minimum requirement that L.A.D.W.P. has failed to acknowledge and thereby has demonstrated a complete disregard of the tribal nations of Payahuunadu. See Big Pine Tribe's comments to the Annual Water Plan.

As the original stewards of this land... we demand respect and call upon the citizens of Los Angeles to hold your leaders accountable to the progressive ideals of your great city. In relationship to the land and communities of Payahuunadu, Los Angeles has been anything but great and now, in 2020, we have a ripe opportunity to change this oppressive relationship to one of respect and mutual benefit for all of our future generations to learn from. Will you take outdated policies and practices of settler colonialism into the future or will you listen to the locals and citizens alike and become a more ethical institution representative of the people you serve.

K.Hohag (Bishop, CA)

Laura Piper

From: Alex Constant <constantalexconstant@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 8:44 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Inyo County/Los Angeles Standing Committee - Agenda Item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello,

Regarding agenda item 3 - Owens Valley Operational Plan

I oppose LA DWP pumping 25% more water from the Owens Valley this year from last year. This is the most water pumped in the last 20 years from the Owens Valley.

I ask that number to be lowered to 71k groundwater or what was pumped last year. We must use other water resources and not deplete what we currently have. Pumping this much water is not responsible to our environment or the people.

Thank you
Alex Constant

Laura Piper

From: Jasmine Beagler <dreamingawakenow@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 8:54 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: LA Standing Committee-This comment is in reference to item 3 (discussion of the annual operations plan) --

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

This comment is in reference to item 3 (discussion of the annual operations plan)

To whom it may concern,

I strongly oppose LADWP pumping 93,000 acre-feet of groundwater from Payahuunadü (Owens Valley). LADWP has continued to pump too much water from this Valley for over a hundred years. The act of taking too much places an environmental, spiritual and ecological strain on the people, animals and land here. I urge you to put a stop to colonial protocol and look inside your hearts for the answer to a better way.

Please, create a system that is sustainable. One that gives, more than it takes. One that places indigenous and environmental concerns at the forefront of your operation.

Thank you,
Jasmine Beagler

--
Jasmine Beagler
Photographer/Crisis Counselor/Educator
jasmineamara.com
760.920.1042

Laura Piper

From: Halina Dolinh <dmh.halina@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 8:56 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comment for Standing Committee Meeting Ref: Item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hi there,

I would like to make a public comment for the Standing Committee Meeting in reference to Item 3 (discussion of the Annual Operations Plan). I have included my public comment below:

Approximately 80% of LA County's water is imported from the San Francisco Delta, the Colorado River, and Payahuunadü (Owen's Valley). Yet each year, Los Angeles loses over 100 billion gallons of water through the storm drain system, enough water to meet the needs of 3 million Angelenos annually. I urge you to reconsider the amount of water you will be piping from Payahuunadü, and to consult the Big Pine Paiute Tribe that has not received any response to their letter asking for less water to be pumped. Please consider alternatives, such as the Green New Deal and the Safe, Clean Water Program. Los Angeles has already proven it is capable of implementing alternative solutions; let's continue to move toward a more equitable and sustainable future.

Thank you,
Halina Do-Linh

--

Halina Do-Linh
She/her/hers
Environmental Studies and Biology, B.A.

Laura Piper

From: Hilary LeBlanc | Where There Be Dragons <hilary@wheretherebedragons.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 8:58 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment on Item 3 - Inyo-LA Committee Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello,

Please reconsider the proposed increase in the amount of water being pumped from Payahuunadü for a variety of moral and environmental reasons. This is an unethical short term solution to address a larger issue. These actions provide no long term positives outcomes and will harm many.

As the Committee is aware, California goes through cyclical droughts and has long been over-pumping its groundwater. Over-pumping leads to ground subsidence, ground compression, and arsenic contamination of groundwater. It leads to depletion of water below rooting zones of groundwater-dependent vegetation—which leads to "desertification"

Over-pumping has depleted the watershed, which as the Committee is also aware, has contributed to horrific, particulate-matter-based air pollution through the creation of dust. **As a result, hard-earned tax later funds will be increasingly spent combatting these unnatural dust flats and the environmental degradation, along with resulting pollution.** This is good for no one.

I strongly urge the Committee to reconsider its proposed increase of groundwater pumping. Please look for alternatives to pumping water from Payahuunadü.

Each year LA county uses approximately 213 billion gallons of water. 50-60% of that water is imported from the Colorado River Basin, from mountain rivers in Northern California and from Payahuunadü. Each year, 112 gallons of water runs across Los Angeles' streets, picking up pollution before being washed out to the ocean—that's 50% of Los Angeles' total water use that we allow to wash away without hydrating the people, the plants, the animals of Los Angeles. **Please consider resolving this issue rather than taking more water and harming lands 260 miles away.**

Please consult with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe that has not received any communication back from the letter they drafted to ask that less water be pumped. As well as other tribes of the Payahuunadü who deserve consultation beyond just making public statements.

Please reconsider the amount of water you will be pumping from Payahuunadü (Owens Valley). We are in a drought year and it's likely we will see another. Perhaps the first step should be consulting the people who have lived on this land for generations to see if they have solutions on how to resolve the larger issue at hand that is based on long term sustainable models for both people and the environment?

--

Hilary LeBlanc, Recruitment & Outreach Coordinator

WHERE THERE BE DRAGONS

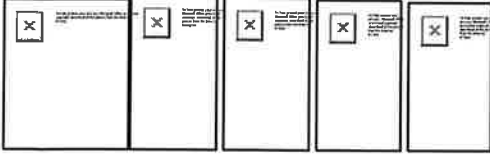
PRONOUNS: She/Her

ADDRESS: 741 Pearl Street | Boulder | CO | 80302

PHONE: 303.413.0822 | 800.982.9203

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Laura Piper

From: Lorin Anderberg <lorin@wheretherebedragons.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 8:58 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: 5/15 Meeting Comment Item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

THIS IS IN REFERENCE TO ITEM 3

Please reconsider the proposed increase in the amount of water being pumped from Payahuunadü (Owens Valley).

Please consult with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe that has not received any communication back from the letter they drafted to ask that less water be pumped. Please consult other tribes of the Payhuunadü who deserve to be stakeholders in these decisions as this is **their land** that they steward and depend on for their livelihood.

Please do not over pump. Over-pumping is a bandaid for a bigger water problem that will only lead to more negative costs to the government and taxpayers. As well as negative effects and damage to the Earth, the communities who occupy the land that will be disrupted, and the air through pollution.

Negative Effects of Over Pumping:

- Leads to ground subsidence, ground compression, and arsenic contamination of groundwater
- Leads to depletion of water below rooting zones of groundwater-dependent vegetation
- Leads to "desertification"
- Depletes watershed, which leads to particulate-matter-based air pollution through the creation of dust
- Irreparable damage to an ecosystem many are dependent on as well as environmental and public health impacts that will cost much more down the line

Please reconsider the proposed increase in the amount of water being pumped from Payahuunadü (Owens Valley).

