

*From the Desk of Joan C. Lavine*

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August 9, 2012

TO: CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, LOS ANGELES REGION, ITS BOARD CHAIRPERSON, AND ITS BOARD MEMBERS

TO: MR. SAM UNGER, DIRECTOR OF CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, LOS ANGELES REGION (REGION 4)

TO: DR. ERIC WU, CHIEF OF GROUNDWATER PERMITTING UNIT, CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, LOS ANGELES REGION

320 West Fourth Street, Suite 200

Los Angeles, Ca. 90013

Electronic filing and submission to: [losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov)

And by filing hard copy duplicate original at the above address

Re: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW – CONCEPTUAL GROUNDWATER INJECTION PLAN BY CITY OF MALIBU

Dear Sirs and Madams:

I respectfully submit my comments on the Conceptual Groundwater Injection Plan of the City Of Malibu, submitted by the City of Malibu on June 29, 2012, to your agency, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, and pursuant your notice of a public comment period, dated July 9, 2012.

I own residential property in the Malibu Civic Center on Malibu Road on the beach side. The Fig. 21 on page 25 shows proposed injection under my property.

As I am an attorney, I consulted with scientists who are eminently qualified in hydrology, geology and geotechnical engineering, and who are board-certified, licensed and registered in their respective scientific areas of expertise by California licensing boards. I report to you their scientific evaluations and conclusions so that you may endeavor to obtain enough information to determine whether a permit should be issued for a groundwater injection plan.

First, I asked basic questions of my expert consults: Will the subject City of Malibu groundwater injection plan work? Is it feasible? The unanimous professional opinion that has been expressed to me is: NO.

In order to explain why it is not feasible and appears unworkable, a detailed report of the consults' discussions is needed.

The contents of the Conceptual Groundwater Injection Plan of the City Of Malibu, submitted by the City of Malibu on June 29, 2012, are significantly inadequate and incomplete. Without the relevant scientific calculations and studies, the Groundwater Plan cannot be reviewed for viability and safety or whether it is feasible and practical.

1. The Conceptual Groundwater Injection Plan of the City Of Malibu, submitted by the City of Malibu on June 29, 2012, lacks a discussion of the faults and fault zones in the Malibu Civic Center and at the injection sites, their nature(s) and/or their impact(s) on the modeling. My consults state that a thorough fault zone issue discussion should be done in depth, because their presence and impacts may cause the proposal to be unworkable.

Specifically, the presence of faults could be a barrier to the flow of injected groundwater, but whether this is so has not been discussed or presented in the studies, cross-sections and modeling.

The expected rise of the water table level so that it is much closer the surface can decrease the seismic stability factors dramatically. This needs to be evaluated carefully.

2. The faults are not included in or diagramed in some of the cross-sections. At pages 12-13, where the cross-sections are printed, faults are not shown on Cross-Sections A-A or B-B. A fault is shown on Cross-Section D-D. These diagrams are therefore significantly deficient.

3. The rise in water table levels is very likely to significantly increase earthquake hazards and the resulting safety issues. In particular, liquefaction due to shallow groundwater levels is of great concern. Liquefaction and possible decrease in structural stability will likely impact building codes and future development, as well as already developed properties.

The rise of the water table level so that it is much closer the surface can decrease the seismic stability factors dramatically. This needs to be evaluated carefully.

4. It is unclear whether the proposed hotel project apparently in the far left (northeast corner of the area) outlined in a lopsided triangle, at page 28, Figure 23, is included in this plan, and whether its effluent is included in the projected daily volumes of effluent that will be disposed of in this proposed Conceptual Groundwater Injection Plan of the City Of Malibu, submitted by the City of Malibu on June 29, 2012.

5. At a City of Malibu Civic Center stakeholders meeting on June 28, 2012, the speaker and city officials were asked what the added volume sizes and the estimated or modeling number of daily effluent discharge is likely projected to be from waste discharges of the six commercial and housing development projects that are in the pipelines and waiting for a municipal sewer system. They answered that they did not know. This Regional Water Quality Control Board needs this information, modeling and calculations in order to make a decision on whether to issue a permit, and on what conditions.

6. If Phase One facilities are up and running, and the levels of effluent injection have risen to their maximum acceptance levels, how will the City of Malibu deal with effluent from properties in Phases 2 and 3?

7. The report is inadequate in dealing with whether the subsurface seven layers are permeable. It lacks discussion of the relationship of the geology encountered in the borings within the seven layers used or identified in the models.

