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December 11, 2023

**To The Bureau of Reclamation,**  
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**NOTE:** Although I am sending this letter to the **Bureau of Reclamation**, at provided address  
( [CRinterimops@usbr.gov](mailto:CRinterimops@usbr.gov) ) I have included several important officials associated with the  
situation of the Salton Sea, that I was aware of their emails, I respectfully urge all honorable  
people in receipt of this letter (information) to inform directly Mr. Sean Torpey, Chief of Staff to  
the Commissioner and Ms. Camille Touton Commissioner and key officials at Department of  
Interior.

Subject: **Response to the Revised Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact  
Statement (SEIS) – Nikola N. Lakic**



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## To the Bureau of Reclamation

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION:

I am writing in response to the Revised Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS). Here is the link to the document:

[Revised Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Near-term Colorado River Operations \(usbr.gov\).](#)

Based on ‘Revised Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement’ it is obvious that Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) ignored my comments submitted on August 15, 2023. Also, BoR ignored numerous comments from public and knowledge expert that I heard during previous Zoom meetings and seeing some of written public comment pointing out on incoming ecological disaster if we continue with ‘current course of action’ and lose the Salton Sea.

Including the Salton Sea for the Development of Post-2026 Operational Guidelines and Strategies is very important issue because the Salton Sea is a part of the Colorado River Basen and is facing incoming environmental disaster with toxic dust storms and subsequent liability related to serious consequences to the public health, and economy in general.

The BoR must be aware of the disconnect between agencies and manipulative and illegal conducts of some participant (influential stakeholder) by ‘sabotaging’ certain proposals to achieve their goal (pushing forward their proposal) which is getting rid of the Salton Sea for their pitiful interest.

The main reason for such behavior is a combination of incompetence and short-sightedness, greed, and lack of concern for the environment, the health of nearby population, and economy in general.



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I respectfully urge BoR, again, to reconsider its decision and include the Salton Seas, - not just in “Post-2026 Operation”, - but to enforce its own policy and in cooperation with CNRA and Army Corps of Engineers open investigation and work on speedy evaluation of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea.

## **2.0 COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO STATEMENT IN THE SEIS REPORT:**

### **2.1 Mission Statement of the Bureau of Reclamation**

*“The Department of the Interior protects and manages the Nation’s natural resources and cultural heritage; provides scientific and other information about those resources; and honors its trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities. The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.” (Underlining added).*

**2.1.1 My Comment:** Based on the ‘Revised Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement’ (SEIS) and exclusion of the Salton Sea from consideration, without a solid argument in support of such decision, it is obvious that Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) succumbed under pressure of those who promote destruction of the Salton Sea. In this case the BoR failed to fulfil its own mission statement. The BoR must review the situation of the Salton Sea independently especially after receiving verifiable information of wrongdoing (manipulative conducts) of several agencies and threat of incoming ecological disaster with serious consequences if the ‘current course of action’ continues. I am copy/paste several segments from the SEIS - only on the issues relevant to the Salton Sea and will comment on them.

### **2.2 (2.8.9) Importation of Water**

*Reclamation received a number of proposals calling for the importation of water (for example, desalinizing and importing water from the Pacific Ocean). These are not considered in detail in this SEIS because the proposals received did not contain sufficient detail to analyze them. Also, they are not actionable during the interim period (before January 1, 2027). Therefore, they do not meet the purpose of and need for Reclamation’s action. (Underlining added).*

**2.2.1 My Comment:** My proposal, also submitted in previous letter on August 15, 2023, contains sufficient details to analyze them. The BoR is in charge and needs to face the problem and deal with it on time directly to the best of its ability. Minimizing own power and deflecting responsibilities



to other departments and making excuses on 'not been actionable during the interim period' is a weak argument. Such attitude is a serious problem. By the way, my proposal has nothing to do with several amateurish proposal suggesting importation of seawater with canal and using expensive 'reverse osmosis' process for desalinization of the seawater.

### 2.3 (3.3.6) Salton Sea Modeling

*The Salton Sea is a terminal lake in Riverside and Imperial Counties, California. The Department owns and manages lands around the Salton Sea. Lake levels are maintained by runoff from the surrounding Imperial Valley and Coachella Valley watersheds, as well as agricultural runoff from the Imperial Irrigation District (IID) and Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) originating in the Colorado River Basin. The Salton Sea acts as a sump for agricultural runoff. Reductions in agricultural runoff may impact lake elevations, which, in turn, may impact air quality and shoreline wildlife habitat. The California Natural Resources Agency is responsible for and leads management efforts at the Salton Sea. These efforts include implementing 29,800 acres of habitat restoration and dust-suppression projects on lake bed areas that have been, or will be, exposed by 2028. The Department is actively supporting the State in the implementation of its 10-year plan by providing technical resources, funding, and Department-owned lands for project implementation and has, therefore, included it in the analysis area for this SEIS. Future Salton Sea conditions were modeled using the Salton Sea Accounting Model (SSAM). The SSAM was originally developed by Reclamation in the early 2000s and repurposed by the State of California to assist in its Salton Sea Management Program objectives (California Natural Resources Agency 2018). The SSAM was used to estimate the net impacts of short-term allocation reductions on key metrics such as salinity and exposed playa area. To evaluate impacts, water allocation reduction scenarios for the IID and CVWD were evaluated using the SSAM. A set of scenarios was prepared with different levels of reduction and different following/efficiency considerations by the IID. The model assumptions and outputs were reviewed by the IID, CVWD, Reclamation, and California Natural Resources Agency in a series of meetings in mid- to late-2022. A final set of updates, which includes the No Action Alternative and Proposed Action, were made in 2023 and are presented in this document.*

*Model inputs include the initial state of the lake, freshwater inflows, and annual evaporation. To model the alternatives, different system conservation approaches proposed by the IID were used to project lake inflows. The primary outputs of the model are exposed lake bed, elevation, and salinity with data reported on an annual timestep. (underlining added).*

#### 2.3.1 My Comment:

The BoR needs to be reminded that the interest of the IID is to make money and not to take care of the Salton Sea. Base on statement above it is obvious the following: (a) the BoR is accepting the 'current course of action' which is based on the false assumption that the importation of the seawater is not a feasible option which was/is initiated by the Imperial Irrigation District (IID). (b) The water of the Salton Sea originates in the



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Colorado River Basin (See Map in section 8.1.1). Therefore, the BoR must engage in saving and restoring the Salton Sea and not participate in its destruction. (c) It appears that the IID is in charge and has control over the CNRA and BoR which is just the opposite of how it should be. Based on the well-documented record and numerous statements on which I commented in many of my public comments, of which some are included in Segment 9.0, the IID policy is not a secret ... it is to get rid of the Salton Sea so that they can use some of the exposed lakebed for cultivation of farmland and some for the extraction of lithium. Based on the statement above (2.3) it is highly irresponsible that the BoR completely ignored my comments and the proposal which successfully solves all current problems of the Salton Sea.

## 2.4 (3.5.2) Salton Sea

*The Salton Sea's continuing decline in elevation and resulting exposure of the lake bed negatively impacts the surrounding communities and reduces the remaining habitat for fish and wildlife. The California Natural Resources Agency, the California Department of Water Resources, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife are focused on implementing Phase I: 10-Year Plan (10- Year Plan) of the Salton Sea Management Program (SSMP) to improve conditions around the Sea. The 10-Year Plan was released in 2017 and then updated in 2018 to guide the State's projects at the Salton Sea over the next decade (2018–2028). The 10-Year Plan identifies a sequence of habitat and dust control projects around the perimeter of the Salton Sea (California Natural Resources Agency 2018 and 2021). The US Army Corps of Engineers is preparing an Environmental Assessment for the implementation of the 10-Year Plan projects. Of the total project area (29,800 acres), at least 50 percent will be used to create habitat for fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea ecosystem, and the remainder will support projects to suppress dust (US Army Corps of Engineers 2022).*

### 2.4.1 My Comment:

Such statements indicate acceptance of destruction of the Salton Sea as a normal situation. That despite provided verifiable evidence that the 'current course of action' is a 'drive in wrong direction' and that there is an architectural plan that has solved all current problems of the Salton Sea. It is obvious that the IID has many 'tentacles' in several agencies including BoR and CNRA. So far, it appears that the leadership in the IID which are also majority members of the SSA are in charge of the fate of the Salton Sea. The BoR and CNRA bear responsibility for allowing to lose control and for not enforcing its own policy (see your mission statement at section 2.1) which are based on the Environmental Law<sup>[1]</sup> and which has been violated in this case. The 'current course of action' leads to a smaller, saltier, smellier, and more polluted Salton Sea with subsequent consequences and liabilities.



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Relying on protocol and the 10-Year Plan released in 2017 and then updated in 2018 – a plan that was based on a false assumption that the importation of seawater was not feasible plan - and related provisions in official documents that have been initiated, crafted, and inserted by those who promote the destruction of the Salton Sea is wrong approach to very serious problem. The IID is working on their mission for the last 20 years.

A leadership is missing – a person with gravitas, necessary knowledge, and power to unite agencies in common interest to save and restore the Salton Sea. The honorable members of the BoR, CNRA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) must use common sense and logic and take initiative in correcting this problem.

There is no logical reason for continuing with the ‘current course of action’ and losing another 5 years and revenue of at least \$500,000,000 per year in order to save someone’s ego and wrongdoing. My calculations are conservative. A more realistic loss of revenue would be about \$1,000,000,000 per year just from clean renewable energy in addition to loss of revenue from other activities including tourism.

Manipulative and illegal conduct must be taken out of equation when dealing with so important issues such as the Salton Sea, environment, health of nearby population, and economy in general.

### **3.0 FACTS:**

3.1 The fact is that by excluding the Salton Sea from consideration for the Post-2026 Operational Guidelines and Strategies, by the Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) and subsequently United States Department of the Interior, (DoI) the Salton Sea will end up a smaller, saltier, smellier, and more polluted Lake and sooner or later would become a cesspool with tremendous consequences to the environment, health of nearby population including tribes, and economy in general.

3.2 The fact is that despite colorful presentations that local leaders, mostly members of the Salton Sea Authority (SSA) frequently present, in the recent case - the “Pilot Demonstration Project” with a price tag of \$19.25 million which is part of the “current course of action” which include the “North Lake” which is part of the “In-basin long-range plan” or previously called the ‘Perimeter/Brine Lake” with related dust suppression projects, that the BoR support - is based on manipulative conducts and the false assumption, by a group of officials, that importation of the seawater is not a feasible concept.



3.3 The fact is that the “current course of action” blatantly violates Environmental laws<sup>[1]</sup> which is a foundation of the State of California and Federal policies and regulations which fundamentally support initiatives towards a clean environment, clean air, clean water, resiliency to climate change, clean renewable energy, protection of the health of the population, and economy, etc.

3.4 The fact is that two attempts by State to find the solution for saving and restoring the Salton Sea were ‘sabotaged’ by a relatively small group of people associated with local leaders and members of the Salton Sea Authority.

3.4.1 **NOTE:** – My proposal which is architectural plan for saving and restoring the Salton Sea was rejected (sabotaged) twice without a single scientific argument against it. My proposal was excluded from evaluation based on ridiculous criteria inserted by a relatively small group of people associated with local leaders and members of the Salton Sea Authority. (See section 5.3.2; 5.3.7 – 5.3.8.1)

3.5 The fact is that introduction of the ‘North Lake’ concept, by local leaders which is departure (pivoting) from the single “Perimeter/Brine Lake” concept which was accepted in 2016, by the SSA and several State agencies, - despite being dysfunctional at the present form, - it infringes competing patented concept (my proposal) which has “North Lake” as an essential part of the architectural plan that also includes the “South Lake” and large “Central Lake”. By the way, my concept has been systematically ignored for 10 years and systematically rejected by the local leaders. (See Segments 9.0 and 10.0).

I was aware of the importance and value of my concept and have filed patent application before I spoke with local leaders. I knew that my concept will be accepted, whether it will be during current set of leadership or a new one, or during our current generation or future generations. I know that sooner or later common sense will prevail because it would be foolish to ignore revenue of at least \$500 million per year. Here are a few of my issued US Patents No.: 11,098,926; Issued on August 24, 2021; US Patent No.: 9,995,286; Issued on June 12, 2018. I still have several patent pending applications with more details.