Thank you,

Lorin Anderberg

--

LORIN ANDERBERG, Recruitment, Outreach, & Digital Coordinator

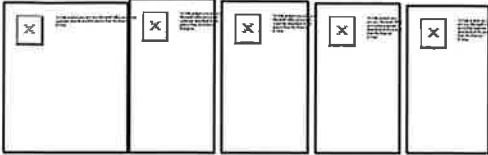
WHERE THERE BE DRAGONS

—
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PHONE: 303.413.0822 | 800.982.9203

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Laura Piper

From: Sandee Taylor <sandee.c.taylor@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:04 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public comment: Item 3 (annual operations plan)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Good morning,

In reference to Item 3 (annual operations plan), I am here advocating for the Earth and the people. I am an LA resident and I do not support LADWP's water grabs against Payahuunadü (also known as Owens Valley). We cannot allow LADWP to exploit the land and water, which will hurt people and damage ecosystems. We must all respect and honor Payahuunadü. LADWP can actually practice tribal engagements and include all the Tribes of Payahuunadü in decision making power, not just public comments. It is rightfully their land and they know how to honor and care for it.

White supremacist heteronormative capitalist patriarchy has caused much suffering and destruction to our Earth and the people who continue to advocate for the Earth. Nüümü have been resilient in the ongoing extraction of their land and culture. Enough is enough! More people are understanding that we must protect Indigenous land and Life for the well being of ourselves and our communities!

Thank you for you time.
Sandee

Laura Piper

From: dawn true <iamdesignsforlife@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:05 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Planned excessive water extraction

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Please reconsider the amount of water you plan to extract from payahuunadu/ Owens Valley. As the committee is well aware that California goes through cyclical droughts and has long been over pumping groundwater. As we all know This leads to ground compression, arsenic contamination throughout the valley . The ground compression leads to water unable to be sequestered leading to water being unable to get to the root zone propelling the land into further desertification.

The committee is also aware that with further extraction it leads to the hazardous hazardous air quality In the basin which has been doing the work to keep it at bay which has been very costly Human lives as well as infrastructure dollars.

By keeping the extraction levels down, we can further the LA green new deal to include Less extraction and keep the water extraction down with no increase and further empowering the city of LA to keep in the journey of less water use and more locally reliant in that basin. Thus keeping mindful of the present use and future cyclical events we have ahead.

I strongly urge & encourage the committee to not move forward with this proposed increase in extraction. And encourage looking at other alternatives rather than pumping and extraction.

This is the best time for that as the valley and LA is looking for these alternatives right now and to use them.

Thank you,

dawn true

--

dawn true

designs for life
regenerative outcomes

760-285-3851

Laura Piper

From: Jourdan Arnaud <JAArnaud@student.fullsail.edu>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:24 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Agenda Item #3 Public Comment

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hi there,

I've been researching the LADWP's involvement with Inyo and Mono Counties for the past several months for grad school, so this topic is very important to me. As Agenda Item 3 states, LADWP wants to pump excessive amounts of groundwater water at a proposed 93,000 acre-feet. To my understanding, this is the most they have proposed to pump in 30 years. Inyo County has requested LADWP not pump more than 71,000 acre-feet due to the effects pumping could have on the existing vegetation and water levels that are still recovering from the 2012-2016 record drought season in California.

In Mayor Garcetti's Green New Deal, he states that LA will source 70% of all water locally by 2035. Unless LADWP is considering the Owens Valley water as local water, this seems to be going against the Mayor's plan. Let's find better solutions to our water dependency almost 400 miles away. As a Los Angeles resident, I hope to gain a better understanding of this complicated sourcing of water to 4 million people. I'm curious how LADWP and the city plan to find ways to use recycled wastewater and capture storm water. If they are wanting to build a more inclusive green economy, I think this is the direction the city needs to head in.

Sincerely,

Jourdan Arnaud
Studio City, California

Laura Piper

From: Blaire Edwards <mindfulmedicinals@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 8:03 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: [SPAM] In reference to item 3 (discussion of the Annual Operations Plan)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Dear whoever this concerns,

It is socially and ecologically irresponsible and destructive to pump the proposed amount of water from Payahuunadü/Owens Valley. This land and its flora, fauna and people can't sustain the proposed pumping of 75k-93k acre-feet of groundwater. Inyo county is asking LADWP to restrict the pumping to 71k - and it should honestly be much less than that! Please take the fragile and scared ecosystems into consideration.

Thank you,
Blaire

Blair Edwards
Herbalist, Product Developer and Educator p. 561 445 1930 e. mindfulmedicinals@gmail.com w. blairedwards.com
<<http://blairedwards.com/>>

Laura Piper

From: Kaivalya Brewerton <kaivalya.brewerton@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 8:50 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: NO to LADWP Groundwater Pump!

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello,

I am a LA resident and I find LADWP disgusting!!

LADWP's parasitic monopolization of water has done severe damage to Payahuunadü, animals, and vegetation. Not only should the issue be addressed to respect the wellbeing of Payahuunadü. But, the urgency of global warming should also reinstate the importance of stopping the inexcusable amount of groundwater pumped. LADWP has dismissed their sustainable and sacred tradition of life and water distribution and we see the damages through countless effects, including the drought crisis. Similarly, in Australia the indigenous Aborigines held a practice to maintain the balance of life and vegetation and the Australian government dismissed this for their own benefit and scheme. The country has now suffered tremendously from the fires, which were preventable if the Aboriginal practice were to be maintained. Let's not repeat mistakes. Let's not disrespect Payahuunadü, who were here long before LADWP.

Sincerely,
Kaivalya Brewerton

Laura Piper

From: Sophia Layser Borgias <sborgias@email.arizona.edu>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:09 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comment on Item 13 of Standing Committee Agenda

Public Comment on Item 13:

First, I want to share a concern that I heard over and over again in interviews with county, tribal, and environmental actors in Owens Valley about the dispute resolution process outlined in the Long Term Water Agreement. The concern is that the process is ineffective at resolving disputes about pumping because, by the time the dispute is resolved, the pumping has already occurred. Understood as a waste of time and resources, the dispute resolution process is often avoided. It would seem to be in the interest of everyone to develop a more effective and timely process.

Second, it is troubling to see these processes move forward before tribal consultation has occurred as requested, in this case, by the Big Pine Paiute Tribe. The Water and Power Commissioners adopted a tribal engagement policy in January 2019 with the stated goal of fostering a mutually beneficial long-term relationship with area tribes. Confronted with concerns from tribal leaders, they stated that the policy was a beginning and not an end and that they would work with each tribe to tailor the policy to their individual needs and preferences. And yet, almost a year and a half later, little progress has been made. I urge the Commissioners to resume that work, as it is clearly needed. As recognized in your own policy, tribes are not just another stakeholder and should not be reduced to just making public comment.

