

C/O Jim Bennett

I am a resident of Borrego Springs. I have read the proposed GSP and have the following personal comments:

The proposed GSP demonstrates a flawed and incomplete understanding of how a community such as Borrego Springs survives and prospers. As it is proposed, the GSP simply uses the amount of water pumped as the basis upon which all data is gathered and all plans are made. This is an incomplete view of the Borrego Springs environment and shows a lack of fundamental understanding of what sustains and drives our community. **It is the economic benefit, that the USE of the water brings to the community, that should be the key consideration.** This economic benefit should be taken into account when deciding how to mandate sector reductions.

In the Borrego Valley, the Municipal, Recreation and "Other" Sectors bring considerable economic benefit to the Borrego community when measured on a per acre foot of water used basis. However, the Agriculture Industry Sector brings relatively little economic benefit to the community when considered on an acre foot of water used basis.

A new plan should be considered which incorporates the dollar benefit on a per acre foot of water used basis. The new Plan should assess the acre feet used by each pumping sector and mandate reductions in water use until the dollar benefit per acre foot of water used, of each sector, is equal. The Municipal Sector (BWD) is made up of domestic and commercial users, where each brings value to the community by their domestic income stream or commercial business income. The Recreation Sector brings value to the community by providing a draw for golfers and sportsman thus adding that local spending to the community. The "Other" category is made up of both recreation and domestic users, each bringing their value to the community as mentioned above. The Agriculture Sector does provide some jobs that do add income streams to the community. However, when these income streams of this sector are considered on an acre foot of water used basis, the value to the community is small.

A new plan based upon the dollar benefit on a per acre foot of water used would be fair to all sectors, and would provide an economically stable community while bringing the aquifer back into equilibrium.

The State and County proposed GSP is a one dimensional view of a complex economic environment which is limited by a precious resource. The proposed flawed Plan will economically devastate Borrego Springs and turn our quaint community into a desert wasteland within 20 years.

Respectfully submitted



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