8. In light of the facts that the Malibu Civic Center basin is already mostly saturated, where is the injected water likely to go?

Although the Malibu area does not rely on naturally present groundwater to supply potable and safe water supplies, the SWRCB Resolution No. 88-63 does view it as such. Unless the perceived potential of drinking water is put aside, it appears to me that groundwater injection would probably de-grade and make this this potential source of drinking water unpotable.

To refresh your memories, the City of Malibu is supplied with water piped in by the Los Angeles County Waterworks, District 29. I believe the water is purchased from the Southern California Metropolitan Water District of Southern

California. It is a member of the West Basin Water District, which delivers recycled, reclaimed water to its customers.

The proposal has estimated waste volumes to be injected and modeling for rising groundwater levels to the maximum groundwater levels are too close, and therefore do not appear to show an acceptable, safe margin of error.

I report a consultant's observation that a likely outcome of using groundwater injection is to raise the water table level to zones already saturated with effluent from residential and other OWTS systems.

A forensic water analysis of the Malibu Civic Center has been recommended by one of my consultants before going ahead with this proposal.

From a legal point of view, a major issue exists of whether groundwater injection into the diagrammed areas along Malibu Road will interfere with and trespass on the underground water, mineral, oil and gas rights of the owner(s). My deed reserves the fee simple ownership rights to underground water, mineral, oil and gas rights to the Marblehead Land Company. Interference with those rights is subject to "Takings" and compensation by the governmental entities engaged in that interference under the California Constitution, Article I, Section 19, and the "Takings" and "Due Process" Clauses of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Amendments, U.S. Constitution. Pennsylvania Coal Co. v. Mahan, 260 U.S. 393, 43 S.Ct. 158 (1922).

Further, I am opposed to and object to the implementation of a sewer system. I view it as unnecessary, as exorbitantly costly, and as causing confiscatory taxation that the majority of Malibu residential property owners cannot afford. It will cause enormous disruption and interference with the residents' use of their properties.

I am opposed to sewerage and to this groundwater injection plan, because the SWRCB sewerage mandate is unfunded by the State of California, and the tax burden of implementing it is in the process of being attempted to be placed unfairly on the backs of local private property owners.

I am opposed to sewerage in the Malibu Civic Center, because it lays the infrastructure for hyper-development contrary to the choice of most Malibu area voters, residents and residential property owners.

We in Malibu specifically established the City of Malibu to stop hyper-development via the laying of sewers. A City of Malibu Local Coastal Plan and a

To: California Regional Water Quality                      August 9, 2012                      Page 5  
Control Board, Los Angeles Region,  
Attention: Dr. Eric Wu, Chief of Groundwater Permitting Unit

City of Malibu Land Use Plan call for restricted and limited growth, particularly in the Malibu Civic Center. They call for the maintenance of open-space, rural, residential and recreational levels of land use as much as possible. But, now six big projects, five of which are commercial, await the installation of these sewer facilities contrary to and in violation of those plans.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to communicate my positions to you.

Very truly yours,

Joan Lavine  
California State Bar No. 048169  
Phone: 213-627-3241  
E-mails: [ADove@aol.com](mailto:ADove@aol.com), [JCLavine@aol.com](mailto:JCLavine@aol.com), [FoodieJoan@gmail.com](mailto:FoodieJoan@gmail.com)

Encls:

1. Geologist and hydrologist Don Michael letter to the editor, Malibu Surfside News, June 15, 2012
2. Los Angeles Metropolitan/West Basin Water District Map of piped water delivery to the Malibu area

# INJECTION BRAINSTORMING

Editor:

When I was in school, we frequently engaged in informal speculation about all sorts of technical stuff. It was called then—and still is, I imagine—"brainstorming" by verbal analogy to the barnstorming tours of early acting companies and 1920-30s Jenny flights. Now, as reported in the Malibu Surfside News (07/05/12, p. 2, et seq.), plans are afoot to inject as much as 500,000 gallons per day of treated waste water into a section of the Malibu Creek floodplain deposits called the "Civic Center gravels." After a little brainstorming, it seems that this is not such a good idea.

A useful way to brainstorm is by abstract modeling—simply an intellectual exercise. For example, the entire mass of the floodplain deposits, which are bounded at depth by relatively impermeable bedrock, can be considered a kind of model bottle open to the ocean—the holy grail of the injectioneers—their thought presumably being that the floodplain deposits, and especially the gravels, are a sort of pipe through which the wastewater could be pumped—in fact, a natural ocean outfall. And fie on you, Hyperion.