#### 4.0 **A FEW OBSERVATIONS, COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

4.1 Because there is an obvious disconnect between - higher officials (Governor, Secretaries of California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA), California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), California Energy Commission, Bureau of Reclamation) that facilitate and enforce policies of the State which are based on environmental law<sup>[1]</sup> – and the Imperial Irrigation District (IID) through their close associates at the Salton Sea Authority (SSA) that promote their own





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policy that leads towards smaller, saltier, smellier and more polluted Lake - which means the destruction of the Salton Sea – which blatantly violate the State and Federal policies, I am respectfully recommending that after my proposal is thoroughly reviewed and officially accepted, that the BoR / DoI with cooperation with Wade Crowfoot, Secretary of CNRA, secretaries of , EPA, CEC, DoE, Governor Gavin Newsom, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers open an investigation of this case, based on provided verifiable evidence, and form a ‘mechanism’ (office of a special counsel or Commission) formed by the honorable members of the CNRA, EPA, CEC, DoE, BoR / DoI, USACE, and several relevant agencies and stakeholders, tasked with overseeing funding and implementation of the long-term solution for the restoration of the Salton Sea (my proposal) until its completion in 5-6 years period. After its completion, the Commission can be abolished or reduced to overseeing maintenance issues and appropriate distribution of the revenue of at least \$500,000,000 per year.

4.1.1 **NOTE:** Came to my attention a report, prepared for policymakers and stakeholders by the UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA RIVERSIDE SALTON SEA TASK FORCE Sponsored by the EDGE Institute and the Center for Science to Policy published on July 2021. Titled “CRISIS AT THE SALTON SEA” subtitle: “The Vital Role of Science”. Here is the link to the report:

[0d73bf\\_f8133ee80a30473ca565ecab181e31a1.pdf \(ucr.edu\)](https://www.saltonseataskforce.ucr.edu/files/ugd/0d73bf_f8133ee80a30473ca565ecab181e31a1.pdf). Or alternative link:

[https://www.saltonseataskforce.ucr.edu/files/ugd/0d73bf\\_f8133ee80a30473ca565ecab181e31a1.pdf](https://www.saltonseataskforce.ucr.edu/files/ugd/0d73bf_f8133ee80a30473ca565ecab181e31a1.pdf).

4.1.2 **NOTE:** In the first paragraph of the report (link above), is mentioned the disconnect between higher officials and agencies stating that a combination of mismanagement and competition among federal, state, and local agencies exists.

4.2 It is important that the State officially renounces the report of the UCSC Panel of independent reviewers based on verifiable evidence of blatant breach of their task of being ‘independent’ that I provided in my letter to Secretary of CNRA Wade Crowfoot (See segment 9.9). That is important because the proponents of the destruction of the Salton Sea have already used fraudulent UCSC Panel’s report, as reference to continue with their nonsensical projects that leads to smaller, saltier, smellier and more polluted Salton Sea. By the way, the UCSC Panel received \$2.5 million for their lousy work - that is known documented amount that they received just from the State.

4.3 Because several key agencies CNRA, CalEPA, CEC including BoR / DoI, are not well synchronized at the moment – Each of those agencies are involve in



funding different projects relative to their subject (water, air, energy) but those projects are not coordinated in fulfilling master plan (because, at the moment, there is no officially accepted a functional master plan to follow) – the agencies need to be united in creating a ‘mechanism’ (a special office – commission) to deal with issue of the Salton Sea in interest of the Salton Sea, environment, and health of nearby population. That can be achieved by accepting the master plan (my architectural plan) and then synchronizing specific projects in fulfilment of the master plan which includes projects dealing with all three agencies’ subjects such as importation of seawater, clean environment (water, air, wildlife, health), harnessing hydropower, solar energy, geothermal energy, etc.

4.3.1 **NOTE:** Based on the record, the Salton Sea Authority (SSA) are not working in the best interest of the Salton Sea, environment, health of nearby population, and economy in general. Since the formation of the SSA in 1993, with yearly budget of about \$30 million, there has not been a single program (project) that contributed to the long-term solution for the restoration of the Salton Sea. In fact, the SSA ignored and suppressed the project for the long-term solution for the restoration of the Salton Sea. (See Segments 10.0 and 5.0).

4.4 I feel awkward to say it but I have to. My concept is a creative, simple, and brilliant solution. Such a concept is not difficult to understand. Therefore, not wanting to cooperate with me, systematically, raises my concern about ‘stealing in process’ that I elaborated on in my letter to Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, CNRA sent recently on December 1, 2023. (Copy included in segment 9.9).

4.4.1 **NOTE:** As in every project or product, there are always involved the ‘architectural fees’ or ‘designing fee’ which are based on the cost of the project(s) and revenue involved. In this case that is a substantial amount of money. That might be a primary reason why the ‘local leaders’ want to ‘play architects’ and want me out of the ‘picture’. The secondary reason could be a combination of incompetence and naiveness. That remains to be seen. But to think that a presentation at a show or publishing an article in a newspaper will override the patent law is being naive.

4.5 Based on chronology of the events and provided evidence (See sections 9.0 and 10.0), it appears that the ‘current course of action’ is the result of incompetent people with limited technical knowledge, - who are short-sighted, ignorant, arrogant, and have no desire to learn about other options (solutions), - occupying important leadership positions (seats) and making critical decisions on the fate of the Salton Sea that will be catastrophic to the environment, health of the nearby population, wildlife, economy, and wellbeing of the future generations. Such catastrophe needs to be stopped on time.



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4.6 In order to expedite the investigation process and to clarify the situation, I am recommending that the BoR and State proceeds with simple following steps - by sending a request to all those key officials who promote destruction of the Salton Sea and oppose the restoration of the Salton Sea, including all members of the UCSC Panel, to provide a written statement explaining their position. Also, I am recommending sending a request for a written comment to all consulting firms that have been involved in evaluation of any phase for the restoration of the Salton Sea including firm Kennedy Jenks and Kennedy Jank's sub-consultants to comment on my proposal - issue by issue – page by page (not to comment on bunch of other amateurish proposals which, by the way, main purpose was to muddy the water and reduce time for evaluation of my proposal) even if it covers only their specialty – hydrology - importation of seawater. With a written answer “they” (all participants) would need to speak their mind individually proving that they read it and understood it. That would reduce the possibility to hide behind the group or transfer (deflect) the blame and responsibility on someone else. By the way, the State paid \$2.5 million and deserves to have a written answer from each participant of the UCSC Panel. I would be glad to help with a few questions/answers if needed.

4.7 At the same time my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea can be reviewed, separately by several universities, laboratories, and companies (preferably potential contractors / producers with means). That way negative influence (pressure), as was in the case with the UCSC Panel, can be minimized. The proper evaluation should not take more than one month.

4.7.1 **NOTE:** I am emphasizing that the focus is reviewing ‘my proposal’ because ‘experts’ from universities and laboratories have tendencies to believe that they are contacted (hired) to ‘find’ the solution for the restoration of the Salton Sea themselves. We have been through such process many times in in the last 50 years and nobody have found a solution. I am emphasizing again - the solution already exists (my proposal). The state needs them (the experts) only for evaluation, based on their ‘expertise’ whether my concept is feasible or not. By the way, my proposal is a comprehensive design that involves besides the unique architectural plan several technologies that need several experts with several expertise to evaluate it properly.

4.8 Many companies such as AECOM, FLUOR, ORMAT, TENGD I MACHINERY, EQT, FUJI, GENERAL ELECTRIC, SIEMENS, ABB, MITSUBISHI, etc., to mention just a few, would be able to mass-produce and implement all proposed elements including the pipelines (accumulative about



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1,700 miles), new solar panels, geothermal power plants, etc. As the author of the architectural plan and the inventor of the new technologies involved, I would be glad to help the selected contractors with additional information, and several experimental prototypes (different sizes, etc.), and with a final design.

4.8.1 **NOTE:** Although I provided more than enough of essential information about my concept, in my proposal, for the interesting parties to evaluate validity and function of the concept, I do have more detailed information for those that will express interest in participating in any segment for the restoration of the Salton Sea.

4.8.2 **NOTE:** My proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea is a creative architectural design that follows the law of physics. There is nothing mysterious about my proposal. An average high school student should be able to understand it. I am a graduate engineer architect. My expertise and talent are in locating (asserting) the problem and finding a solution for the problem mostly related to energy and environmental issues, - whether it be a failure of the "Blow Out Preventer" (BOP) in the Macondo well in Gulf of Mexico, on April 20, 2010, or problem with drying Salton Sea. My work is well documented (See my website). But for reinsurance, - and after the obvious 'collapse' of the UCSC Panel of independent reviewers (by blatantly breaking a fundamental rule of being 'independent' by collaborating with opponents of my proposal and following the advice of my adversary to exclude my proposal from further evaluation – (See my response to the UCSC Panel' report at Section 9.9), - the appropriate way forward would be that the honorable top officials of the State and Federal governments initiate a speedy evaluation of my proposal with the new team of professionals that have the necessary expertise in all issues involved and that are really 'independent' with a 'backbone' (not succumbing to anyone's pressure).

4.9 It might not be necessary at this point because I have already solved the problem, but because I am very confident in the validity and feasibility of my concept for the restoration of the Salton Sea, I would not mind if State and BoR initiate an contest in which all capable companies around the world could compete for a design (a feasible long-term solution) provided that all competing companies respect the patent law.

4.9.1 **NOTE:** I am insisting that the patent law must be respected because the only feasible solution for saving and restoring the Salton Sea, despite restriction of water flow from the Colorado River, is by dividing the



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Salton Sea into three sections. I have several already issued patents with broad claims for such concept.

4.9.2 **NOTE:** In the case of opening an international contest, after providing an overview of the situation the criteria for the contest should be very simple. Here is a sample:

- A)** Solution must be viable and technically sound for the importation of seawater whether from the Sea of Cortez or the Pacific Ocean or both.
- B)** Solution must be viable in stopping pollution of the Salton Sea.
- C)** Solution must be viable in respecting the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA) because of the limited inflow from the Colorado River.
- D)** Solution must be viable in providing wildlife sanctuaries.
- E)** Solution must be viable in reducing the salinity of the Salton Sea.
- F)** Solution must be viable in providing conditions for tourism and other activities to benefit the local population, employment, and economy.
- G)** Solution must be viable in harmonizing existing projects for the extraction of lithium from the geothermal brine and the restoration of the Salton Sea which includes the importation of seawater.
- H)** Solution must be economically viable having a positive ratio of cost expense for the project and revenue generated from the project.
- I)** If there are several proposals having similar but different parts or technologies, then, they should be evaluated by comparison on each difference including cost, feasibility, efficiency, and revenue generated.

4.10 Since the BoR, with cooperation with Secretaries of the CNRA, Wade Crowfoot, Yana Garcia, Secretary for California Environmental Protection Agency, and David Hochschild - chair of the California Energy Commission, with Governor Gavin Newsom oversee the situation of the Salton Sea and have final word and power to make changes (executive orders, opening investigation, etc.), I respectfully urge You to engage more decisively and take initiative in solving the current problem, (which is the 'current course of action' which is a 'drive in wrong direction') by checking provided evidence and stopping nonsensical projects, and enforcing state's policies regarding environmental law and patent law. Accountability matters.



## 5.0 A FEW ADDITIONAL RELEVANT INFORMATION:

5.1 It is common practice that when the members of an organization that are involved in making important decisions, but have limited technical knowledge, invite an expert to make a presentation on a particular subject. I was present at numerous Salton Sea Authority (SSA) Board meetings in the last 10 years and that was frequent practice – about 95%. Many experts have been invited to make presentation on the subject of the Salton Sea that supposedly is useful (economical) to the Salton Sea and community, such as presentation about how to cultivate algae for production of energy in form of oil, biodiesel, etc., or presentation about how to monitor air quality, or presentation about history of the Salton Sea - how was formed, glory days of the 1950's and 60's, and inevitable decline. I remember one meeting where experts promoted exclusive real estate around the “Perimeter/Brine Lake” that sooner or later will become a cesspool.

