

Letter #: 341

Date Received: 12/24/2022

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Subject: Re: Colorado River SEIS comment

Many thanks. The most obscene development of recent history in the use of the Colorado River was building the All American Canal to irrigate the IID to grow crops in that desert landscape, and then allocating most of California's 4.4 MAF to the IID under the prior appropriation water rights laws, which are totally and seriously an historical practice that no longer serves the purpose of maintaining the environmental health of the river nor the current needs of the human population that has overwhelmed the basin. The same story almost destroyed the Owens River ecosystem that saw fresh water inflows to Mono Lake diverted to Los Angeles. This water use disaster was eventually resolved to restore the lake basin, and this can happen with the Colorado River basin by serious efforts to minimize environmentally harmful diversions to grow hay and irrigate golf courses in the desert! Many Irrigated agricultural and landscape uses must simply be abandoned, most likely with owner losses paid by federal funds. \$44 billion for Ukraine, and a nickel for the river!

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