But there's a problem. It's called the "Ghyben-Herzberg principle," and it occurs along ocean shores where permeable masses, such as floodplain deposits containing low-salinity, or "fresh" ground water, are intruded by denser high-salinity sea water. In granular materials, ground waters of differing densities remain, except for minor diffusion, separated along a boundary commonly referred to as the "interface"—a condition Messrs. Ghyben and Herzberg independently discovered about 125 years ago. From the shore, this interface slopes down landward. Under such conditions, the only way fresh ground water can reach the ocean is by moving upward along the interface to seep into the ocean through a narrow zone in the ocean bottom near the shoreline. Model-wise, that zone acts as a leaky cork in our model bottle. However rapidly the fresh water moves along the interface, the rate of its disposal in the ocean is not nearly so great as if the flow were directly to the ocean through the Civic Center gravels. Water injected into those gravels could move through them laterally only to that pesky Ghyben-Herzberg interface—consider it the model bottleneck—which then directs the flow to the leaky cork at the shoreline. Unfortunately, there is no way to make this model leakier than it is, because the thickness of the cork is strictly a function of how high the fresh water is above sea level near the shore, an elevation that is essentially constant.

The Civic Center floodplain deposits are at all times saturated to within about 5–10 feet of the surface. Of course, water is incompressible, so carrying our leaky-bottle model one step further, what must happen during injection is that the injected water would displace the resident ground water. As a result, the surface of the saturated section—what commonly is referred to as the "ground-water table"—

## MALIBU SURFSIDE NEWS

would rise nearer the surface because it can't go anywhere else. Seismic shaking-wise, generally, and liquefaction-wise, especially, this is not good.

Of course, the model cries for quantification, so let's see. The proposed daily injected 500,000 gallons has a volume of 66,845 cubic feet. Assuming the floodplain deposits have an average model porosity of 15 percent, this means that each day 445,633 cubic feet of floodplain deposits in the immediate vicinity of the injection well would become saturated. Presumably, this volume would form a sort of mound around the injection well, but model-wise, let's assume that it spreads out laterally beneath the floodplain surface so that the water table is raised uniformly everywhere. Since 445,633 cubic feet is equivalent to 10.2 acre-feet, distributing it over the entire 180-acre floodplain area would result in a ground-water table rise rate everywhere of 0.057 feet per day. Allowing for a model leakage of 10 percent to the creek and ocean, which is reasonable brainstorming-wise, the ground-water table rate of rise would be 0.051 feet per day. Therefore, beginning with a floodplain water table of from 5 to 10 feet below the surface, ground water would reach the surface in some places in 98 days and in others in 196 days. Model-wise, call it three to six months.

Everything considered, I have three recommendations: (1) be sure earthquake insurance premiums for properties in the floodplain are paid up; (2) ask the injectioneers to brainstorm a little before spending any more tax dollars on the idea of injection disposal; (3) if (2) is rejected, get some investors together and try to corner the galoshes market.

Don Michael

Attachment (1)

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# LETTERS to the EDITOR

(Continued from page 4)

never experienced anything like this and also important as a means of holding the school district accountable. But the permanent poles disallow temporary usage permits in case we decide based on experience that 61 nights of these particular lights needs to be scaled back or in any way altered, and instead they necessitate giving the school vested rights. This is such a huge thing to do to western Malibu without any test experience and without any community discussion. Jeff Jennings argued that we shouldn't want Coastal controlling local decisions, but the same argument says we shouldn't give the school permanent irrevocable controls.

One council member said correspondence to the city was 3-to-1 in favor. But about 40 people wrote in favor and about 40 in opposition to the project at hand. There was also one letter saying 600 people wanted this project, but without providing evidence, such as names plus signatures to what they wanted. I called one donor named on the school's website and was told they were pressured by the school to donate and not proud to see their name there. I called another who said that sport lights were important but was happy with the temporary poles we had in the past and had no knowledge of the permanent poles, and their financial contribution didn't represent a vote favoring them.

Lynn Norton

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Don Michael

# Alcohol CUP Appeal

(Continued from page 3) self-imposed conditions were then reiterated by the appellant in his presentation to the planning commission, however the commission determined that these measures were simply not enough to ensure that the sale of beer and wine would be compatible with the existing surrounding uses in the neighborhood."

The appellant also insists the planning commission's finding that the proposed use would be detrimental to the public interest, health, safety, convenience or welfare "was not supported by substantial evidence in the record."