Members of the SSA followed legal protocol that requires transparency and ‘supposedly’ study all available options. The fact is that the key members of the SSA decided a long time ago that the Salton Sea must be eliminated so that they can cultivate some area of lakebed for farmland and for the extraction of lithium. They have ignored any concept that interfered with their already preset decision. That is evident from systematically ignoring (suppressing) my proposal. (See section 10.0). Also, strangely, there is indication since 2018 of vague switching / pivoting (switching in disguise) towards my proposal. That reinforces my assertions of illegal conduct as I stated in Sections 5.2 – 5.3.2; 5.9; 9.20 - 9.22.

5.2 Although the ‘current course of action’ leads to smaller, saltier, smellier, and more polluted Salton Sea - there is also organized attempt towards “pivoting” (changing) from the original design of a single lake (the ‘Perimeter/Brine Lake’) – their concept which was officially accepted in 2016 - towards my concept which consist of three sections which was officially presented to local leaders in Long Range Plan Committee, CVWD, Palm Desert, CA on February 25, 2016, and at ‘Request for Information (RFI) presentations at El Centro on May 21, 2018. Such ‘pivoting’ (changing) at this stage after my proposal was ‘strangely’ excluded from evaluation by the UCSC Panel and systematically ignored by the SSA for 10 years is illegal conduct ... it is an attempt to steal .... It is stealing in process - piece by piece. The North Lake is the first piece. Even if perpetrators do not know how to still properly because the projects need more contributing (cooperating) elements, it is still sealing. The North Lake is an essential part of my architectural plan. Most people might not be aware of such attempt nor of the existence of my proposal, but the issue was between me and a few local leaders.

5.2.1 **NOTE:** See ‘press release’ published by Mr. Phil Rosentrater, Executive Director of the SSA at the time of formation of the “Enhance



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Infrastructure Financial District” on around **October 24, 2018**, in which Mr. Phil Rosentrater gave credit to Mr. Manuel Perez, Director of the SSA and supervisor at of Fourth District, Riverside County, and Mr. Marion Ashley, also supervisor, for the concept of the “North Lake”. In the article they indicated that the Imperial County should do similarly at the southern part of the Lake which is in Imperial County. Here is the link to the document:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vnuuxwEMKhqvK9ors1KKXYJokqvx0o5b/view?usp=sharing>.

5.2.2 **NOTE:** The document ‘press release’ published by Mr. Phil Rosentrater (the link is above) was made after I made several presentations to Mr. Manuel Perez directly (personally) and after I made official presentations at CVWD, Palm Desert on **February 25, 2016**, and at El Centro on **May 21, 2018**, where Mr. Bruce Wilcox, assistant Secretary for California Nature Resources Agency (CNRA) was present and in charge.

5.2.3 **NOTE:** Although Mr. Phil Rosentrater did not type date on his ‘press release’, (see also segment 9.20) he did state in his letter the following: *“A healthier, more prosperous Salton Sea is the intended result an Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) launched today by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors”* (underline added).

Just to be sure, I googled and find out that the board of supervisors voted to create an ‘Enhance Infrastructure Financing District’ (EIFFD) on Tuesday, **October 23, 2018**. That is five months after Mr. Bruce Wilcox informed me in his letter (see section 9.22) that they will not use my concept. Neither Mr. Phil Rosentrater’s ‘press release nor Mr. Bruce Wilcox’s letter to me was properly dated and I doubt that it was an unintentional omission. That indicates that the official ‘stealing’ of my concept started on October 23, 2018, which proves my assertions that I made about the process of slowly stealing ‘piece by piece’ of my original concept. By the way, I made a short presentation in front of SSA’s Technical Advisory Group on May 14, 2014. Mr. Bruce Wilcox, Mr. Roger Shintaku, P.E., and the third person that did not have a business card (I do not remember his name) were present at the meeting.

See also the article by Sammy Roth in the Palm Springs Desert Sun. Here is the link: [Riverside County's new Salton Sea plan could generate \\$1 billion \(desertsun.com\)](http://desertsun.com). In this article is also shows manipulative conduct by Mr. Bruce Wilcox in selecting three proposals for consideration, and his vague plans for possible development in the future. Importation of seawater was mentioned as a possibility far away in the future, but his initial position was to keep the ‘status quo’. That was also the position of the Imperial



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Irrigation District (IID) where Mr. Bruce Wilcox worked earlier. The video of presentations of all 11 proposals are accessible at: [Salton Sea Public Workshop \(granicus.com\)](http://SaltonSeaPublicWorkshop.granicus.com). Please see it. Although the recording is about 3 hours and 48 minutes long, it is worth seeing it.

5.3 The State made several efforts to save and restore the Salton Sea in accordance with the State's environmental policies. The first attempt was the 'Request for Information' (RFI) initiated by the State in 2017- 2018 with 11 presenters, including myself, presenting their concepts in El Centro on May 21, 2018. The second attempt was later in 2021- 2022 involving the University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC). Unfortunately, those two attempts have been 'sabotaged' (refusing to review the only feasible and competing proposal) by a relatively small group of people – mostly members of the Salton Sea Authority (SSA) with their influenced consultants from Tetra-Tech, Pacific Institute, and California Water Boards. My proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea was excluded in both cases without a single scientific argument against it. By the way, members of the mentioned consulting firms competed with their own proposals (several variants of the "Perimeter/Brine Lake") during the second attempt in 2021 - 2022.

5.3.1 Here is an alternative link for the recording of that meeting in El Centro, CA on May 21, 2018:

[http://imperial.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\\_id=2&clip\\_id=1274](http://imperial.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=1274).

5.3.2 Here is the link to the letter 'memorandum' (1 page) from Mr. Bruce Wilcox, Assistant Secretary for CNRA sent to me on around **August 16, 2018**, explaining the reasons for rejecting my proposal:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L6hDCm6H0WAEJzoDtHNVKFsgfN05iRrO/view?usp=sharing>.

Please read it. Mr. Bruce Wilcox did not disclose who were Committee and the Evaluation group members and what was their background and expertise. Most importantly, he did not point out a single scientific argument against my proposal. He just brushed off.

5.3.3 Here is the link to my response (11 pages) to Mr. Bruce Wilcox's letter that I sent on **October 12, 2018**:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZCKncH0DjO834opjcXmCZSKbjX27JE7a/view?usp=sharing>.

5.3.4 Here is the link to my response (28 pages) to the **UCSC Panel's decision** regarding **two Fatal Flaws** – filed on **June 20, 2022**.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GZVU1FRSS4bFu1J2n3d31vNjfCu3brCz/view?usp=sharing>.





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This letter has a substantial amount of information including my correspondence (**argument**) with the Panel of independent reviewers. Please read it.

5.3.5 **NOTE:** Here is the link to the letter (62 pages) that I sent to You **Honorable Wade Crowfoot**, Secretary for California Natural Resources Agency, on **December 30, 2022**, in response to the Salton Sea Independent Review Panel Summary Report published on or around September 29, 2022. In my response, I provided plenty of evidence of blatant breach of the Panel' task and requested abolishment of the fraudulent report. Here is the link:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wzN6xylytehWJu0Nz\\_wZFkTtAi9mYC-S/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wzN6xylytehWJu0Nz_wZFkTtAi9mYC-S/view?usp=sharing).

This letter has a substantial amount of information including my correspondence with the Panel of independent reviewers. Also, have the links to a recorded meeting in which principal investigator **Professor Dr. Brant Haddad explained the reasons for not reviewing my proposal** (See page 14 out of 62). Please read it.

5.3.6 Here is the link to my response (10 pages) to the **UCSC Panel after** the televised meeting on July 20, 2022 - filed on **July 22, 2022**.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_3C4HqL3tan6TFz5iM5g1dyuFXz-TkwQ/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_3C4HqL3tan6TFz5iM5g1dyuFXz-TkwQ/view?usp=sharing).

5.3.7 Here is an important video from the meeting conducted on July 20, 2022.

***Video: Independent Review Panel Fatal Flaw Report Public Meeting – July 20, 2022.***

<https://saltonsea.ca.gov/planning/water-importation-independent-review-panel/>

5.3.8 **NOTE:** Please pay attention to the answer of Dr. Brant Haddad after my comment at segment 1:19:07 – 1:26:50. He is talking about the relationship between the Panel and Tetra-Tech which supposedly is implementing the State's policy on the Salton Sea. It is important to clarify that Tetra-Tech is only a consulting firm and, in this case, gives bad advice to the State on matters that are not in harmony with environmental law. I am pleased that Dr. Brant Haddad admits that he asked Tetra-Tech for their Salton Sea Management Program (SSMP) model, which then the Panel used for analysis.



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I do not mean to be disrespectful to the Panel's Dr. Brant Haddad, but such a practice (conduct) is highly inappropriate and illegal. Here is his exact answer:

*"The most important thing that I can address Nikola in your comment has to do with the relationship between the Panel and Tetra-Tech. So, Tetra-Tech is consulting firm that is working with the State on its ... I guess you would call it the In Sea Solution – in any way – the Tetra-Tech is working with State on the Salton Sea issue and the independent review Panel is operating independently from Tetra-Tech and the only connection that we have with Tetra-Tech has been in asking them for their version of the SSMP model which then we used for our analyses. ... So, I think that we might have **a training session** where Tetra-Tech said **here is how you use it** .... But that is the extent of the relationship .... The rest of the analyses have been done by the Panel and its support team and the support team has included professors, graduate students from UC Santa Cruz as well as consultants firm Kennedy Jenks and Kennedy Jenks' sub-consultants. So, there has been a separation between the State and this project, and we have really gone out of our way so that we maintain that wall ... so that the Panel is **seen as independent**".*

5.3.8.1 **NOTE:** The reality is that Tetra-Tech and Pacific Institute with their influential and persuasive friends from SSA and IID, used their status as State's consultants - acting as the State's voice or enforcers of State policy - to overcome the Panel's 'independent' status and took over evaluations of the proposals for the restoration of the Salton Sea. They excluded the only competition (my proposal), and then later easily eliminated those three proposals that supposedly passed the "Fatal Flaw Criteria" and reinstated their ill-conceived proposal as a front-runner and the only feasible proposal to follow. By doing so, they made the Panel of independent reviewers irrelevant. Therefore, the Panel's report must be abolished (rejected), and an investigation opened with reevaluation of my proposal. By the way, evaluation of my proposal did not happen. They just brushed off.

Also, it is important to mention on this point that Tetra-Tech's using "State's consultant status" to act as enforcers of State's policy is a blatant breach of their task and clearly manipulative conduct.

I am pleased that the meeting on July 20, 2022, has been recorded. This is an unbelievable, but truthful admission (confession). The Panel's Dr. Brant Haddad's words and conduct, especially Panel's Report are legitimate grounds for a tribunal. It is strong evidence for



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the abolishment of the UCSC Panel's Report and for opening an investigation and starting a speedy new evaluation of my proposal with adequate reviewers (See my recommendation in Segment 6.0.

5.3.9 **NOTE:** Just to back up a little bit. In 2021 the State initiated, rightfully so, the new request for information (RFI) for the re-examination of the 11 initial proposals with the assistance of the University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC). The UCSC formed the Panel of independent reviewers (Panel) chaired by Dr. Rominder Suri and the principal investigator Professor Dr. Brant Haddad.

Here is the link to the agreement between the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the UCSC Panel, based on Executive Order N-10-19, to conduct a Feasibility Study to objectively evaluate the merit of water importation as a potential long-term strategy for the restoration of the Salton Sea: [Agreement Summary - Contract for UCSC panel 1\[22396\].pdf](#).

The authors of the initial 11 proposals had an opportunity to update their original proposals if needed. Also was given an opportunity to submit new proposals if there are any. An additional 7 new proposals were submitted by the deadline of October 12, 2021. Since the authors of each proposal believe that their proposal is the best and needs to be implemented, we needed a "referee". The main purpose of the UCSC Panel was/is to evaluate all submitted proposals and select the best one that is feasible, and most beneficial to the restoration of the Salton Sea, the environment, the nearby communities, and the economy in general. The UCSC Panel blatantly failed to fulfil its main task, but they did receive \$2.5 million for their lousy work.

5.4 It is important that the BoR (Reclamation) is aware of the relevant developments. In my recent letter to Secretary Wade Crowfoot that I sent on December 1, 2023 (included in segment 9), I elaborated on the recent article in the Desert Sun newspaper about the "North Lake Pilot Demonstration Project". It is important to clarify that beside the mentioned article, at the link below, there is also an access (window on the top of the page), to a 'set of 24 photos' about the shrinking Salton Sea, exposed lakebed, and cultivated farmland on exposed lakebed (The Elmore Desert Ranch near Brawly). Please see it. It reinforces my assertions mentioned in Section 2.3.1 and 5.5 Here is the link: [Salton Sea North Lake Project unveiled by Riverside County, state authorities \(desertsun.com\)](#).

