

# EAST OTAY MESA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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October 13, 2016

Colleen A. Hoey  
Director, Office of Mexican Affairs, Department of State

RE: Presidential Permit for Otay Water District's Otay Mesa Conveyance and Disinfection System Project, Docket Number DOS-2016-0061

Dear Director Hoey:

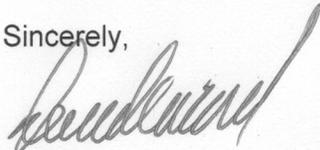
The East Otay Mesa and Otay Mesa Property Owners Associations support the Otay Water District's (Otay) application for a Presidential Permit for the Otay Mesa Conveyance and Disinfection System Project (Conveyance Project) and agree that it is in the national interest of the United States.

Our organizations are among Otay's 222,000 customers in the communities of Otay Mesa, Chula Vista, Jamul, Spring Valley, Rancho San Diego, and unincorporated areas in southeastern San Diego County, California. A reliable water supply is critical to meet growing demands and support the economy and quality of life of these communities. Like other water customers in Southern California, we face the challenges of acquiring a safe and reliable water supply in the face of severe, persistent drought and the continuing prospect of adapting to declining traditional water supplies from a changing climate.

The East Otay Mesa and Otay Mesa Property Owners Association members commend Otay's forethought and leadership to secure a new drought-proof water supply source for San Diego County through the proposed border-crossing pipeline to import and distribute desalinated potable water from Mexico. The Conveyance Project would meet the potable water demand of up to two-thirds of Otay's customers and is part of Otay's long-term plan to diversify local water supplies, improve supply reliability to meet future demand, and reduce dependence on the Colorado River. The Conveyance Project will be in the interest of Southern California, the Western United States, and the United States to the extent that desalinated water from Mexico will decrease the need to import water from the Colorado River and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Diversifying our water supplies with desalinated potable water from Mexico is clearly in the public interest of water customers in the United States.

The East Otay Mesa and Otay Mesa Property Owners Associations gladly welcome any questions or comments that you might have on this vital project for the San Diego region.

Sincerely,



David Wick, Chair  
East Otay Mesa Property Owners Association



Kaitlin Arduino, Vice Chair  
Otay Mesa Property Owners Association