The staff response is that the planning commission heard the matter twice and the commission "considered all evidence presented and concluded that the request would be detrimental to the public interest, health, safety, convenience and welfare."

"The planning commission determined, as it had previously in 2007 under the original CUP application, that an undue concentration existed and approval of the CUP would be detrimental to the public interest, health, safety, convenience and welfare of the City of Malibu."

The appellant also contends the planning commission's finding under Section 4 of the resolution (inconsistency with General Plan Land Use Plan Policy 4.1.5) and its basis for denial on such grounds is

(Continued on page 15)

## A Matter of PUBLIC RECORD

### PUBLIC NOTICE - FILE NO. P5014405 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Michelle Goodwine filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present name  
Grant William Goodwine  
Proposed name  
Grant William Joyce

2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: 8-16-12. Time: 8:30 a. m. Dept. F47  
Chatsworth Courthouse  
9425 Penfield Ave.  
Chatsworth, CA 91311

A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four consecutive successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county.

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT:  
Charlaene F. Olmedo  
May 7, 2012

Publish in The Malibu Surfside News, July 5, 12, 19, 26, 2012.

### PUBLIC NOTICE - FILE NO. 12134152 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as:  
Malibu Meditation Center  
5763 Busch Drive  
Malibu, CA 90265  
Jennifer W. Pietro  
5763 Busch Drive  
Malibu, CA 90265  
This business is conducted by an individual.

The Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: June 24, 2012.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on July 3, 2012.

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)  
s/Jennifer W. Pietro

NOTICE - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.  
Publish date: July 19, 26 and August 2, 9, 2012.

### PUBLIC NOTICE - FILE NO. 12140882 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as:  
Bank of Books  
23169 Heathcrist # 109  
Malibu, CA 90265  
Clarence Rudd III  
2047 Altmanor  
Oxnard, CA 93096  
This business is conducted by an individual.

The Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on July 12, 2012.

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)  
s/Clarence Rudd III

NOTICE - In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a fictitious name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration.  
Publish date: July 19, 26 and August 2, 9, 2012.



### CITY OF MALIBU PUBLIC NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL APPOINTMENT TO THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the City of Malibu is accepting applications for Council appointment to the following commissions and committees:

#### CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

The commission makes recommendations to the City Council with respect to matters concerning the cultural arts policy, facility rental fee policies for local cultural arts organizations, cultural arts related general fund grant applications, use of City parks for cultural arts related events, purchase of art by the City, cultural arts programs sponsored by the City, outreach to Malibu artists and cultural arts organizations, use of cultural spaces at Malibu City Hall, and such other matters as directed by the City Council.

The five member cultural arts commission shall consist of residents of the City. Members shall not be officers or employees of the City. The City Council may appoint one ex-officio member who lives outside the City limits but within the 90265 zip code area, who shall not have a vote on the commission and is appointed at large by the City Council.

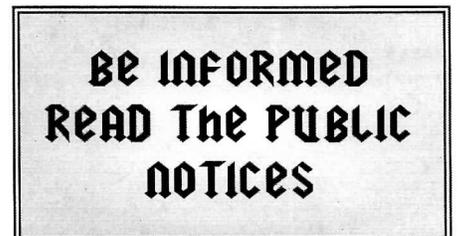
The deadline to submit a City Commission / Committee Member Application Form is Friday, August 17, 2012, by 4:30 p.m.

Application forms are on the City's website at [www.malibucity.org](http://www.malibucity.org) (on the City Clerk page) or by emailing Lisa Pope, City Clerk, at [lpope@malibucity.org](mailto:lpope@malibucity.org). Following an interview process, said applications will be presented to the City Council for consideration at a Regular City Council meeting.

Applications must be received by Lisa Pope, City Clerk, City of Malibu, 23825 Stuart Ranch Road, Malibu, CA 90265 or [lpope@malibucity.org](mailto:lpope@malibucity.org) by 4:30 p.m. on August 17, 2012. No late applications or postmarks will be accepted.