5.5 It is obvious that the local leaders, mostly the members of the SSA, especially those that represent the Imperial Irrigation District (IID) and Imperial County, that do not want to restore the Salton Sea and support the concept of a smaller Lake,



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is because, very possible, they are influenced by a few 'friendly' farmers who already cultivated exposed lakebed at southside of the Salton Sea (Please see the link above and 24 photos). It is unfortunate, sad, and at this point questionable, that those members of the SSA, after so many of my attempts, do not want to consult with me and learn that, by building a dike around the edge of the already cultivated lakebed, they would not need to destroy the Salton Sea.

5.6 The same applies for those that promote three proposed geothermal projects for the extraction of lithium from geothermal brine (the Black Rock Geothermal Projects, Morton Bay Geothermal project, and Elmore North Geothermal, an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of BHE Renewables, LLC.).

5.6.1 **NOTE:** During writing this letter, came to my attention the response by Jacobs to CEC's inquiry titled: "[Black Rock Geothermal Project Air Quality Operational Emissions Spreadsheet](#)" "Docket Number **23-AFC-03** - Black Rock Geothermal Project (BRGP). The document is a spread sheet with information (data) about "Project Emission Summary" etc. I have seen quite a few similar documents earlier about air monitoring stations, efficiency of cooling tower, etc., trying to prove validity of their project. I am using this opportunity to comment on that issue because it is relevant to the overall gray situation of the Salton Sea and the disconnect between agencies (CNRA, CalEPA, CEC, BoR) which I mention in segment 4.1 and 4.3 above.

5.6.2 **NOTE:** The applicants of those three geothermal projects are focused on their particular projects and they are not concerned about overall situation of the Salton Sea because they might not be fully aware of the existence of the master plan (architectural plan) for the restoration of the Salton Sea because my concept has not been officially accepted yet, and because they are not in business of taking care of Salton Sea nor the environment. There are in business of getting certificate from the CEC and making money from geothermal projects. That is another strong reason for the State to speed up evaluation of my proposal and provide condition for proper development of the situation around the Salton Sea that includes the restoration of the Salton Sea, synchronization of mentioned geothermal project to fit into master plan, and implementation of States policies regarding environment, energy, and wellbeing of the population.

5.6.3 **NOTE:** Without going into specifics of those several responses by applicants that I have seen, the data presented is from 'Modeling Emission Summary' provided from an obsolete system. Also, as presented, those geothermal projects are not in harmony with the long-term plan (master plan) for the restoration of the Salton Sea. Making colorful diagrams with



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estimates (predictions) of the water level, salinity level, air quality, and algae, etc., will be in 10, 20, or 50 years does not contribute at all to the restoration of the Salton Sea.

5.6.4 **NOTE:** It is important to understand that by building a dike around the edge of their preferred location (lot(s)), as I explained and illustrated in my architectural plan (proposal), means that they would be able to continue with their 'obsolete' systems without destroying the Salton Sea. Preferably those three applicants could work with me (consult with me) and accept my 'patented' system that uses a completely closed-loop system, - both, for cooling system (without cooling towers that requires a substantial amount of water) and for production of potable water and concentrated brine - that are superior to conventional systems.

5.6.5 Also, it is important to clarify that the applicants had provided several faulty information in order to boost support for their projects such as the number of households that they will provide power to. For example, applicants stated on several occasions that 1 MW of generated electricity would provide power for about 700 households. The more realistic number is about 250 – 300 households.

5.6.6 Also, the applicants stated on several occasions that they relied on a promise by the IID to supply the necessary water that they need for the functioning of their proposed geothermal plants for the extraction of lithium.

5.6.6.1 **NOTE:** The IID cannot supply water that does not have. Unless it is openly disclosed that allocated water (promised water) is at the expense of the dying Salton Sea. The nearby population, including tribes, needs to understand that. So far that has not been voiced. That is my assertion that I am repeating frequently and requesting the straight answer. Unfortunately, I have been ignored so far. That is another reason for the top state officials to act with a proper evaluation of my proposal.

5.6.6.2 **NOTE:** Because of drought and restriction of water from Colorado River, with the 'current course of action' we do not have enough water neither for balancing evaporation of the Salton Sea nor for managing exposed lakebed of the shrinking Salton Sea. The 'current course of action' leads to destruction of the Salton Sea. That is my assertion that I am repeating frequently. I respectfully urge commissioners of the CEC to pose those questions and request a solid answer. Such critical information should not be



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ignored or hidden from the population. Unfortunately, so far that is the case.

5.6.7 In one televised meeting, the applicants mentioned that they intend to use 'their' system for recycling water, therefore, they will need less water but did not disclose technology for proprietary reasons. In such case the members of the CEC should have access to verify the uniqueness of such technology and check on available patents and priority dates. I am saying that because I have been proposing for quite a few years about using 'closed-loop environmental' system for generation of potable water in geothermal power plants that could be very useful for providing (increasing concentration) concentrated brine that can be used for extraction of lithium regardless of specific technology that can be implemented for the extraction of lithium from geothermal brine.

5.6.8 **NOTE:** In order to make right decisions, it is important that the BoR, Wade Crowfoot, Secretary of CNRA, Governor Gavin Newsom, Yana Garcia, Secretary of CalEPA, and especially David Hochschild - chair of the California Energy Commission knows that the applicants of three geothermal projects (Black Rock Geothermal Projects, Morton Bay Geothermal project, and Elmore North Geothermal, an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of BHE Renewables, LLC.) are aware of the existence of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea. I sent my introductory letter with links to my proposal to Ms. Christina Fleming, VP of Mineral Development for BHER, on July 18, 2023, and a letter to Mr. Rob Berntsen, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, BHE Infrastructure Group, on September 3, 2023, and a letter to Mr. Jon Trujillo, GM Geothermal Development, BHE Renewables on October 5, 2023.

Also, I did mention the existence of my proposal and summarized it in a few minutes in my public comment during televised meeting in High School in Calipatria where representatives of BHE Renewables, LLC., were present on August 31, 2023. In my introductory letters, I offered them cooperation and suggested to them to extend their involvement in restoration of the Salton Sea beyond just geothermal projects. I have not received any response from them yet. Obviously, they are not in a position, as applicants, to make radical changes in their primary mission, which is not the restoration of the Salton Sea (see 5.6.2). Also, there is no incentive for them to be involved in the project unless my proposal is officially accepted by the State. That is another strong reason for the top state officials to initiate a speedy evaluation of my proposal and officially accept it as master plan to follow.



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5.7 I have provided more than enough verifiable information for opening an investigation in this case. If honorable top states and federal officials cannot take necessary measure to stop the 'local leaders' from destroying the Salton Sea and if State and Federal governments continue with funding non-sensical projects or participate in illegal conduct initiated by local leaders then, the State and the Federal government must bear responsibility for such negligent conduct and subsequent liabilities.

5.8 The absurdity of the current situation is that instead of being grateful and supportive to my work because I have solved a big problem of the dying Salton Sea – my proposal transfers situation of incoming ecological disasters with unimageable liabilities into situation of clean environment and prosperity – I still, after 10 years, have to argue and write letters like this one in order to protect the Salton Sea and our environment against 'local leaders' that want to continue with non-sensical projects and destruction of the Salton Sea in order to protect their ego, wrongdoing, and pitiful personal interest.

5.9 Since I did not give any reason to the 'local leaders' to develop animosity towards me (except exposure of their wrong doing) and based on evidence that I have provided in my numerous public comments about the situation (the links to some included in Section 9.0 in this letter), and my correspondence with the members of the Salton Sea Authority (the links to some included in Section 10.0 in this letter), it is realistic to conclude that my assertion, about the 'stealing in process' mentioned in sections 3.4.1 and 4.4.1 in this letter is correct.

## **6.0 IN CLOSING:**

6.1 I respectfully urge BoR, again, to reconsider its decision and include the Salton Seas, not just in "Post-2026 Operation", but to enforce its own policy and in cooperation with CNRA and Army Corps of Engineers open investigation and work on speedy evaluation of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea.

The Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) needs to be aware that the restoration of the Salton Sea is of enormous importance not just for the local population but for the environment and the State of California and United States of America. We have already lost a lot of time and money unnecessarily - just because of the incompetence of 'local leadership' and a few state officials.

6.2 The "current course of action" - which is "Pilot Demonstration Project" which is part of bigger project so-called the "North Lake" which is part of the bigger project so-called the "Perimeter/Brine Lake" which is recently renamed to the "In-Basin Solution" or "In-Basin Long-Range Solution" which include related dust suppression projects that implement the 'hay bales' on exposed lakebed (not



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mentioned in this article) - does not make sense because the final product would be a smaller, saltier, smellier, and more polluted lake with serious consequences to the environment, the health of the nearby population and economy in general. That is an indisputable fact.

6.3 Although it should be standard practice by the Federal and State officials before issuing funding for any project, in this case, I am respectfully requesting, because I am deeply involved in this case and because state's interest and liability is involved, that the State (officials in charge of delivering the funding) ask applicants (the local leadership) the following questions and request solid answers (not vague ones such as "we will check on it later" or "we are working on it" and alike). It is important to point out that local leaders have been working (participating) on design for the restoration of the Salton Sea already for over 20 years and come up with non-functional long-term solution.

6.4 The Questions that should be asked are:

- 6.4.1 (a) What is the functional purpose of the "Pilot Project Lake" if there is any?
- 6.4.2 (b) If there is none, then why proceed with the "Pilot Project Lake"?
- 6.4.3 (c) Where exactly water will be supplied from for the "Pilot Project Lake" and accountability for it?
- 6.4.4 (d) Where exactly water will be supplied from for the "North Lake" project and accountability for it?
- 6.4.5 (e) Who will lose the water that will be used for the "Pilot Project Lake"?
- 6.4.6 (f) How will the "Pilot Project Lake" fit in whole project for the restoration of the Salton Sea?
- 6.4.7 (g) Will dike (barrier) that form the "Pilot Project Lake" be dismantled after local leaders' supposedly find what the quality of the water will be or will dike (barrier) stay there permanently as an obstacle to the water flow when real functional solution is going to be implemented?
- 6.4.8 (h) To provide dated blueprint of their plan – illustrations with water level (elevation) in the "Pilot Project Lake", and water level (elevation) in the "North Lake", and water level (elevation) in Central part of the Salton Sea where their "Brine Lake" will be?





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- 6.4.9 (i) Since the Salton Sea is relatively shallow lake, the difference in water level (elevation) between body of water (Pilot Project, North Lake, and Brine Lake) increases the surface of exposed lakebed (playa) - the distance between those bodies of water - What they intend to do with exposed lakebed (playa) formed between the “Pilot Project Lake” and “North Lake” and between the “North Lake” and “Brine Lake” according to their design?
- 6.4.10 (j) Are they infringing anyone’s patent rights, partially or wholly, by proceeding with ‘their’ “North Lake” design’?
- 6.4.11 (k) If so, do they intend to transfer liability for their mistakes (illegal conduct) to the State and Federal governments?

Those questions above are relative to the “Pilot Project Lake”. Since ‘local leaders’ does not want to answer to me any of my questions posed to them, I am respectfully requesting that federal and state officials ask the ‘local leaders’ and request straight answer on the following questions before delivering the check of \$19.25 million, because the questions are of great importance and answer on those question will help understand the situation which is in interest to State and all stakeholders. Also, the State needs to be extra aware of the answer to question (k) (6.4.11) above.

My statements (claims) are extraordinary and should be challenged but have not been challenged either by local leaders or by the State or BoR.

#### 6.5 The second set of challenging question are:

- 6.5.1 When I say: “with the implementation of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea, we could generate revenue at least about \$500,000,000 per year just from clean renewable energy”. That should be challenged with the question: “How that could be done?” If needed debate and cross-examination questions should be allowed and welcomed. If local leaders prefer not to have revenue for the community (stakeholders) of at least about \$500,000,000 per year just from clean renewable energy, then, they need to write reasoning for such decisions.
- 6.5.2 When I say: “With the implementation of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea, we could fill up the Lake to the water level of the 1950’s and 60’s and restore original beaches and marines despite lessen water inflow from Colorado River”. That should be challenged with the question: “How that could be done?” If needed debate and cross-examination questions should be allowed and welcomed. If local leaders prefer not to



have restored the Salton Sea to glory of the 1950's and 60's, then, they need to write reasoning for such decisions.