Sophia Borgias
PhD Candidate, University of Arizona

--
Sophia Layser Borgias
PhD Candidate
School of Geography and Development
University of Arizona

Laura Piper

From: Jolie Varela <jolie@indigenouswomenhike.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:16 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment in reference to item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a Paiute woman, voter, and citizen of the so called Owens Valley. I ask that you reconsider the amount of water that LADWP is intending to pump this year. We are in a drought year and will likely see another. It makes no sense to pump more and possibly cause further damage to lands still struggling to recover.

I also ask that you give proper respect to the first stewards of the land. Each of the five Tribes that reside in the Valley deserve a seat at the table during these discussions.

The city of Los Angeles must find ways to sustain itself instead of environmentally compromising lands hundreds of miles away.

Manahobu (thank you),

Jolie Varela

--



Jolie Varela
(760) 920-9032
www.indigenouswomenhike.com

Laura Piper

From: Alissa Dodson <dodsonalissa@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:16 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: AOP item #3 statement

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Dear Standing Meeting committee members,

Please consider alternate methods of producing water for LA.

There are many without jobs right now and you could employ them to fix the concrete canals to drain water into the ground instead of being washed to the ocean.

Please consider enacting restricted water use.

Please consider tiered charges for water (like electricity) to discourage wasteful behavior.

Thank you for your consideration to thoughtfully solve the water problem instead of looking to the easiest solution.

Alissa

Laura Piper

From: Erica Hudson <ericachudson@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:30 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Item 3 5/15/20

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Each year, LA County uses approximately 213 billion gallons of water. 50-60% of that water is imported from the Colorado River Basin, from mountain rivers in Northern California, and from Payahuunadü. Each year, 112 billion gallons of water runs across Los Angeles' streets, picking up pollution before being washed out to the ocean- that's 50% of Los Angeles' total water use that we allow to wash away without hydrating the people, the plants, the animals of Los Angeles. Please consider resolving this issue rather than taking more water and harming lands 260 miles away.

Please consult with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe that has not received any communication back from the letter that they drafted to ask that less water be pumped. As well as the other Tribes of Payahuunadü who deserve consultation beyond just making public comments.

Please reconsider the amount of water you will be pumping from Payahunnadü (Owens Valley). We are in a drought year and it's likely we will see another.

Thank you,

Erica Hudson

Laura Piper

From: Allison Hudson <allisonmudson64@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:31 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Item 3 5/15/20

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Each year, LA County uses approximately 213 billion gallons of water. 50-60% of that water is imported from the Colorado River Basin, from mountain rivers in Northern California, and from Payahuunadü. Each year, 112 billion gallons of water runs across Los Angeles' streets, picking up pollution before being washed out to the ocean- that's 50% of Los Angeles' total water use that we allow to wash away without hydrating the people, the plants, the animals of Los Angeles. Please consider resolving this issue rather than taking more water and harming lands 260 miles away.

Please consult with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe that has not received any communication back from the letter that they drafted to ask that less water be pumped. As well as the other Tribes of Payahuunadü who deserve consultation beyond just making public comments.

Please reconsider the amount of water you will be pumping from Payahunnadü (Owens Valley). We are in a drought year and it's likely we will see another.

Thank you,

Allison Hudson

Laura Piper

From: lauren Bon <laurenmetropolis@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:31 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: public comment: LA Standing Committee

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Action Committee,

The mega-fires that have devastated the Sierras every autumn for the last few years must cause you to think differently about the management of our commons. Today we talk specifically about the water that first falls from the sky creating the snowpack and flows down to provide life to the region. The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic as well makes us pause even further to consider our food and medicine security. We must not remove more water from the water table of the Owens Valley or Payahuunadü, as the Paiute call it. Payahuunadü means the place there will always be water. Where there is water, there is life.

Let us use this moment of pause to take as little as possible from there. And for what we take let us learn to give back. Let us acknowledge and support the epistemological knowledge of the Native American people who have so much to teach us. In fact, they are our best chance of surviving the environmental crisis we are living through. This is one of the reasons I have established my practice, Metabolic Studio, in two live nodes along the LA Aqueduct watershed: adjacent the LA River in downtown LA and in Payahuuadü at the silos in Bartlett just outside of Lone Pine.

Since 2008 my practice has co-created to reimagine Payahuunadü as a network of glacial lakes that spill one into the next and stretch thousands of miles across the Great Basin supporting the remaining migrating birds, the desert tortoises, the wild horses, the rabbits, snakes, insects and embrace that we are living through a time which cause us all to think differently about our place within the great life web. We have done this by building soil from carbons from mule packers and the labor of stewards of ecological farming. We have helped the community establish food co-ops, supported food banks, produced public conversations, baked bread on a LADWP empty lot in Lone Pine and helped conversations with native people about best practices in the high desert for water management.

In the Los Angeles Aqueduct watershed, through the construction of 240 miles of syphons, channels and pipes, we have continued to sacrifice one bioregion so that a megalopolis can grow.

Citizens of Los Angeles want this too. I know this from the community that comes to Metabolic Studio. We are here virtually today to participate in the civic process that will re-orient the one hundred years of extractive practice. We acknowledge it was a short-sited idea that worked for a time and at too great a cost to the air we breath, the topsoil we deplete, the seed base we reduce, and the living beings we alienate. It's time for change and a new alternative solutions. Let's embrace that and make the right decision today — leave the water in the valley.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lauren Bon

Director Metabolic Studio

Laura Piper

From: Terra Incognita Media <helloterraincognita@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:32 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment for Standing Committee in reference to Item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To whom it may concern,

This comment is in reference to item 3 (discussion of the Annual Operations Plan). It is absolutely dire for you to consult with the Big Pine Paiute tribes, along with all of the tribes of Payahüünadü (so-called Owens Valley) who are the true stewards of the land and know deeply what is best. They deserve to have an active hand on what happens with the water beyond public comments. Please incorporate and take seriously these tribes' consultation when it comes to pumping water to LA. WE NEED TO FIND A MORE SUSTAINABLE WAY TO GET WATER TO LOS ANGELES. YOU ARE KILLING PEOPLE AND DECIMATING THE LAND, WATER, MOUNTAINS, AND PEOPLE.

Thank you,

Erin Monahan
Founder, *Terra Incognita Media*

Laura Piper

From: Christopher McClure-St. Amant <cmclurestant@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:35 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment in reference to Item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Please reconsider the amount of water you plan to pump from Payahuunadü (Owens Valley) in the coming year. It is a drought year. LA's water acquisition history is built upon a foundation of silencing and oppression of the people its policies and practices directly harm. To this day, the LADWP fails to follow its own tribal engagement policy by not meaningfully engaging with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe. Each of the members of the committee who represent Los Angeles has an opportunity to give a voice to those who have been silenced in the past, and to create actual, positive change in the world. This is not an opportunity many are given. Please reconsider the proposed increase in pumping, engage with the people your practices affect, and set the tone for a future in which oppression does not have a seat at your table.