Publish: July 19, 2012

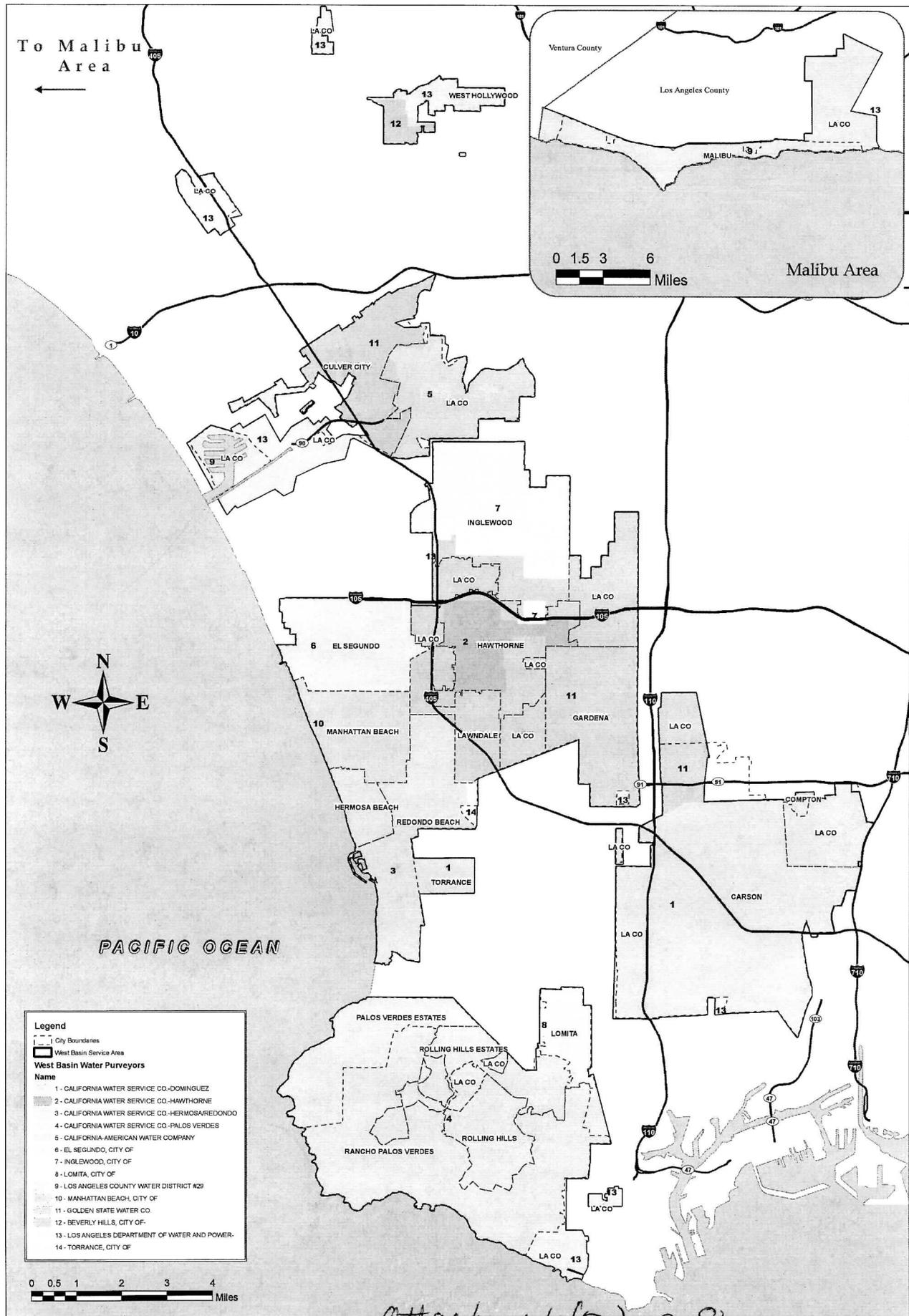
Joyce Parker-Bozylinski, AICP, Planning Director



Attachment (i) page 7



# West Basin Municipal Water District Purveyors



**Legend**

- - - City Boundaries
- ▭ West Basin Service Area

**West Basin Water Purveyors**

Name
1 - CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE CO.-DOMINGUEZ
2 - CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE CO.-HAWTHORNE
3 - CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE CO.-HERMOSAREDONDO
4 - CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE CO.-PALOS VERDES
5 - CALIFORNIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
6 - EL SEGUNDO, CITY OF
7 - INGLEWOOD, CITY OF
8 - LOMITA, CITY OF
9 - LOS ANGELES COUNTY WATER DISTRICT #29
10 - MANHATTAN BEACH, CITY OF
11 - GOLDEN STATE WATER CO.
12 - BEVERLY HILLS, CITY OF
13 - LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER
14 - TORRANCE, CITY OF

*Attachment (a) p. 8*



# West Basin Municipal Water District Purveyors