- 6.5.3 When I say: “With the implementation of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea, we could import seawater from Gulf of California (Sea of Cortez) and save about \$100,000,000 per year”. That should be challenged with the question: How that could be done?” If needed debate and cross-examination questions should be allowed and welcomed. If local leaders prefer not to save \$100,000,000 per year, then, they need to write reasoning for such decisions.
- 6.5.4 When I say: “With the implementation of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea, we could put the Salton Sea on the World Map as a tourist destination”. That should be challenged with the question: How that could be done?” If needed debate and cross-examination questions should be allowed and welcomed. If local leaders prefer not to have the Salton Sea on the World Map as a tourist destination, then, they need to write reasoning for such decisions.
- 6.5.5 When I say: “With the implementation of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea, we could have constant production of lithium of about 1,000 – 750 tons per year from imported seawater”. That should be challenged with the question: How that could be done?” If needed debate and cross-examination questions should be allowed and welcomed. If local leaders prefer not to have about 1,000 tons of lithium per year from imported seawater, then, they need to write reasoning for such decisions.
- 6.5.6 When I say: “With the implementation of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea, we could have several recreational parks with small lakes with nearby fisheries on industrial scale without additional water for it”. That should be challenged with the question: How that could be done?” If needed debate and cross-examination questions should be allowed and welcomed. If local leaders prefer not to have several recreational parks with nearby fisheries on an industrial scale, then, they need to write reasoning for such decisions.
- 6.5.7 When I say: “With the implementation of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea, we could have the Salton Sea as a hub for production of potable water”. That should be challenged with the question: How that could be done?” If needed debate and cross-examination questions should be allowed and welcomed. If local leaders prefer not to have the Salton Sea as a hub for production of potable water, then, they need to write reasoning for such decisions.



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6.5.8 When I say: “With the implementation of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea, we could harness geothermal energy, which is prevalent in the area, with no limitation to geothermal reservoir” – meaning, we could harness much more geothermal energy than estimated with conventional systems. That should be challenged with the question: How that could be done? If needed debate and cross-examination questions should be allowed and welcomed. If local leaders prefer not to harness much more geothermal energy than estimated with conventional systems, then, they need to write reasoning for such decisions.

Brushing off those claims above in 6.4 – 6.4.11 and 6.5 – 6.5.8 and avoiding challenges and open discussions proves arrogance, ignorance, naiveness, and incompetence by local and some state officials. Also, it indicates an anticipation of illegal conduct as I mentioned in segments 3.4.1 and 4.4.1.

6.6 As I explained in many of my public comments, I will repeat it again. There are really two options for the State and Federal governments to choose about the fate of the Salton Sea with two completely different outcomes:

6.6.1 **Option I** – To proceed with the current project already in motion the “North Lake Pilot Demonstration Project” which is part the “Smaller, *Sustainable* Lake” – “10-year plan” – “Perimeter/Brane Lake” - The projects that will be constantly asking the State and Federal Governments for help (for more money) for fixing never-ending problems - and at the end losing the Lake with tremendous liabilities in billions of dollars (environmental disaster – toxic dust storms, health issues, and economic fold). NOTE: In the process would benefit a few “friendly” companies on the expenses of the environment and communities; and

6.6.2 **Option II** – Based on new revealing critical information, redirecting efforts and allocated money toward implementation of the long-term solution (my proposal) which would restore the Salton Sea to the water level of the 1950s and 60s; provide the condition for tourism, wildlife sanctuary, clean environment, and generate revenue in 100s Billion Dollars in several decades and would continue so in the future costing only about \$15,000,000,000. NOTE: A few companies that would benefit from Option (I), would benefit even more with Option (II). ... That is the absurdity of the current situation (See section 4.5).

6.7 Since the check of \$19.25 million is delivered, according to the article and video, it appears that my numerous public comments in which I exposed faultiness of the ‘current course of action’ did not make any effect, and because disconnect between local leaders (members of the SSA) and top State and



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Federal officials exist, I am contacting BoR again directly, for the record, urging you to inform Secretary Wade Crowfoot and Governor Gavin Newsom to stop nonsensical projects and start working towards the restoration of the Salton Sea – option (II) above 6.6.2.

Because the local leaders – members of the Salton Sea Authority – are not functioning properly – they are not working in the interest to the Salton Sea and nearby communities as originally intended at their formation in 1993, - therefore honorable top state and federal officials must use its power to save and restore the Salton Sea and enforce the fundamental State's and Federal's policies regarding the Environmental Law. Based on attitude and the record, it is obvious that 'local leaders' will not change their intentions unless they must.

6.8 The absurdity of this case is that I am defending fundamental policy of the State and Federal governments against 'local leaders' and agencies that the State and Federal governments keep funding.

## **7.0 A few words about MY WORK and the PROPOSAL for the RESTORATION of the SALTON SEA:**

My proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea – terminal Lake in California - involves an architectural plan which incorporates several breakthrough technologies in the energy industry which I have invented and modified to incorporate local conditions of the Salton Sea area with the final product – the self-sustained long-term solution for the restoration of the Salton Sea. It might be considered a project of the century costing only about \$15 billion and generating at least \$500,000,000 in revenue per year just from clean renewable energy – in addition to revenue from other activities including tourism.

Here I will just summarize the subjects of my breakthrough methodologies:

- I am the inventor of the new system for harnessing geothermal energy (a completely closed-loop system) which is not limited to geothermal reservoirs.
- I am also the inventor of the new system for drilling deeper and wider wellbores.
- I am also the inventor of the new system for harnessing solar energy (thermo-optical solar system) having the “power unit” with pistons, which is at least several times more efficient than Photo Voltaic (PV) systems.



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- I am also the inventor of the new system of cross-country pipelines for importing seawater or other fluids, having the “in-line pump” as segments of the pipeline for uphill routes, and having the “in-line generator” as segments of the pipeline for downhill routes with the “Delta Power Plant” at the last section.
- I am also the inventor of the new system for using the pipeline as a foundation for solar panels which eliminates expenses for purchasing or leasing huge sections of land, which is an expensive requirement for conventional solar facilities on an industrial scale. My system decentralizes the conventional centralized systems.
- I am also the inventor of the new system for the desalinization of salty water using solar and/or geothermal energy to generate electricity and having potable water as a free byproduct, and concentrated brine to be used to produce Lithium.
- After the accident offshore of Louisiana in the Gulf of Mexico on April 20, 2010, and a failure of the "Blow Out Preventer" (BOP) in the Macondo well, it became a challenge how to stop uncontrollable bursts of crude oil in the Gulf of Mexico and prevent disasters of epic proportions. Out of over 3,000 proposals and many universities and laboratories participating, my proposal for controlling dysfunctional “Blow out Preventer” was used to stop uncontrollable bursts of crude oil. By July 15, 2010, the Macondo well was successfully sealed, if only temporarily, for the first time in 87 days. That was only 34 days after my submission. The implementation of the control valve on top of the dysfunctional BOP was televised on CNN.
- I graduated from the School of Architecture, University Cyril and Methodius, Skopje, North Macedonia, in 1982, and immigrated to the United States in 1983, as a student at the Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture, Taliesin West in Arizona, and Taliesin East in Wisconsin. The University Cyril and Methodius – School of Architecture - consists of nine semesters, around 38 exams, plus graduate work which takes an additional 5-6 months. I am proud to say that my graduate work scored 10 out of 10, which is rarely given.

My mission is global – which is licensing technologies worldwide to capable companies/contractors with means. The Salton Sea project is a small part of it, but it is an important part. It is imperative to save the Salton Sea and our environment despite unreasonable opposition. I am providing a solution and the “know-how” to the desperate situation.



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Also, I am including links and a summary of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea where they are divided into five segments for easier understanding. Each of the segments (phases) is essential for the final product of the self-sustained Salton Sea.

On February 6-8, 2023, Stanford University hosted Geothermal Workshop (SGW 2023). I made three presentations at the SGW 2023. The subject of the SGW 2023 was 'Geothermal' and had limited time for presentations, therefore, I did not submit two papers about harnessing the solar and hydropower in more detail.

Here below are links to my papers from the Stanford Geothermal Workshop (SGW 2023) where I made three presentations on February 7, 2023, each lasting 30 minutes including Q & A. Although 90 minutes was a short time for a substantial material, I am thankful for such an opportunity. It is a summary of the larger material ... It is worth seeing it.

7.1 Papers - Segment (I) - **Harnessing Energy and Water in the Salton Sea.**

[Click here to see](#) or click the link below:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oowNJNodUNifT\\_Jg5byczZTKbm1z9glW/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oowNJNodUNifT_Jg5byczZTKbm1z9glW/view?usp=sharing)

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7.2 Papers – Segment (II)

**Harnessing Geothermal Energy in the Salton Sea Area.**

[Click here to see](#) or click the link below:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1W8Au4FTwwJf8NaBBxfFTDfub5golqLtv/view?usp=sharing.](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1W8Au4FTwwJf8NaBBxfFTDfub5golqLtv/view?usp=sharing)

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7.3 Papers – Segment (III)

**System for Drilling Deeper and Wider Wellbores.**

[Click here to see](#) or click the link below:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BgS5RzXerJym0YGVajK7HFEyKbr-O3XL/view?usp=sharing.](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BgS5RzXerJym0YGVajK7HFEyKbr-O3XL/view?usp=sharing)

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PowerPoint Presentation – Slides – are bigger files. I am including links to them below.



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The slides are summaries of the papers and are easy to review after the papers are read. In the text of the papers, I referred to certain illustrations (See Fig. so and so), which are in a separate segment. In the PPT files, the illustrations are smaller, and on the right side of the slide, there is a short description (summary – power points).

I have included all files on my website [www.GeothermalWorldwide.com](http://www.GeothermalWorldwide.com) => OUR TECHNOLOGY => Presentation at Stanford University.

7.4 PowerPoint Presentation – Slides – Segment (I) – **Harnessing Energy and Water in the Salton Sea. Click the link below:**

[PowerPoint Presentation – Slides – Segment \(I\) – Harnessing Energy and Water in the Salton Sea.](#)

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7.5 PowerPoint Presentation - Slides - Segment (II) - **Harnessing Geothermal Energy in the Salton Sea Area. Click the link below:**

[PowerPoint Presentation – Slides - Segment \(II\) - Harnessing Geothermal Energy in the Salton Sea Area.](#)

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7.6 PowerPoint Presentation - Slides - Segment (III) - **System for Drilling Deeper and Wider Wellbores. Click the link below:**

[PowerPoint Presentation - Slides - Segment \(III\) - System for Drilling Deeper and Wider Wellbores.](#)

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For more information and for those two additional segments about harnessing **solar** and **hydropower** please visit the page [PRESENTATION AT EL CENTRO.](#)” It is just above the link “Presentation at Stanford University”.

Here are all five links from my website to be handy. Here are Segments I-V.

The segment about Harnessing Hydro Power is presented here as Segment II.

The segment about Harnessing Solar Energy is presented here as Segment III.

The segment about Harnessing Geothermal Energy is presented here as Segment IV. And

The segment about System for Drilling Deeper and Wider Wellbores is presented here as Segment V.

Here are the links:

7.7 Harnessing Energy and Water in The Salton Sea (**Segment I**)



**(System for Importing Seawater).** Here is the link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PWZblnYIV2dHnFXQqVwZwV56P6rqPZHI/view?usp=sharing>.

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7.8 Harnessing Energy and Water in The Salton Sea (**Segment II**)  
**(Harnessing Hydro Power).**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wEoi3VNNscX6SkH7dWlrmNMZO7oRb5vu/view?usp=sharing>.

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7.9 Harnessing Energy and Water in the Salton Sea (**Segment. III**)  
**(System for Harnessing Solar Energy).**

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZLuZbt6RsLo3x19x2sKB\\_XVPjkJJuNwv/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZLuZbt6RsLo3x19x2sKB_XVPjkJJuNwv/view?usp=sharing).

