



**CALIFORNIA STATE  
PIPE TRADES COUNCIL**  
PUBLIC, LABOR AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

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March 8, 2018

Mr. John Laird  
Secretary for Natural Resources  
California Natural Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, California 95814

*Re: Request for Information (RFI) for Salton Sea importation Projects*

Dear Secretary Laird,

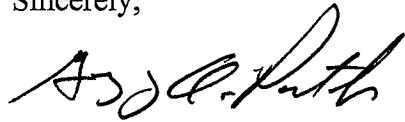
The California State Pipe Trades Council commends Governor Jerry Brown and Secretary John Laird, Natural Resources Agency on their decision to issue a Request for Ideas, regarding the problems related to the Salton Sea. With over 1,800 members in San Diego and Imperial Counties, the Council has taken a vested interest in addressing the environmental and economic impact of a comprehensive Salton Sea restoration. Due to the impact on our members' well-being with severe air pollution, increase in toxic dust, and high Asthma rates for our members children; we would like to see a comprehensive restoration. We believe the Binational Water Groups (BWG) and STANTEC have developed the prerequisite components in their proposal to "meet the public and ecological health issues at the Salton Sea, while securing Colorado River water supplies for the state." This reclamation program addresses environmental and water supplies issues confronting the Colorado River Region:

- Stabilization of the Salton Sea
- Desalination program generating new reliable water supplies
- Extensive Salt Management of the Salton Trough and Brine disposal
- Reclamation of degraded farmlands in the Mexicali Valley
- Surface water quality improvements

It will make 1,200,000 Acre Feet per year of ground water extracted from a network of well fields in the Mexicali Valley to the United States for direct delivery to the Salton Sea and feedstock for desalination in the United States. A brine disposal pipeline for waste streams and accumulated salts. Waste water treatment plants to address water quality in the New and Alamo Rivers. Reclamation of impaired ground water and ground water storage and banking projects for Drought Relief. According, to Binational Water Group/ Stantec estimates these multifaceted Infrastructure projects will create over 5,000 jobs and provide a tremendous boost to the economy of Imperial County.

We appreciate your consideration of Binational Water group and STANTEC's proposal based on its merit and compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office at (916) 446-7311.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory A. Partch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Gregory A. Partch  
Executive Director  
California State Pipe Trades Council

cc: Mike Hartley