



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**IEUA Board Votes to Adopt Resolution
Requesting LAFCO Initiate Proceedings toward CBWCD Consolidation with IEUA**

Resolution of Application by the Inland Empire Utilities Agency Board of Directors Requesting the Local Agency Formation Commission of San Bernardino County to Initiate Proceedings for the Consolidation of the Chino Basin Water Conservation District and the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, A Municipal Water District

Inland Empire, California – The Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) Board of Directors voted yesterday to begin the Local Area Formation Commission for San Bernardino County (LAFCO) process on consolidation with the Chino Basin Water Conservation District (CBWCD/District). The Board voted 4-1 in favor of the recommendation, with Directors Catlin, Camacho, Elie, and Hall voting in favor and Director Hofer voting against.

In May 2015, LAFCO completed its Service Review of Water Conversation within the Valley Region, and in this report LAFCO staff's position was that "the best option for continuing the level of service offered for the entire West Valley would be for the Chino Basin WCD to consolidate with the IEUA." Based on this recommendation, in January 2016, IEUA contracted with Albert A. Webb Associates (WEBB) to conduct an evaluation to determine if consolidation would be cost-effective, enhance services and create a more effective government structure.

In his presentation to the Board, Matt Webb, President/CEO of WEBB stated, "The Plan for Service evaluated the benefits, efficiencies and cost savings associated with the proposed consolidation. Based on our assessment, it was found that significant organizational and resource management efficiencies will be achieved through the proposed consolidation." In addition, Webb added, "The consolidation would result in enhanced programs and services for the residents of western San Bernardino County, with significant cost savings."

"The financial analysis, based upon information provided by CBWCD, shows that the proposed consolidation of the District into IEUA will save taxpayer money, better integrate regional programs and create greater transparency in government decision-making," said IEUA Board President Terry Catlin. "The vote by the IEUA Board to adopt a resolution requesting LAFCO initiate proceedings for the consolidation is the first step in the application process. LAFCO staff will evaluate the benefits of consolidation and present their findings to the LAFCO Commission, who will make the final determination."

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency covers 242-square miles, distributes imported water, provides industrial/municipal wastewater collection and treatment services, and other related utility services to more than 870,000 people through its member agencies which include Chino, Chino Hills, Cucamonga Valley Water District, Fontana, Fontana Water Company, Montclair, Monte Vista Water District, Ontario, and Upland.

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