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7.10 Harnessing Geothermal Energy with the Self Contained In-Ground  
Geothermal Generator and Self Contained In-Ground Geothermal Heat  
Exchanger (**Segment IV**)

**(Harnessing Geothermal Energy in The Salton Sea Area).**

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wqRUGmib\\_Si-odYmWV8F5TILOL-U7R7I/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wqRUGmib_Si-odYmWV8F5TILOL-U7R7I/view?usp=sharing).

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7.11 Harnessing Energy and Water in The Salton Sea (**Segment V**)  
**(System for Drilling Deeper and Wider Wellbores).**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Aig8tuELSdkvfFakK-SEMvyW-bUQd76r/view?usp=sharing>.

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The architectural plan is a comprehensive design. In order to be understood it needs to be studied as a whole by people preferably with an engineering background. Also, it is an art.

**8.0 The Summary of the Summary of the proposal for the Restoration of the Salton Sea:**

My architectural plan successfully restores and refills the Salton Sea to the level of the 1950s and the '60s and reestablishes huge wildlife sanctuaries despite reduced inflow of water from the Colorado River.

By redirecting the New River and Alamo River back to Mexico before it gets polluted with fertilizers and pesticides, it provides an option for filling up the Laguna Salada – dry Lake in Mexico - and reestablishes flaw in the Gulf of





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California (Sea of Cortez). Everyone should love that. In return, through negotiation by the 'International Boundary and Water Commission' (IBWC) and their counterparts in Mexico, through a treaty to negotiate a corridor with a service road for a pipeline for importing seawater into the central section of the Salton Sea. Since such a solution is of great interest to us (USA) and to Mexico, the negotiation should not be a difficult task. We could exchange at least the same amount of water, although, through negotiation, we could have an opportunity to get 1,000,000 acre-feet of seawater and to keep a certain amount from the Colorado River. Also, it would be an opportunity to negotiate 100 years deal with an option to renew the deal after 100 years. This solution would save us around \$100,000,000 per year that otherwise we would need to pay for importing 1,000,000 acre-feet of seawater. I elaborated on it in more detail in original papers submitted in 2018 following the Request for Information (RFI) issued by the State in 2017.

Also, it is important to mention, that I, as the author of the Architectural Plan and the inventor of a new system for the desalinization of salty water using geothermal and/or solar energy, should be included as a part of the team of the IBWC as a contributing consultant during a negotiation with Mexico because my presence would improve our leverage because by using my system (methodology) Mexico can provide potable water for nearby city Mexicali that desperately needs potable water and concentrated brine that can be used to produce lithium. Both elements are in demand. The same system that I am proposing for the Salton Sea.

Also, an essential part of my proposal is that by dividing the Salton Sea into three sections, we would need water from the Colorado River only for farmlands and for balancing the evaporation of the North Lake and South Lake. That is in harmony with the reduced inflow of water from the Colorado River as required by the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA) and possible additional reductions in the future because of drought.

Also, it is important to mention, that an essential factor of my proposal is utilizing a dike around the desired area allocated for the extraction of lithium to provide dry land and prevent destruction of the Salton Sea as would be the case with the current course of action.

Also, it is important to mention that the implementation of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea would cost only about \$15,000,000,000. It can be completed in about 5-6 years and would generate at least \$500,000,000 in revenue per year - out of the blue – literally. The revenue numbers in my papers are conservative. A more realistic revenue estimate would be about \$1,000,000,000 per year. That is in addition to achieving a clean environment, a



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substantial amount of potable water, lithium, tourism, and other activities that generate revenue.

8.1 Since there is possibility that officials who reviewed my previous documents are lacking engineering background and could not understand the function of the concept because of too many functions (information) on one illustration, I am using this opportunity to use the Map from Reclamation report to simplify it even more by showing on one map (8.1.1) only distribution of water from the Colorado River through the All-American Canal to the South Lake and through Coachella Canal to the North Lake, and another map (8.1.2) showing only importation of seawater through pipeline Route #1 from San Felipe area of the Gulf of California (Sea of Cortez) to the Central Lake (section) of the Salton Sea, and another pipeline Route #2 from Long Beach area to the Central Lake (section) of the Salton Sea.

8.1.1 Here below is the Map showing distribution of water from Colorado River through the All-American Canal and Coachella Canal to the South Lake and North Lake of the Salton Sea.



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1. Purpose and Need

MAP 3.1.1.

COACHELLA CANAL  
 NORTH LAKE  
 SOUTH LAKE  
 REDIRECTED WATERS OF MEW & ALAMO RIV.  
 LAGUNA SALADA





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8.1.2 Here below is the Map showing only importation of seawater through a pipeline Route #1 from San Felipe area of the Gulf of California (Sea of Cortez) to the Central Lake (section) of the Salton Sea, and another pipeline Route #2 from the Long Beach area to the Central Lake (section) of the Salton Sea .

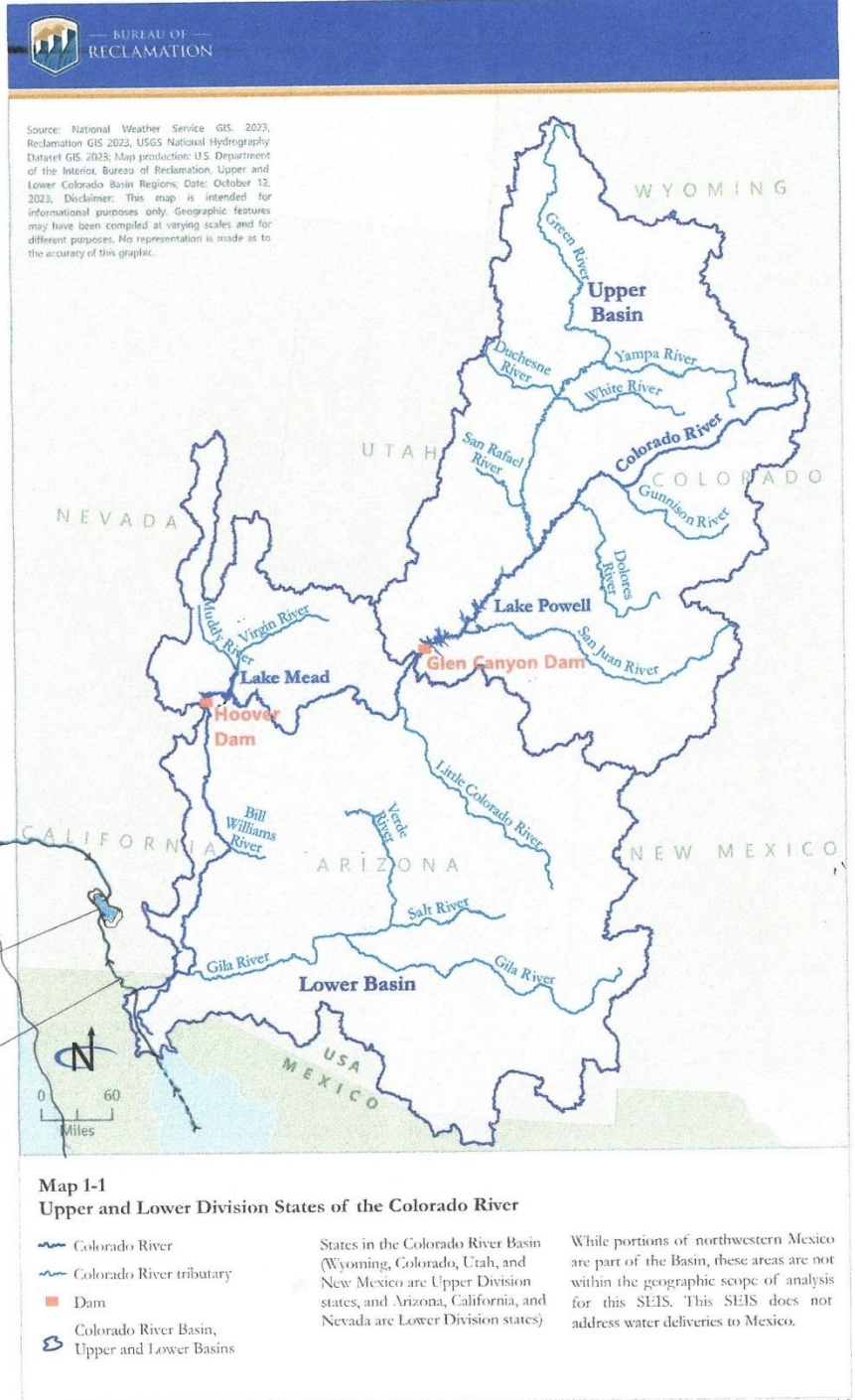


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1. Purpose and Need

MAP B.1.2.



October 2023

Revised Draft SEIS for Near-term Colorado River Operations

1-3



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8.2 **NOTE:** Those who make policies, including all stakeholders, need to understand that the Salton Sea situation is unique in the whole World. The depression of over - 220 feet below sea level is in a desert about 200 miles from both - the Gulf of California (San Felipe) and the Pacific Ocean (Long Beach). In the area, there is a prevalent geothermal source and many sunny days throughout the year.

Importing seawater and using those natural sources (geothermal and solar), as I explained in my proposal, the Salton Sea can and should become a hub to produce potable water that can be used in many applications. Although I have explained the function of the feasible concept with a pipeline diameter of 48", through which can be imported about 1,000,000 acre-feet of seawater from the Sea of Cortez and about 2,000,000 acre-feet from Long Beach, the system can be multiplied – something for future generations to continue doing.

Think for a moment about the alternative – the ‘current course of action’ – the disappearance of the Salton Sea – exposed lakebed (playa) – toxic dust storms, degrading environment, the health of the population, and economy.

This is a rare opportunity that should not be ignored and suppressed as was the case in the last 10 years.

8.3 **NOTE:** Those involved in decision making on the Salton Sea issue, including all stakeholders, needs to understand that every year that the implementation of my proposal for the restoration of the Salton Sea is postponed (delayed), we are losing revenue of at least \$500,000,000 per year just from clean renewable energy - not to mention other activities including tourism.

8.4 Here is the link to the video of my short presentation in front of members of the CEC. It is about 60 minutes. I am grateful for such an opportunity from the CEC although the material is substantial, and I needed more than a few hours. Here is the link: [https://energy.zoom.us/rec/share/d4tAFmZFYEogg4\\_VQzKgnbEbbjsTG-o8xeJX9KRklp4uLivOr7dCOz-9zrcMW-tW.JZXVajNyKAb3E9Of.](https://energy.zoom.us/rec/share/d4tAFmZFYEogg4_VQzKgnbEbbjsTG-o8xeJX9KRklp4uLivOr7dCOz-9zrcMW-tW.JZXVajNyKAb3E9Of.)

8.5 Here is the link for a short presentation to the CUSC Panel of independent reviewers on October 22, 2021: [Geothermal Worldwide Zoom.mp4 - Google Drive](#). (It is about an hour (52:02). Here is an optional link: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aFacKaq-jppZuNF-00v88mYAiNa3vUAK/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aFacKaq-jppZuNF-00v88mYAiNa3vUAK/view?usp=drive_link).



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## 9.0 LINKS TO SEVERAL RELEVANT CORRESPONDENCES:

Here below are links to several important correspondences (letters) that I referred to and included as attachments in my original letters. To avoid overcrowding documents with attachments, I transferred them on Google Drive as links to be easily accessible if needed.

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9.1 Here is the link to my letter (55 pages) to Wade Crowfoot Secretary of CNRA in response to the news article titled “**Initial work begins on North Lake Salton Sea project**” with a price tag of \$19.25 million published on October 20, 2023.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AT40EHMVKiRfCQIsDf7esT6CmMgypDCG/view?usp=sharing>.  
Or alternative  
[Letter to CNRA - 12-1-23 - Re the KESQ News - article titled “Initial work begins on North Lake Salton project.pdf - Google Drive](#).

In the letter is included a substantial amount of information about faultiness of the ‘current course of action’. Please read it carefully. It is important.

