

## **Bennett, Jim**

---

**From:** Martha Deichler <mdeichler@bsusd.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 21, 2019 3:27 PM  
**To:** LUEG, GroundWater, PDS  
**Subject:** Borrego Springs GSP

County of San Diego  
Planning and Development Services  
% Jim Bennett  
5510 Overland Ave. Suite 310  
San Diego, CA 92123

May 17, 2019

Ref: Groundwater Sustainability Plan  
Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin  
Borrego Springs Sub-basin

Dear Jim Bennett;

I have much respect for the time and process the County, Borrego Water Coalition, Borrego Water District, Advisory Council and other interested parties have put into the creation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. It has been a long, complicated and at times arduous journey requiring much patience and willingness to listen on everyone's part - especially yours. Thank you for your time and your expertise on behalf of Borrego Springs.

I am writing in reaction to the Draft GSP's lack of any reference to the results of the Environmental Navigation Services, Inc. study of our SDAC (Severely Disadvantaged Community). I am referring specifically to the high cost of water for our local low-income residents as well as the potential loss of employment when golf courses and agriculture are reduced and/or eliminated. These two aspects of our water situation could have drastic impacts on the economic viability of our community. With loss of jobs, families will move out of Borrego in search of employment and the local infrastructure will suffer. Specifically, schools will lose students, lose state funding, lay off teachers and become a skeleton of a school district with high school becoming an online program for a few.

The loss of our labor force will impact the local economy as housekeepers, gardeners, dishwashers, laborers and other low skilled workers leave our valley in search of employment elsewhere. The infrastructure of our village depends on these workers and their families; their leaving will have a definite negative impact. In addition, a town without children is truly not a livable place.

Please consider the plight of our low income citizens as well as the plight of our town as you ponder next steps in our GSP.

Sincerely,

Martha Deichler  
School Community Liaison  
Borrego Springs Unified School District