Laura Piper

From: Christy Sommers <christysommers@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:46 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: In Reference to Item : Voicing Opposition to Pumping Water in Payahuunadü

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To Whom It May Concern:

Each year, 112 billion gallons of water - or 50% of Los Angeles' total water use - washes away without being put toward productive use. Rather than pumping so much groundwater out of Owens Valley/Payahuunadu, please work on solutions that are localized within Los Angeles to maximize the usage of the water that is already in the city. Consulting with those most affected by the planned pump, the Big Pine Paiute Tribe, to better understand the environmental impact of depleting the watershed (now and into the future) is essential. I strongly urge the Committee to halt its planned increase of groundwater pumping and to look for more sustainable solutions.

Sincerely,
Christy Sommers

Laura Piper

From: Roxanne Steinberg <roxannesteinberg@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:47 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Stop pumping groundwater

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Dear Members of the Committee,

Each year, LA County uses approximately 213 billion gallons of water. 50-60% of that water is imported from the Colorado River Basin, from mountain rivers in Northern California, and from Payahuunadü. Each year, 112 billion gallons of water runs across Los Angeles' streets, picking up pollution before being washed out to the ocean — that's 50% of Los Angeles' total water use that we allow to wash away without hydrating the people, the plants, the animals of Los Angeles.

How could you propose pumping more water out of this valley when you allow the very amount Los Angeles needs to import to go to waste. How could you propose to pump more water out of this valley, when the people who are *from* here, the people whose land you are on, the Nüümü people, are telling you to stop and to stop now. Will you allow another hundred years to go by living on stolen water?

LADWP continues to make bad decisions and bad investments. We cannot afford to continue to pump water out of the Sierras when climate change has already significantly lessened its snowpack. We must invest in stormwater capture, in remediating contaminated groundwater, in filling the 800,000 acre-feet of unutilized available storage capacity in our groundwater basins, in more "pump-and-treat" systems, in personal rooftop water systems, in depaving our city.

We must end this system of theft and oppression. Please stand with us and fight for *all* life. Stand with us to create long term solutions.

Thank you for your attention,
Roxanne Steinberg
Metabolic studio

Laura Piper

From: Mike Riecker <mikeriecker@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:51 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Item 3 Comment - LADWP Annual Operation Plan

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello,

Each year, LA County uses approximately 213 billion gallons of water. 50-60% of that water is imported from the Colorado River Basin, from the mountain rivers in Northern California, and from Payahuunadu. Each year, 112 billion gallons of water runs across Los Angeles' Streets, picking up pollution before being washed out to the ocean - that's 50% of Los Angeles' total water use that we allow to wash away without hydrating the people, the plants, and the animals of Los Angeles. Please consider resolving this issues rather than taking more water and harming lands 260 miles away.

Best,

Mike Riecker

Laura Piper

From: Hannah Spe <hannahspears@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:53 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Re: Prevent water stealing

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

On Friday, May 15, 2020, Hannah Spe <hannahspears@gmail.com> wrote:
Hello,

I am a resident of LA county and I am asking you to please stop allowing Los Angeles to steal water from the Nuumu people and the Payahuunadu. Native people have been through enough and we cannot continue to strip them and their land of the resources they need to survive. They were here first and any negotiations that involve their land should put them first.

Laura Piper

From: Amelia Milli Macen-Moore <milli.macen.moore@mac.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:54 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment 5/15/2020 LADWP Hearing

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

I'm born, raised and currently a resident of the City of Los Angeles. As a resident I would like for LADWP to keep more water in Inyo County. I ask that LADWP invests in developing long term solutions like stormwater catchment, remediating groundwater, personal rooftop systems, and the depaving the City of Los Angeles. I also believe that one of the representatives of the Paiute tribe should have a seat at the table to discuss this water negotiations.

I'd also like want more cyber meetings like this so that many of us concerned citizens in Los Angeles and Inyo Counties can make a public comment. The reason why people do not show up to your meetings is because these meetings take place at working hours, 200 miles away from Los Angeles, and because people do not know what's going on.

I believe the Green New Deal Los Angeles proposed should also include moving away from pumping in Inyo County. Just because LA technically owns the land, doesn't mean it's LA's land.

LADWP continues to make bad decisions and bad investments. We cannot afford to continue to pump water out of the Sierras when climate change has already significantly lessened its snowpack. We must invest in stormwater capture, in remediating contaminated groundwater, in filling the 800,000 acre-feet of unutilized available storage capacity in our groundwater basins, in more "pump-and-treat" systems, in personal rooftop water systems, in depaving our city.

Thank you,

Milli Macen-Moore

Laura Piper

From: Danai Argiri <danai.argiri@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:55 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Item 3 Comment - LADWP Annual Operation Plan

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Please reconsider the scale of this project. As a resident of Los Angeles, my disappointment in our city's water management is very grave. We could be investing in water upcycling research, better water waste management, rainwater collection, and ocean water desalinization to move towards a more sustainable way of life in Los Angeles. One that doesn't depend on the exploitation of native land and (ground)water that is very much needed locally because of the drought experienced in the area.

Payahuunadu is home to many ecosystems and a point of vast history for many native peoples: people who have gone to extreme measures to protect this land and the life it holds. Please respect them enough to consult with Payahuunadu tribes and respond to the Big Pine Paiute Tribe's letter that is requesting for LADWP to limit the extraction of their groundwaters.

Best,

Danai Argyri

Laura Piper

From: Livia Reiner <superfabred@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:00 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Standing Committee Public Comment

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

I am a resident of LA County who wants to see long term solutions for how LA gets its water. We need investments in stormwater capture, remediation of groundwater, and personal rooftop systems. We need sustainable ethical solutions and the Pauite tribe needs a seat at the table.

Livia Reiner

Laura Piper

From: Michael Godbe <mgodbe@calindian.org>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:00 AM
To: Laura Piper
Cc: Dorothy Alther
Subject: Public Comment on LADWP Proposed Drilling from California Indian Legal Services

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Ms. Piper,

Please read the comment below into the public record during this morning's Inyo County / Los Angeles Standing Committee Meeting on behalf of California Indian Legal Services:

California Indian Legal Services strongly opposes LADWP's proposal to pump 93,000 acre feet of groundwater from Payahuunadü. CILS believe the City of Los Angeles can and should do much more than it is currently doing to reduce water usage, and reduce waste / harvest water. For this brief comment, I would like to focus on the wasted water that the city could capture instead of drain and pump from Payahuunadü. It is estimated that over 100 billion gallons of water falls onto Los Angeles' streets before picking up pollution and running into the Pacific Ocean. The LA County Department of Public Works estimated that during a 2-week period in January of 2017, 25 billion gallons of stormwater, or about 77,000 acre feet, drained into the ocean. Los Angeles must make strides to capture this waste, rather than pump it out of our valley. CILS demands that Los Angeles invest in long-term solutions instead of proposing to pump more groundwater than it has in nearly 30 years.

