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CITY OF DOWNEY



PRESS RELEASE

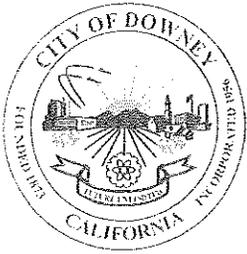
Downey withdraws from Central Basin Water Association

Downey, CA, August 15, 2013: The City Council of the City of Downey has voted to withdraw from membership in the Central Basin Water Association, a group that purports to advocate on behalf of pumpers (water rights holders) in the Central Groundwater Basin. The City strongly objects to the Association's hastily-planned, offsite meeting at which the few members in attendance plotted a libelous attack on one of its own.

It is the sincere hope of the City of Downey that the Central Basin Water Association will conduct themselves in a transparent manner in the future.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



City of Downey

FUTURE UNLIMITED



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MAYOR PRO TEM

FERNANDO VASQUEZ

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CITY ATTORNEY

YVETTE M. ABICH GARCIA

August 15, 2013

Mr. Anthony C. Zampiello, Executive Secretary
Central Basin Water Association
725 North Azusa Avenue
Azusa, CA 91702

Attention: Officers and Board of Directors

Subject: City of Downey Membership

Dear Officers and Board of Directors:

This letter is to inform you that on July 23, 2013, the Downey City Council voted unanimously to terminate its membership in the Central Basin Water Association (Association) effective immediately.

As previously expressed, the City was extremely disappointed with the Association's Officers and its Board of Directors for taking actions and a position regarding the Proposition 218 litigation between the Water Replenishment District (WRD) and several of the Association's members without fully engaging all of its members to seek their input. A number of those actions were directed towards some of the Association's own member cities.

While making decisions in a hasty manner, the Board has failed to objectively evaluate all available facts, specifically, that courts have invalidated WRD's assessments due to non-compliance with Proposition 218 requirements. These actions, along with subsequent publicizing of the Board's position in the Downey Patriot, prior to informing the City Council, have led to a complete erosion of the City's faith in the Association's ability to conduct its business objectively and in a unbiased manner with transparency and credibility. The Association's unfortunate behavior has resulted in the City Council's decision to discontinue its membership with the Association.

Mr. Anthony Zampello
Central Basin Water Association
August 15, 2013
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The City's hope is that the Officers and Board of Directors will conduct themselves in a fully transparent manner allowing all Association members the opportunity to provide input on such important issues in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mario A. Guerra".

Dn. Mario A. Guerra
Mayor

cc: Mayor Pro Tem Fernando Vasquez
Council Member Luis H. Marquez
Council Member Roger C. Brossmer
Council Member Alex Saab
Gilbert Livas, City Manager
John Oskoui, Assistant City Manager
Board of Directors, Central Basin Municipal Water District
Members, Central Basin Water Association