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9.2 Here is the link to the letter (36 pages) that I sent to the **Bureau of Reclamation, / Department of Interior** - in response to “Request for Comment” regarding “Post-2026 Operation” on **August 15, 2023**.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RTVL7xEZZeE5Nr7d13MBkH0sZg7RzR-X/view?usp=sharing>.  
or alternative link:  
[Comment in response to the Bureau of Reclamation, Interior - “request for comments” regarding “post-2026 operation”.pdf - Google Drive](#)

In that letter, I respectfully urged the Department of the Interior / Bureau of Reclamation to include the Salton Sea in consideration for the Development of Post-2026 operations. Also, I urged BOR / DOI to get involved because there is an obviously noticeable disconnect between - higher officials (Governor, Secretaries of California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA), California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), California Energy Commission) that enforce the fundamental policies of the State – and several local agencies that promote their own policy that leads towards smaller, saltier, smellier and more polluted Lake - which means the destruction of the Salton Sea - that is against the State and Federal policies which are based on Environmental Law. Also, there is a link in that letter on page 9 (2.1) to a document mentioning, in the first paragraph, about the disconnect between higher officials and agencies stating



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that a combination of mismanagement and competition among federal, state, and local agencies exist. Also, I pointed out that the ‘current course of action’ which is the ‘Perimeter/Brine Lake” with related dust suppression projects recently renamed to the “In-basin long-range plan” is based on the false assumption that importation of the seawater is not a feasible concept.

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9.3 Here is the link to the letter (18 pages) that I sent to the **State Water Resources Control Board** on **July 28, 2023**, in response to the Draft Desalination Siting and Streamlining Report to Expedite Permitting.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/14TUXunA12gfkjWydgUMZUiGs55bql2tw/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/14TUXunA12gfkjWydgUMZUiGs55bql2tw/view?usp=drive_link).  
or alternative link:

[“Comment Letter to State Water Resources Control Board – Draft Desalination Siting and Streamlining Report to Expedite Permitting.”.pdf - Google Drive](#)

In that letter, I pointed out that the ‘current course of action’ is not synchronized. Many contractors are asking for funding for their individual projects which are not synchronized into a bigger project which is an architectural plan for the restoration of the Salton Sea. Therefore, it is imperative that the architectural plan (my proposal) is accepted and then focuses on its implementation which includes many synchronized projects (hydro, solar, geothermal, desalinization, etc.). It is important to mention that my system for desalinization of the Salton Sea can be used in many different locations including our coastal cities.

In my comment, I have respectfully proposed that after my proposal is thoroughly reviewed and hopefully accepted, to be formed a mechanism (special counsel or Committee/Commission) from the members of the CNRA, EPA, CEC, and several relevant agencies and stakeholders to deals strictly with the implementation of the project for the restoration of the Salton Sea until its completion in 5-6 years. After its completion, the Committee can be abolished or reduced to overseeing maintenance issues and alike.

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9.4 Here is the link to the letter (18 pages) that I sent to the **Environmental Justice (EJ) Action Grants** on **July 28, 2023**.

[Comment - EJ Action Grants - Nikola Lakic.pdf - Google Drive](#). or alternative link:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1P6141RA6OVY-jn8PbOXqBOMxMBQdqDD8/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1P6141RA6OVY-jn8PbOXqBOMxMBQdqDD8/view?usp=drive_link).

In that letter, as in the letter to the State Water Resources Control Board above, that I sent the same day, I pointed out that the ‘current course of action’ is not synchronized. Many contractors are asking for funding for their individual projects which are not synchronized into a bigger project which is an architectural plan for





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the restoration of the Salton Sea. Therefore, it is imperative that the architectural plan (my proposal) is accepted and then focuses on its implementation which includes many synchronized projects (hydro, solar, geothermal, desalinization, etc.).

It is important to mention that my system for desalinization of the Salton Sea can be used in many different locations including our coastal cities.

In the letter, I elaborated on a recent meeting (video) in which a representative of Controlled Thermal Resources, Mr. Jim Turner COO, talked about shrinking the Salton Sea as a positive development.

In my comment, I have respectfully proposed that after my proposal is thoroughly reviewed and hopefully accepted to be formed a mechanism (special counsel or Committee/Commission) from the members of the CNRA, EPA, CEC, and several relevant agencies and stakeholders to deal strictly with the implementation of the project for the restoration of the Salton Sea until its completion in 5-6 years. After its completion, the Committee can be abolished or reduced to overseeing maintenance issues and alike.

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9.5 Here is the link to the letter (20 pages) that I sent to the **California Energy Commission** Docket Unit, MS-4 Docket No. 17-GRDA-01 on **July 11, 2023**, in Response to the Pre-Solicitation Workshop conducted at San Diego State University (SDSU) - Imperial Valley Camus - in Calexico on June 27, 2023.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u2R6iTXjTH\\_QPYg\\_bTW0sGpAOMAqEYqa/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u2R6iTXjTH_QPYg_bTW0sGpAOMAqEYqa/view?usp=sharing).  
or alternative link:

[07-11-2023 - Response to Pre-Solicitation Workshop conducted at San Diego State University \(SDSU\) - Imperial Valley Camus in Calexico on June 27, 2023 \(1\).pdf - Google Drive](#)

In that letter, I pointed out that the 'current course of action' is not synchronized. Also, many contractors are asking for funding for their individual projects which are not synchronized into a bigger project which is an architectural plan for the restoration of the Salton Sea. Therefore, it is imperative that the architectural plan (my proposal) is accepted and then focuses on its implementation which includes many synchronized projects (hydro, solar, geothermal, desalinization, etc.).

It is important to mention that my system for desalinization of the Salton Sea can be used in many different locations including our coastal cities.

In that letter, I also respectfully proposed that after my proposal is thoroughly reviewed and hopefully accepted, to be formed a mechanism (special counsel or



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Committee/Commission) from the members of the CNRA, EPA, CEC, and several relevant agencies and stakeholders to deal strictly with the implementation of the project for the restoration of the Salton Sea until its completion in 5-6 years. After its completion, the Committee can be abolished or reduced to overseeing maintenance issues and alike.

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9.6 Here is the link to the letter (36 pages) that I sent on **June 6, 2023**, to the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers** in response to the State Water Board Salton Sea Workshop and Public Meetings for the Imperial Streams Salton Sea and Tributaries Feasibility Study conducted on May 18, 2023.

[Comment to U.S Army Corps of Engineers - May 30, 2023.pdf - Google Drive.](#)  
or alternative link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/13iey9OWKNkKDP7h9ATrjALHs1iEFe2TW/view?usp=sharing>.

In the letter, I urged the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to study my proposal thoroughly and not succumb to the pressure of a group of influential people from several local agencies who openly talked about getting rid of the Salton Sea.

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9.7 Here is the link to the letter (15 pages) that I sent in response to the "**Salton Sea Long Range Plan Public Draft**" prepared by the **California Natural Resources Agency / SSMP Long-Range Plan** on **March 10, 2023**.

[Response to the "Salton Sea Long Range Plan Public Draft \(3-10-23\) copy.pdf - Google Drive.](#)  
or alternative link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/19xYLJDAoiNUvzzIX1t-2oUJY-thLF8g/view?usp=sharing>.

In that letter, I pointed out the ridiculous projects of which they are proud. I pointed out that using a faulty UCSC Panel Report leads to a 'drive in the wrong direction'. I pointed out several very important facts. Please read it.

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9.8 Here is the link to the letter (7 pages) that I sent on **January 25, 2023**, to the Salton Sea Long-Range Plan Review - **California Natural Resources Agency** as a Public Comment in response to the "Salton Sea Long Range Plan Public Draft" prepared by the California Natural Resources Agency - **SSMP Long-Range Plan**.

[Response to the "Salton Sea Long Range Plan Public Draft.pdf - Google Drive.](#)  
or alternative link:



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<https://drive.google.com/file/d/19xYLJDAoiNUvbzzIX1t-2oUJY-thLF8g/view?usp=sharing>.

In the letter, I have pointed out that the “current course of action” for the restoration of the Salton Sea is a “drive in the wrong direction”. I pointed out the facts and urged CNRA / SSMP to stop “driving in the wrong direction”. I also urge the California Natural Resources Agency not to use the University of California, Santa Cruz Panel’s report (UCSC Panel) as a reference because it is a fraudulent report. Please read it.

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9.9 Here is the link to the letter (62 pages) that I sent to **Honorable Wade Crowfoot**, Secretary for California Natural Resources Agency, on **December 30, 2022**, in response to the Salton Sea Independent Review Panel Summary Report published on or around September 29, 2022, and Request for its abolishment.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wzN6xylytehWJu0Nz\\_wZFkTtAi9mYC-S/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wzN6xylytehWJu0Nz_wZFkTtAi9mYC-S/view?usp=sharing).  
or alternative link:

[Response to the Report of Panel of independent reviewers.pdf - Google Drive](#)

This letter has a substantial amount of information including my correspondence with the Panel of independent reviewers. Also, have the links to a recorded meeting in which principal investigator **Professor Dr. Brant Haddad explained the reasons for not reviewing my proposal** (See page 14 out of 62). Please read it.

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9.10 Here is the link to the letter (6 pages) that I sent on **September 23, 2022**, to the **Lithium Valley Commission** convened by the **California Energy Commission** (CEC) to review, investigate, and analyze eight specific topics relating to lithium extraction meetings and facilitated by the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g-5ZVt-M9L\\_tGlmb2F7pN8iFI4Zeobzo/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g-5ZVt-M9L_tGlmb2F7pN8iFI4Zeobzo/view?usp=sharing).  
or alternative link:

[Letter to Lithium Valley Commission -September 22 - Copy.pdf - Google Drive](#).

In that letter, I wrote that my proposal does not interfere with the extraction of lithium from geothermal brine if there is a dike built around the desired area for the extraction of lithium. In fact, my proposal unites those two contradictory projects (a) and (b) successfully and provides the needed water for the extraction of lithium which obviously with the current plan (or lack of plan) is lacking.



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Knowing that the Chair of the Lithium Valley Commission was Silvia Paz a close associate of Michael Cohen from Pacific Institute who is a strong opponent of the importation of seawater and that the co-Chair was Ryan E. Kelley also a strong opponent of the importation of seawater, it is understandable why I have not been invited to make presentation to the Lithium Valley Commission despite my frequent offers.

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9.11 Here is the link to the letter to the **Salton Sea Task Force** Members (6 pages) – filed on **September 7, 2022**.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HizXsctbKWLnh\\_PPGa\\_Mmp6N1I5SlqYp/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HizXsctbKWLnh_PPGa_Mmp6N1I5SlqYp/view?usp=sharing).  
or alternative link:

[Letter to the Salton Sea Task Force - September 7, 2022 - Copy.pdf - Google Drive](#)

In this letter, I have summarized the problems and a solution. Please read it.

-----

9.12 Here is the link to my response (10 pages) to the **UCSC Panel** after the televised meeting on July 20, 2022 - filed on **July 22, 2022**.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_3C4HgL3tan6TFz5iM5g1dyuFXz-TkwQ/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_3C4HgL3tan6TFz5iM5g1dyuFXz-TkwQ/view?usp=sharing).  
or alternative link:

[Response to Panel's decision after meeting on July 20, 2022 -Copy.pdf - Google Drive](#).

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9.13 Here is the link to my response (28 pages) to the **UCSC Panel's decision** regarding **two Fatal Flaws** – filed on **June 20, 2022**.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GZVU1FRSS4bFu1J2n3d31vNjfCu3brCz/view?usp=sharing>.  
or alternative link:

[Response to the Panel's decision - two Fatal Flaws - 6-20-2022 - Copy - Copy.pdf - Google Drive](#)

This letter has a substantial amount of information including my correspondence (**argument**) with the Panel of independent reviewers. Please read it.

-----

9.14 Here is the link to the letter (3 pages) that I sent on **October 1, 2021**, to President **Joseph Biden** requesting **NOT to assist the IID** in fast-tracking the federal permitting process for the geothermal lithium project in Hell's Kitchen, Salton Sea, Ca, in response to the IID request for fast-tracking the federal



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permitting process of the geothermal lithium project in Hell's Kitchen at that time - before the report from Dr. Rominder Suri is finished and issued. At that time, I did not foresee "collapse" of the Panel of independent reviewers.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QLHA-cyCE3fnmUAAKACWJZOkbnRWM\\_it/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QLHA-cyCE3fnmUAAKACWJZOkbnRWM_it/view?usp=sharing).  
or alternative link:

[Letter to President Joe Biden - October 1, 2021.pdf - Google Drive](#).