Thank you,

Mike

Michael Godbe

Registered Legal Aid Attorney



California Indian Legal Services
873 N. Main Street, Suite 120
Bishop, CA 93514
760.873.3581
Fax: 760.873.7461
www.calindian.org

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Laura Piper

From: Kyndall Noah <kyndall77@outlook.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:00 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment in reference to item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kyndall Noah, and I am writing on behalf of my family's best interest. I am a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. I have a wife, two children who are Paiute, and we live in Bishop, Ca. Merriam-Webster defines resiliency as the ability to recover from or adjust to adversity or change. Our precious environment in Owens Valley has the ability to recover if we stop compromising our relationships to the lands. I am against the proposed amount of water to be pumped from the groundwater here in Inyo County and hope my words carry the message of our ancestors. Our voices are continuously discounted even though we have always had the best interest to the land at heart. Even now, we as the original inhabitants of this land have no vote in what happens to the lands where our ancestors are buried.

I ask you to think about that and make a decision not to pump the amount of water that is proposed in a year that saw less than average snowfall.

I hope we can find a better sustainable solution than continuously pumping more water than can be replaced.

Thank you,
Kyndall Noah

Laura Piper

From: Carrie Lincourt <carrielincourt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:01 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Water is life.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

As part of Agenda Item #3, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power wants to pump excessive amounts of groundwater from Payahuunadu (the Owens Valley). The amount of water they have proposed is up to 93,000 acre feet, the most they have pumped in 30 years. Inyo County has requested they not pump more than 71,000 due to the effects pumping could do to the vegetation and water levels that have yet to recover from the massive California drought a few years back.

In Mayor Garcetti's Green New Deal, he states that we will source 70% of all water locally by 2035. Unless LADWP is considering Payahuunadu (the Owens Valley) water as local water, this seems to be going against the Mayor's plan. Instead of pumping more water and exporting it from Payahuunadu (the Owens Valley), I encourage the LADWP and the City of Los Angeles to explore more ways to capture stormwater and recycle wastewater that already exists within the 450 square miles of the city of Los Angeles.

Sent from my iPhone

TO: L. Piper

lpiper@inyocounty.us

Inyo Board of Supervisors

INYO COUNTY/LOS ANGELES STANDING COMMITTEE

May 15, 2020 10:00 a.m.

FROM: Jerri Allyn

5507 Village Green

Los Angeles, CA 90016

allynjerri@gmail.com

**RE: Report on Los Angeles Department of Water and Power offices
2020-2021 Owens Valley Annual Operation Plan, during May 15th, Inyo
Board of Supervisors Meeting**

Dear Honorable Supervisors,

Los Angeles government entities have been pumping water from the Central Valley for 100 years, have dried up the Owens Valley lake beds, and other river/water holes in the region (along with now pulling too much water from the Colorado River, dangerously close to drying up).

Lauren Bon, the Metabolic Studio crew and regional partners have been working to reclaim one of the dry beds in Owens Valley for years. They have successfully been de-toxifying and growing organisms again.

Please do NOT let LADWP pump additional water from Owens Valley!

I know Los Angeles needs water, but this is not the answer. How about recycling / reclaiming what we have, much of which is wasted in restaurant water glasses, the county and homeowners watering grass in a semi-arid climate, wastefully goes down our home drains, etc?

Thank you for considering this urgent request to STOP LADWP.

Sincerely,

Jerri Allyn, concerned and voting citizen

Laura Piper

From: Kathryn Melendez <mlndz.kathryn@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:06 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: 5/15 Item 3 Annual Operations Plan

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Good afternoon,

My name is Kathryn Melendez, and I am a resident of Tovaangar, Los Angeles county and a representative of the Nature For All coalition. I am reaching out to express solidarity with the Big Paiute Tribe in its demands that your Annual Operations Plan minimize the proposed groundwater pumping of up to 93,0000 acre feet **to zero**.

As a proponent for equitable water projects funded by Measure W, I am certain that Los Angeles County is in the process of becoming a more self-resilient and **must begin its withdrawal from Owens Valley immediately**. Just this last week, my local Watershed Area Steering Committee approved projects for the upcoming year that will replenish our groundwater. It is time that LADWP accept that Los Angeles residents want nothing to do with water theft, that we will be vigilant of their forthcoming steps, and that we are working hard to ensure that local Measure W projects will maximize our local water protection.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Melendez

--

Kathryn E. Melendez
Geotech Certificate, Pasadena City College, 2020
BA American Studies, Carleton College, 2017
She, Her Pronouns

Laura Piper

From: trancegallery <mail@trancegallery.net>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:00 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Owen's Lake

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

The current water extractions and dust mitigation programs at Owens Valley are obviously not sustainable over longer amounts of time.

So, why is there no serious survey of for an exit strategy of LADWP from Owens Valley yet?

Laura Piper

From: Christoph Keller <mail@christophkeller.net>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:06 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Owens Valley Water

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Please put an end to the parching of the valley. There are way to many straws in the ground already. Ground water levels that have been exploited for decades need to be filled up. Leave the water in Owens Valley!

Christoph Keller

Laura Piper

From: Randy Short <rshort@almar.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:14 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Owens River water trail

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Committee Members,

As some of you may know, the Owens River Water Trail was originally brought to light by Dick Noles. Dick, in his life, did so much for the wildlife and people of the Eastern Sierra and Owens Valley, this was such an important project to him. As envisioned, this stretch of the river is the only area that has controlled flows so that everyone can experience kayaking in this unique place. Dick worked with Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra and their Wounded Warrior program to create the first accessible lake in the Eastern Sierra, June Lake. Wounded Warriors and so many more now have access to June Lake and use there is in the thousands, thanks to Dick. Dick envisioned providing this same access to the Owens River and chose this location as the only place that everyone could be accommodated. I hope you will help keep this amazing project moving forward.

Thank you,
Randy Short

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Laura Piper

From: Questa Gleason <qgleason@cpp.edu>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:18 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Please don't overpump the Owens Valley

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

As part of Agenda Item #3, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power wants to pump excessive amounts of groundwater from Payahuunadu (the Owens Valley). The amount of water they have proposed is up to 93,000 acre feet, the most they have pumped in 30 years. Inyo County has requested they not pump more than 71,000 due to the effects pumping could do to the vegetation and water levels that have yet to recover from the massive California drought a few years back.

