

## Maribeth Goldsby

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**From:** Harvey De La Torre  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 18, 2021 6:51 PM  
**Cc:** Robert Hunter; Maribeth Goldsby; Alex Heide; Joseph Byrne  
**Subject:** Mesa Comment Letter on MWDOC 2020 UWMP  
**Attachments:** Mesa Water Comment Letter to MWDOC re. UWMP\_May18.2020.pdf; UWMP PPT - Backup Slides RHNA.pdf; Final UWMP RHNA Memo 04142021.pdf; MWDOC Ltr to SCAG re UWMP Comments\_April 29\_Draft\_Final.pdf

Directors,

This afternoon we received a comment letter from Mesa Water regarding our MWDOC 2020 UWMP and the use of Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) projections (see attached). If you recall this issue had been brought up by Mesa's General Manager Paul Shoenberger before, in particular at our May 3 MWDOC Planning & Operation Committee; and has been addressed by MWDOC staff.

The point of this email to recap what staff has stated and documented throughout our UWMP process. More importantly, the issue that Mesa notes in their letter has already been addressed through a comprehensive information gathering effort that staff has embarked on for the past two months to ensure that we have the best available and most up-to-date information for our 2020 UWMP.

Attached are two documents that should help the Directors sort through the Mesa Water comments, and provide comfort that we have appropriately addressed the RHNA issue.

- Memo on the UWMP and RHNA to Agencies
  - a. Of note, this memo was provided to Mesa Water, Santa Ana, Newport Beach, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, OCWD, and CDR. No agency has contented the information in the memo, and all of the other retail agencies have opted to stick with the CDM Smith Demand projections.
- MWDOC Letter to SCAG on RHNA
  - b. In this letter we state, "It should be noted that MWDOC staff met with SCAG staff to ensure that their suggestion of incorporating the 6th RHNA cycle was appropriately understood, researched, and analyzed. In discussions with SCAG staff, CDR, and Metropolitan, MWDOC finds that the RHNA has been appropriately addressed in the 2020 UWMP. Moreover all parties understand the MWDOC's 2020 UWMP includes the most complete and update information available for projecting water demands."
- Lastly, are additional informational slides for the Public Hearing tomorrow addressing the RHNA issue; which includes a brief summary of the background, process, and key issues associated with RHNA and the demand projections.

I also want to highlight that MWDOC staff met with the Center for Demographic Research (CDR), SCAG, several retail agencies that are also land use agencies, Metropolitan, and the Orange County representative for the California Department of Housing and Community Development; whereby ***all of these respected agencies are in agreement that our 2020 UWMP contains the best-available and most up-to-date information.*** In addition, Alex Heide talked with OC City planners, retail agencies outside of the County, and other wholesale agencies; all indicate that the MWDOC approach for the 2020 UWMP is consistent with other agencies' UWMPs.

We hope this information that we have presented demonstrates the effort MWDOC staff has done to address this issue. Please let me or Rob know if you have any questions.

Harvey De La Torre