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9.15 Here is the link to the letter (13 pages) that I sent to the California Energy Commission / **Lithium Valey Commission** on **December 19, 2021**, pointing out several noticeable departures from the policies of the California State and from the original task of the commission.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1I7YkrDCYLWjTen1feqQeWyM84MVDyp81/view?usp=sharing>.  
or alternative link:

[Letter to Lithium Valley Commision - December 19, 2021.pdf - Google Drive](#).

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9.16 Here is the link to the letter (13 pages) that I wrote to the CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION in response to the Notice of opportunity for the "**Public Comment**" regarding the water quality control plan for the Colorado River Basin Region sent on **October 21, 2020**.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iSfU\\_RcNRAIYiGwTuXvW6ZHDt9L92jg/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iSfU_RcNRAIYiGwTuXvW6ZHDt9L92jg/view?usp=sharing).  
or alternative link:

[Public Comment - 2020 Trinnial Review - California Regional Water Quality Control Board Colorado River Basin Region.pdf - Google Drive](#).

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In that letter, as in previous ones, I reminded them about the existence of my proposal and what it does. I also mentioned the paragraph on their website reinforcing my statement: "The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin (Basin Plan) is designed to preserve and enhance water quality in the Region and to protect the beneficial uses of all regional waters for the benefit of present and future generations".

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9.17 Here is the link to the letter (12 pages) that I wrote to the **California Natural Resources Agency / Salton Sea Management Program (SSMP)** in response to the "Community Input Sought for SSMP Projects", sent on **September 29, 2020**.



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[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kb-YN-siYd4iwcS7iast2nS6fmzy\\_5sj/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kb-YN-siYd4iwcS7iast2nS6fmzy_5sj/view?usp=sharing).  
or alternative link:

[Public Comment Letter - \(9-29-2020\) California Natural Resources Agency - SSMP.pdf - Google Drive](#).

In that letter, I strongly oppose the “Current Course of Action” which is the “Perimeter Lake” and related dust suppression projects because those projects are based on the false assumption that importing seawater is not a feasible concept and contributes to incoming ecological disaster. I pointed out that I watched several of their workshops (presentations) and that I watched the recent hearing “FEDERAL AND STATE EFFORTS TO RESTORE THE SALTON SEA” televised on September 24, 2020, and criticized their acceptance of the concept that leads to destruction of the Salton Sea.

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9.18 Here is the link to the letter (5 pages) to Dr. Marilyn L. Fogel, Chair of the **Salton Sea Task Force** – sent on **July 30, 2020**.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HqMpHx9gVTIr5cjQhV9QZLbWU\\_C7wtty/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HqMpHx9gVTIr5cjQhV9QZLbWU_C7wtty/view?usp=sharing). **OR**  
alternative link:

[Letter to Professor Marilyn Fogel - SS Task Force - July 30 - revised.pdf - Google Drive](#).

In this letter, I have summarized the problems and a solution. Please read it.

-----

9.19 Here is the link to the letter (16 pages) that I wrote to the **California Regional Water Quality Control Board** - Colorado River Basin Region - c/o Maria Davydova in response to “2020, Triennial Review Proposal” on **May 26, 2020**.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VmMBH03qiRsHnNSqWsTfNWSbXnezPGYK/view?usp=sharing>.  
or alternative link:

[Letter to Water Boards - 2020 Triennial Review Proposal - Salton Sea - May 18, 2020.pdf - Google Drive](#).

In that letter, I let them know about my proposal and pointed out my struggle to get their attention. I included several notes that I read at SSA Board meeting. Also, I told them that it is difficult to come to any other conclusion but that there is a group of influential people who would like to get rid of the Salton Sea for their relatively small interest and that they are working very hard to achieve their goal through the “current course of action”.



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9.20 Here is the link to the press relies (1 page) titled “**Riverside County Launches Salton Sea Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District**” Released by Mr. Phil Rosentrater, GM/Executive Director, SSA on **October 24, 2018**.

[SSA New\(s\) Release - Riverside County Launches Salton Sea Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District - Copy.pdf](#).

or alternative link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vnuuxwEMKhgK9ors1KKXYJokqvx0o5b/view?usp=sharing>.

In that document Mr. Phil Rosentrater gave credit to Mr. Manuel Perez, Director of the SSA and supervisor at of Fourth District, Riverside County, and Mr. Marion Ashley, supervisor, for the concept of the “North Lake” in which he suggested that the Imperial County should do similar at the southern part of the Lake which is in Imperial County. That document was made after I made several presentations to Mr. Manuel Perez directly.

9.20.1 **NOTE:** Although Mr. Phil Rosentrater did not type date on his ‘press release’, he did state the following: “*A healthier, more prosperous Salton Sea is the intended result an Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) launched today by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors*”. (Underlining added). I googled and found out that the board of supervisors voted on Tuesday to create an ‘Enhance Infrastructure Financing District’ (EIFFD). Tuesday was October 23, 2018. That was after I made a presentation in El Centro on May 21, 2018. See also the article by Sammy Roth in the Palm Springs Desert Sun. This article also contains information about manipulative conducts of leadership. Here is the link:

[Riverside County's new Salton Sea plan could generate \\$1 billion \(desertsun.com\)](#).

9.21 Here is the link to **my response** (11 pages) to **Bruce Wilcox’s** memorandum explaining why he is wrong in rejecting my proposal which I sent to him on **October 12, 2018**. Please read it.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZCKncH0DjO834opicXmCZSKbjX27JE7a/view?usp=sharing>.

or alternative link:

[Respond to Assistant Secretary Mr. Bruce Wilcox’s rejection of the proposal for the Request for Information \(RFI\) for the Salton Sea Water Importation Projects. - Copy.pdf - Google Drive](#).

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9.22 Here is a link to **Mr. Bruce Wilcox’s letter (memorandum)** (1 page) on **August 16, 2018**, to me explaining the reasons for rejecting my proposal:



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<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L6hDCm6H0WAEJzoDtHNVKFsgfN05iRrO/view?usp=sharing>.  
or alternative link:

[Geothermal Worldwide \(003\)\[2305843009220410774\].pdf - Google Drive](#).

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9.23 Here is the link to the letter (8 pages) that I sent letter to Secretary **John Laird**, Natural Resource Agency on **June 6, 2017**, asking him to inform Governor Brown about the existence of my proposal.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jH-qLL6VobdyfhGD0LyDsq-z6KzW3LrZ/view?usp=sharing>.

or alternative link:

[Secretary John Laird - June 6, 2017.pdf - Google Drive](#).

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9.24 Here is the link to the letter (6 pages) that I sent to Secretary **John Laird**, Natural Resource Agency on **September 7 (12), 2016**, asking him to consider terminating Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) before September 30, 2016, which was signed on August 31, 2016, based on new information that has been presented by local leaders, neither to the Secretary, Sally Jewell, DOI nor to him nor to Deputy Secretary Michael L. Connor, prior or during signing the MOA agreement.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RSoHljbyrnqDwPLSupwXnJZFdJ4EWPGn/view?usp=sharing>.

or alternative link: [Secretary John Laird, September 12 \(7\), 2017.pdf - Google Drive](#).

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## **10.0 Links to NOTES of my 3-minutes comment at Salton Sea Authority Board Meetings.**

I was present at numerous Salton Sea Authority (SSA) Board Meetings and frequently made my 3-minutes public comments. I am including here only several (11) out of over thirty such comments / meetings. Also here is included a note for 10 minutes comment in front of California Water Quality Control Board Colorado River Basin Region on April 12, 2018.

The message in all of my 3-minutes comments is similar - urging the SSA to stop promoting the "current course of action" because it leads to destruction of the Salton Sea and speeds up incoming ecological destruction with serious consequences to our community. Also, at every meeting, I offered them my time to make a complete presentation of several hours (whatever time is necessary for them to understand the concept) because 3-minutes is not adequate time for me to explaining it to them nor is





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enough for them to understand a comprehensive solution (architectural plan) for the restoration of the Salton Sea.

Unfortunately, they would thank me for my 'passion' and then, they would move quickly to the next item on the agenda which was frequently related to "Perimeter/Brine Lake" and how to improve their approach in how to be more efficient in getting funding from state and federal governments.

Just before pandemic (COVID 19), I stopped attending SSA Board meeting because Board Members have not been responsive to my offers, and especially after a few members consulted the SSA's attorney asking him, openly at the meeting, if there is any legal way to exclude me from making my 3-minutes comments. Their attorney, rightfully so, referred to the first amendment and that I have the right to speak.

NOTE: 3-minutes comment at SSA Board Meeting on **December 19, 2019**.  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qGVuiD1nKhPPp9pvUr2MkaF46C8Z\\_PNQ/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qGVuiD1nKhPPp9pvUr2MkaF46C8Z_PNQ/view?usp=sharing).

NOTE: 3-minutes comment at SSA Board Meeting on **May 23, 2019**.  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uLUr4vGMIMDhmDM\\_atS4MVe3KOWQb1yJ/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uLUr4vGMIMDhmDM_atS4MVe3KOWQb1yJ/view?usp=sharing).

NOTE: 3-minutes comment at SSA Board Meeting on **June 28, 2018**.  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DqtV\\_YI-BavyX7spph\\_OokK8Cw3Sq9B4/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DqtV_YI-BavyX7spph_OokK8Cw3Sq9B4/view?usp=sharing).

NOTE: 10-minutes comment at Salton Sea Public Workshop California Water Quality Control Board Colorado River Basin Region on **April 12, 2018**.  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eIW2SIBlypJFzXC69yX8kppdcQ7IDl\\_/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eIW2SIBlypJFzXC69yX8kppdcQ7IDl_/view?usp=sharing).

NOTE: 3-minutes comment at SSA Board Meeting on **September 28, 2017**.  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ao8nUz-V6kfdJv4O\\_0bMMe4itA7wnfLa/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ao8nUz-V6kfdJv4O_0bMMe4itA7wnfLa/view?usp=sharing).

NOTE: 3-minutes comment at SSA Board Meeting on **May 18, 2017**.  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1incAdzK0znkxyOda2CDME8rnePKMP0F\\_/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1incAdzK0znkxyOda2CDME8rnePKMP0F_/view?usp=sharing).

NOTE: 3-minutes comment at SSA Board Meeting on **September 22, 2016**.  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aVf6onz-F2jkP-8VbJUCGnECp6ZU1Jcz/view?usp=sharing>.

NOTE: 3-minutes comment at SSA Board Meeting on **July 28, 2016**.  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JXY42mbieQDTt8pC-CQUbJnnESQlowoF/view?usp=sharing>.

NOTE: 3-minutes comment at SSA Board Meeting on **June 30, 2016**.  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aW5JaowRmBSgTqWssr-NFerPm7uEf9gb/view?usp=sharing>.

NOTE: 3-minutes comment at SSA Board Meeting on **April 20, 2016**.  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/17hwIINKKqoniBsqGCAiragNtAtCNdac0-/view?usp=sharing>.

NOTE: 3-minutes comment at SSA Board Meeting on **October 22, 2015**.



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<https://drive.google.com/file/d/15fBueTYoaG92utyaTUSu4KgtD2YPgsj-/view?usp=sharing>.

NOTE: 3-minutes comment at SSA Board Meeting on **December 10, 2015**.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tshGNXun61hh0b62vdamX8fLeEC6mm2q/view?usp=sharing>.

I would like to remind the Bureau of Reclamation and Department of Interior about the previous generation that accomplished tremendous projects in the 1930's and the 1940's – Hoover Dam, All-American Canal, L.A. Aqueduct, to mention a few – so that our generation and future generation can enjoy benefits of their accomplishment. They had inferior technology than we have today, but they had capable and gutsy engineers that used common sense. We should continue the same put – building on and improving situation for our and future generations especially now that we have an architectural plan that perfectly utilizes the situation of the Salton Sea (topography, location, distance from seawater) and transform situation of incoming ecological disaster into situation of prosperous and environmentally friendly self-sustaining the Salton Sea.

Signs of corruption these days are present, more – less, in every society – no pun intended ... I am watching news. I doubt that previous generation succumbed to anyone's pressure or were involved in manipulative conducts.

We are in critical moment in history dealing with climate change, drought, and ecological disaster. We must use this opportunity and not ignore it as has been the case in the last 10 years.

I respectfully urge the Bureau of Reclamation and Department of the Interior not to succumb to the pressure of those who work on destruction of the Salton Sea, but to use given power and engage more decisively in saving and restoring the Salton Sea.

I would be glad to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

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