In Mayor Garcetti's Green New Deal, he states that we will source 70% of all water locally by 2035. Unless LADWP is considering Payahuunadu (the Owens Valley) water as local water, this seems to be going against the Mayor's plan. Instead of pumping more water and exporting it from Payahuunadu (the Owens Valley), I encourage the LADWP and the City of Los Angeles to explore more ways to capture stormwater and recycle wastewater that already exists within the 450 square miles of the city of Los Angeles.

Thank you,
Questa Gleason

Laura Piper

From: Caleb Jaffe <caleb@bluelinent.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:21 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comment

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing as an LA resident who wants LADWP to keep the water in Payahuunadu. I'm aware that LA residents are reluctant to vocalize dissatisfaction and advocate for retribution because the corrupt exportation practices have become essential to the layout of our infrastructure. However, the water we export is in surplus and goes to waste. It is thereof necessary to take action. I want for LADWP to invest in long term solutions like stormwater capture, remediating groundwater, and personal rooftop systems. In addition, I believe in the necessity of tribal consultation with the Paiute tribe. There are some of the few things that peak my interest as far as social impact.

Sincerely,
Caleb Jaffe

--
Caleb

Laura Piper

From: Chelsea Gokcay <cbgokcay@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:02 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: [SPAM] Public Comment

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As a former resident of Los Angeles county and as an individual that was honored to spend time in the Owens Valley, I cannot emphasize enough how critical it is to leave the water in the ground! We MUST respect indigenous lands and wisdom if we want to have any hope of continuing to exist on this planet. The Nüümü have a reciprocal relationship with water that has been demonstrated to work again and again. Capitalism (and neoliberalism) have demonstrated again and again that there's no sustainable future for flora and fauna (and this includes the human animal which we seem to forget all too often). I urge the LADWP to respect indigenous water and land or we are truly lost.

Respectfully,
Chelsea Gokcay

Laura Piper

From: Paul Huetter <p.huetter@bigpinepaiute.org>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:34 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: 2020 pumping plan

Where is the compassion for the Owens Valley environment and habitat, all that happens when you take and take from where we live has huge impacts on the ground water table and is killing our environment. And stop pumping from BIG PINE so much. Leave some water where it comes from stop pumping from the ground.

Sent from my iPhone

Laura Piper

From: Brenda Anahy H. <anahybrendahernandez@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: ITEM 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Areas of Owen county are still recovering from pumping in 1970-1980.
This concerns the health of the Nüümü homelands. We are requesting 71,000 acre feet
We will not back down.

Laura Piper

From: Michelle Race <race.michelle91@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:42 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment for item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello,

My comment is in reference to item 3:

I hope that you will reconsider the amount of water coming from Owens Valley. I strongly encourage consultation with the Big Pine Paiute tribe and other local tribes to find another solution.

Los Angeles County Resident,

Michelle

Laura Piper

From: Rachel Mattovich <rachel.mattovich@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:47 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Item 3 - Discussion of the Annual Operations Plan

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To The Committee,

As a Bishop local who relies on the water in the Owens valley and has experienced increased drought and its economic and environmental effects, I ask you, as a representative of people like me and our community to reconsider the proposed increase in the amount of water to be pumped from our area.

Since I've been alive, LADWP has over-pumped and depleted the watershed of our entire valley. Our resources are now scare and depletion of ur groundwater will cause desertification.

Lastly, ground water pumping and the subsequent exportation to a city almost 300 miles away is unsustainable, unethical and echos colonialist history that needs to be stopped.

I strongly urge the committee to reconsider its proposed increase of groundwater pumping. Please look for alternative to pumping water from a the Owens Valley, which is already nearly out of water.

Thank you,
Rachel

Laura Piper

From: Megan Fettig | Where There Be Dragons <megan@wheretherebedragons.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:51 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: In Reference to Item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To Whom It May Concern,

Please reconsider the amount of water you will be pumping from Payahuunadu (Owens Valley.)
Please consult with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe.

Sincerely,
Megan E. Fettig

--

MEGAN FETTIG, Co-Director of Adult Programs

WHERE THERE BE DRAGONS

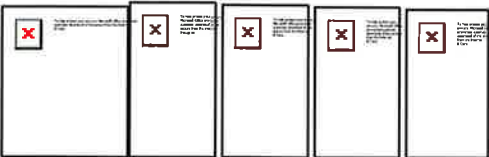
PRONOUNS: She/Her/Hers

ADDRESS: 741 Pearl Street | Boulder | CO | 80302

PHONE: 303.413.0822 | 800.982.9203

MORE: [Website](#) | [Blog](#) | [Catalog](#)

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Laura Piper

From: Taggie Coppins <tmcoppins@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:52 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Fwd: Tribal Consultation is not optional

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Taggie Coppins <tmcoppins@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, May 15, 2020 at 10:46 AM
Subject: Tribal Consultation is not optional
To: <lpiper@inyocounter.com>

Hello,

I am a resident of L.A. county and I am frightened for and frankly horrified at the proposal to take 93 acres of water from the Payahuunadu without a formal consultation with the tribe.

Essentially, L.A. is continuing it's indefensible history and reputation of heavily exploiting and displacing native resources and people.

Their land is dying and their community is suffering because of a 100 year old contract the city has abused year and year over.

LADWP acts as if the water shortage in L.A. is not caused by L.A.'s massive industrial ventures in a desert. The LADWP acts as if it not the city's responsibility to set up systems to conserve and maintain our water. It is all of our responsibility as LA citizens and especially as a city government organization to not continue to plunder the resources of communities with great need for them just because the city technically can.

I strongly dissent against the LADWP's proposed water grab from Owens Valley.

Taggart Coppins

Laura Piper

From: Serena Caffrey <serena.caffrey@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:54 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Objection to Pumping

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a resident of Los Angeles, and I would like to echo my dissent to the proposed pumping plan to obtain 93,000 acre feet from the Owens Valley. I encourage the board to consider the relationships with local communities in Inyo county to seek agreeable water pumping levels, with the ultimate goal to decrease pumping levels over time as opposed to maintaining current averages. Rather, I encourage LADWP to reinvest resources and research into the recycling of waste and stormwater local to Los Angeles.

Please continue to host online meetings so that Los Angeles may continue to participate in this conversation - I appreciate having the opportunity to express my concern.

Thank you,
Serena Caffrey

Laura Piper

From: Kevin Witkow <kevin.witkow@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:55 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment about Water pumping

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I want to express support for the Bishop Paiute and urge the LADWP to pump less water from the Owens valley and listen more to the needs of indigenous communities in the area.

Thanks,

Kevin Witkow

Laura Piper

From: Brin Gordon <briangordonsemail@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 10:59 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Reduction of Pumping limit

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello,

I am a resident of LA county, and would like to voice my concern over the high level of pumping which is planned from the Owens Valley for this coming year. Allowing so much water to be taken from the land of others, especially above the requested limit of Inyo County, is unreasonable. I would also like to stress the importance of consultation and cooperation with the Big Pine tribe.

