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June 18, 2021

To:

Mojave Water Agency  
Attn: General Manager Kathy Cortner  
And Members of the Board of Directors  
13846 Conference Center Drive  
Apple Valley, CA 92307-4377  
(760) 946-7000

**Subject: Homestead Valley Community Council Supports Draft MWA Resolution 1101-21 on June 24 9:30 AM MWA Meeting Agenda**

Dear General Manager Kathy Cortner and Board of Directors,

The Homestead Valley Community Council (HVCC) was formed in 1996 to address all matters of mutual interest affecting the Morongo Basin unincorporated communities of Yucca Mesa, Flamingo Heights, Landers, and Johnson Valley. We are comprised of delegates appointed through the community associations of each of these member communities. We are in Mojave Water Agency District Division 2 – Director Jim Ventura.

We are writing to express our full support for your draft resolution 1101-21 calling for state action regarding illegal marijuana cultivation, to be considered by the Board of Directors at the June 24th board meeting. The Executive Summary and Background/Analysis contained in the staff recommendations document is well researched and very accurately explains how this horrific proliferation started with Prop 64, and how it can be remedied through legislative intervention at the state level.

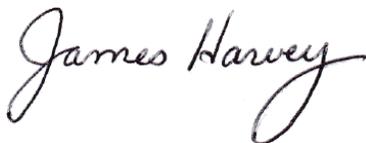
HVCC and Lucerne Valley Economic Development Association (LVEDA) have been working on this matter for over a year now, asking for intervention of Prop 64 through amendment by the state legislature since we began our grassroots campaign to help end the explosion of illicit cannabis growing in our communities. It is no coincidence that this problem began with the downgrading of penalties and fines for growing and distributing illegally from felony to minor misdemeanor status, whether it is over law enforcement seizing 6 plants or 6,000 plants. Prop 64 has failed on its Purpose and Intent promise to end illicit marijuana activity. It has instead expanded it to an unimaginable level.

Recently the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution calling for state legislative intervention on Prop 64. It was the first resolution by a California county to do so. Similarly, MWA Resolution 1101-21 accurately identifies the problems with Prop 64, the changes it made to HSC section 11358, and how the legislature can amend it by returning the penalty and fine language back to felony level.

HVCC supports Resolution 1101-21 and we hope the MWA board approves it at the June 24th meeting. It would be the first of its kind coming from a state agency like MWA that we are aware of, and will demonstrate leadership and the willingness to act when facing a problem of the magnitude this scourge brings as it negatively impacts the communities you serve. Please consider this letter as correspondence/comment to the June 24th Board Meeting agenda item for Resolution 1101-21.

Sincerely,

James Harvey

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Harvey". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

President, Homestead Valley Community Council  
(On behalf of HVCC)