Thank you

Brin Gordon

--

Brin Gordon (They/Them)
briangordonsemail@gmail.com
(615) 663-4498

Laura Piper

From: Brenda Anahy H. <anahybrendahernandez@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:00 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

My name is Anahy Hernandez a Los Angeles County resident

Areas of Owen county are still recovering from pumping in 1970-1980.

This concerns the health of the local communities. We are requesting only 71,000 acre feet. Be more actively involved with tribes, and young people, please consult with big pine tribe and continue with zoom meetings in the long run.

Thank you

Laura Piper

From: Sarah O'Brien <sarah@wheretherebedragons.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:12 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Opposition

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello,

I strongly encourage you to reconsider the proposed increase in the amount of water being pumped. Please consult with the Big Pine Tribe. This is not only a human rights issue, but this is an environmental issue. I strongly urge you to reconsider and not move forward with the extraction of water from this land. I opposed this decision and believe that we must not only consult the indigenous folx of this land, but that you move forward with taking seriously the righting of wrongs done to these indigenous communities, environmental and otherwise.

Sarah

SARAH O'BRIEN, Admissions Associate

WHERE THERE BE DRAGONS

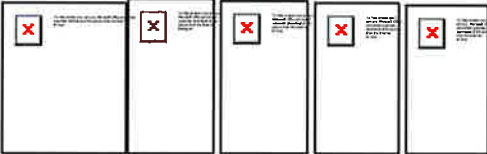
PRONOUNS: She/Her(s)

ADDRESS: 741 Pearl Street | Boulder | CO | 80302

PHONE: 303.413.0822 | 800.982.9203

MORE: [Website](#) | [Blog](#) | [2020 Summer & Gap Catalog](#)

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Laura Piper

From: Michele Capra <topangacapra@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:14 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Please do not pump ground water!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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To the LADWP: please do not pump up to 93,000 acre-feet of groundwater from Payahunadu! Please find a more sustainable way to service the city of Los Angeles without damaging the land of the Paiute.

Laura Piper

From: Anastasia Maier <aebutler53@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:23 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comment Number 2

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I am confused on the rationale given for the relationship between pumping and run off. Is it possible for LA to elaborate in simple terms what the purpose behind the additional water pumping is?

Thank you,

Anastasia Maier

Laura Piper

From: Soyoun Kim <k.soyoung@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:24 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: water from owens valley

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i am writing to voice my opinion on the proposed 93,000 acre feet los angeles is proposing to pump. i would ask that pumping not exceed 71,000 acre feet.

snowpack in may was at 37%. though march and april picked up it did not make up for the extremely dry january and february.

i ask that you consult and work more closely with the indigenous communities of the owens valley.

change is possible and the covid quarantine has shown we can live more austerely and simply...we can change our way of utilizing water and conserve/do better.

sincerely,
soyoung kim
los angeles resident

paco is my secretary 🐾🐾

Laura Piper

From: Fabb, Rochelle <rfabb@metabolicstudio.org>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:25 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comment on ground water pumping

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

I encourage you to think differently about LA's addiction to water from Owens Valley – LA needs to move forward with alternative solutions - depaving, greywater, recycling and water reclamation systems. Leave the contested additional water in the ground in Owens Valley – save the fragile species and environment there and include and respect the Paiute tribe in future discussions.

Rochelle Fabb – Lauren Bon and Metabolic Studio

Laura Piper

From: Curtis, Jen <jcurtis@metabolicstudio.org>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:33 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: I take a stand to keep water in the valley!

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Hello,

I am a resident of Los Angeles. We cannot keep moving in the current direction of pumping water from the Owens Valley to Los Angeles. We must invest in storm water catchment systems in LA. I strongly disagree to stealing water from Payahuunadü community!

Thank you,
Jen Curtis

--
Jen Curtis
Lauren Bon and the Metabolic Studio
213-393-4270

www.metabolicstudio.org
Instagram: metabolicstudio
#MetabolicStudio

Laura Piper

From: Bubby Riffel <bubbyriffel@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:35 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comment on Annual Operation Plan for LADWP

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Public Comment on Annual Operation Plan

Please reconsider pumping 93,000 acre feet of water from the Owens Valley this year, and pumping more water in future years. This is a short term solution, please address and implement long term solutions. Los Angeles is a desert environment, that has been made into a false tropical environment via stolen water. Pumping water from the Owens Valley is an extremely unsustainable, and environmentally damaging practice. It also puts the health and well-being of the residents of Mono and Inyo County at risk. This is a matter of fact. Implementation of sustainable practices such as reducing daily water usage, practicing dry-land agriculture, using water saving infrastructures, and water recycling practices can remedy many issues concerning our fragile water resources.

Thank you for your consideration,

Natalie Riffel, Resident of Mono County

Laura Piper

From: Bii Gallardo <bii01iyc@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:42 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comment - Owen's Valley Annual Operations Plan (Item 3)

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Public Comment - Owen's Valley Annual Operations Plan (Item 3)

LADWP proposes to pump between 21,000 and 23,695 ac-ft from the Big Pine wellfield. This amount apparently includes hatchery and town supply as well as several months of operation of exempt well(s) for export. One large vegetation parcel in the wellfield, BGP162, has had vegetation cover chronically below baseline. Two other parcels, BP154 and FSP006 have suffered a measurable grass decline. Last year the water table rose between 0.7 to 3.8 ft at indicator wells and monitoring sites in the wellfield. Water levels were between baseline and 4.4 ft above baseline in the wellfield. Last year, cover in BGP162 was not significantly below baseline for only the second such year since monitoring began in 1991.

The Draft Plan states that LADWP intends to decommission W341 and replace its pumping with adjacent W415 for the town water system needs. During 2019-20, Inyo and Los Angeles staff discussed test procedures for the initial period of operation of W415 pumping above the exception for town supply (W415 test). We also recognize that the Water Agreement, as amended by the 2002 Stipulation and Order #12908, committed LADWP to provide surface and groundwater for the Big Pine Irrigation and Improvement. Association (BPIIA) ditch system from Big Pine Creek, W341 or W415, or a new well drilled in the Bell Canyon area.

Since November 2013, LADWP has addressed concerns raised by the Water Department on the monitoring and management of W415 including installation of additional monitoring wells, resolving questions regarding BPIIA use and loss calculations, and mapping vegetation near the 1872 fault. Results of the W415 test would be used to assess the adequacy of LADWP's groundwater model and determine if operation of W415 to ensure the goals of the Water Agreement are met. We think that the Technical Group must approve the test procedures to substitute for Green Book On/Off provisions and to comply with the Water Agreement, Sec. VI before increasing pumping above town water supply needs.

If the proposed pump test of W415 is conducted in 2020, the overall pumping from Big Pine should not exceed the amount for the W415 test, town supply, BP Northeast Regreening Project, and the hatchery (approximately 21,500 ac-ft). Wells W218 and W219 should not be operated to prevent confounding the 415W test results and to safeguard water level increases and tenuous vegetation improvements in recent years.

Thank you,

Rebeka L. Gallardo
Commentary
bii01iyc@gmail.com

Laura Piper

From: Kayla <kzeppeiro@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:43 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment in reference to item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello,

This is in reference to item 3 (discussion of annual operations plan). I strongly urge LADWP to refrain from pumping more water out as this negatively affects those who live on the land and the environment. There are areas that haven't recovered from the pumping in 1970s and 1980s. Pumping more water will have detrimental affects and is not proper water resource management. Please seek other options rather than destroying resources and harming communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Kayla

Laura Piper

From: Alex Ertaud <alex@friendsoftheinyo.org>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 9:51 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Comment for Today's Standing committee Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello there,

I would like to submit the following comment on agenda item #5, "Report on status of the Owens River Water Trail Project"

My name is Alex Ertaud, Stewardship Director for Friends of the Inyo. Since the mid-2010s, our organization has been partnering with Inyo County, LADWP, CA Dept of Fish & Wildlife, LA River Expeditions, North East Trees, and volunteering individuals from Los Angeles, Inyo, Mono, San Diego, and Riverside Counties to work on the Water Trail and do all we can to make it passable. In those years, we have had over 100 volunteers donate close to 1,000 hours of work to the goal of making the Water Trail open and passable to vessels. More than half of our volunteers over the years have been from Los Angeles county, making long drives to give back on their busy weekends. It is clear the passion for this project is felt in all our communities. We look forward to more of these events going forward, as well as the adoption of the CEQA document which will allow more substantial, regular, professional work to be done to make all 6 miles of trail open to boaters.

Thank you.

--

Alex Ertaud | Stewardship Director, Friends of the Inyo
Pronouns: he/him
621 W Line St, Ste 201, Bishop, CA 93514
760.873.6500 | friendsoftheinyo.org

Laura Piper

From: Green, Frog <froginblender@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:49 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comment

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Public comment regarding Item 3 (Owen's Valley Annual Operations Plan)

In order to preserve our environment and respect the Big Pine Paiute Tribe, lower the amount of groundwater to be pumped from Payahuunadu on Paiute territory. LADWP must respect that water does not belong to them and the expansion of extractive pumping from groundwater resources is immoral and wrong. They must engage with tribes and actually negotiate the amount of groundwater that is pumped.

Regards,
Miranda Green

Northeastern Illinois University Student

Laura Piper

From: Victor Huerta <vmhuerta96@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 12:03 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: 5/15 INYO COUNTY/LOS ANGELES STANDING COMMITTEE

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello,

A comment on Item 3 from the 5/15 Meeting:

As a resident of LA, I hope the city begins engaging with the indigenous peoples most affected by its water policies. LA's water pumping is so massive, and yet it seems like there hasn't really been any discussion from the City about the impact it has had. I hope to see more data on this made available to the public and to the commissioners in addition to more engagement with indigenous persons.

Best,
Victor Huerta

Laura Piper

From: Rachel Mattovich <rachel.mattovich@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 12:05 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Re: Item 3 - Discussion of the Annual Operations Plan

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One additional comment after having attended the meeting – Give us all a seat at the table. Let the local communities and especially the indigenous communities have the opportunity to have a say in matters regarding the resources they depend on. I highly recommend more public forums along with the eventual abolishment of water extraction from the Owens Valley by the City of Los Angeles DWP.

On Fri, May 15, 2020 at 10:46 AM Rachel Mattovich <rachel.mattovich@gmail.com> wrote:
To The Committee,

As a Bishop local who relies on the water in the Owens valley and has experienced increased drought and its economic and environmental effects, I ask you, as a representative of people like me and our community to reconsider the proposed increase in the amount of water to be pumped from our area.

Since I've been alive, LADWP has over-pumped and depleted the watershed of our entire valley. Our resources are now scare and depletion of ur groundwater will cause desertification.

Lastly, ground water pumping and the subsequent exportation to a city almost 300 miles away is unsustainable, unethical and echos colonialist history that needs to be stopped.

I strongly urge the committee to reconsider its proposed increase of groundwater pumping. Please look for alternative to pumping water from a the Owens Valley, which is already nearly out of water.

Thank you,
Rachel

Laura Piper

From: Rory Cullen <rory.c.cullen@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:58 AM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Public Comment RE: Payahuunadu Water

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

Hello,

I am writing to make known my dissent for LADWP's plan to pump water out of the Payahuunadü (now-Owens Valley), on the basis of its perpetuation of this country's history of violating the human rights and environmental rights of the people who lived here before its colonization. In this case, namely, the Nüümü. The cost of this manner of action is immeasurable; as is our ability to find alternative solutions that are not destabilizing of community and resource and are sustainable for our water needs moving forward. I now share a public comment made by my friend Maya Bon. Her words communicate both the urgency of this matter and the inequity of this system, that has convinced us that siphoning water from a place that desperately needs it for its own survival is the only solution. It is not:

Each year, LA County uses approximately 213 billion gallons of water. 50-60% of that water is imported from the Colorado River Basin, from mountain rivers in Northern California, and from Payahuunadü. Each year, 112 billion gallons of water runs across Los Angeles' streets, picking up pollution before being washed out to the ocean — that's 50% of Los Angeles' total water use that we allow to wash away without hydrating the people, the plants, the animals of Los Angeles.

How could you propose pumping more water out of this valley when you allow the very amount Los Angeles needs to import to go to waste. How could you propose to pump more water out of this valley, when the people who are from here, the people whose land you are on, the Nüümü people, are telling you to stop and to stop now. Will you allow another hundred years to go by living on stolen water?

LADWP continues to make bad decisions and bad investments. We cannot afford to continue to pump water out of the Sierras when climate change has already significantly lessened its snowpack. We must invest in stormwater capture, in remediating contaminated groundwater, in filling the 800,000 acre-feet of unutilized available storage capacity in our groundwater basins, in more "pump-and-treat" systems, in personal rooftop water systems, in depaving our city.

We must end this system of theft and oppression. Please stand with us and fight for all life. Stand with us to create long term solutions.

Thank you very much for your time. All best,
Rory Cullen

--
Rory Cullen
Bennington College 15'
571.332.2450

Laura Piper

From: Olivia Lorentz <olorentz24@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 12:26 PM
To: Laura Piper
Subject: Item 3

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Inyo County Network. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender. Contact Information Services with questions or concerns.

In reference to Item 3

Please find a more sustainable source of water, and please communicate with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe! The Owens Valley has suffered enough drought caused by pumping water into Los Angeles over the years.

Respectfully,
Olivia Lorentz