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Submitted via email: [hr2w@oehha.ca.gov](mailto:hr2w@oehha.ca.gov)

November 7, 2019

Dr. Carolina Balazs  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment  
1515 Clay Street, 16th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Regarding: Letter of Support for ACWA/CMUA Comment Letter on the OEHHA Human Right to Water Public Review Draft Mapping Tool and Draft Report

Dear Dr. Balazs,

Desert Water Agency (DWA) thanks you for the opportunity to comment on the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), *Achieving the Human Right to Water in California: An Assessment of the State's Community Water Systems* (Draft Report) and Draft Mapping Tool (Draft Tool).

**We have worked with the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA) and would like to provide strong support for their detailed comment letter.** In particular, we are concerned that the Draft Report and Draft Tool have not been sufficiently vetted by water agencies and other systems responsible for providing safe drinking water to the public.

The Draft Tool is missing data for Desert Water Agency, and many other agencies, on affordability. The tool doesn't provide any explanation as to why the information is missing or other resources for viewers.

We echo ACWA and CMUA's call on OEHHA to, at a minimum, consider further engagement with the water community:

- Host a water community meeting to review and discuss the ACWA and CMUA comments prior to OEHHA finalizing the report and tool;
- Provide water systems with the raw data from the tool when requested;
- Develop and institute a process that allows water systems the ability to respectfully appeal data shown in the tool and contextualize it with more relevant accurate information; and
- Form an advisory group comprised of diverse water agencies, academia, community advocates and other interested stakeholders to serve in collaboration with OEHHA and provide an ongoing opportunity to discuss current indicators, future indicators, and versions of the tool.

Please contact our Outreach & Conservation Manager, Ashley Metzger, [ametzger@dwa.org](mailto:ametzger@dwa.org), 760-323-4971 ext 184, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Krause  
General Manager-Chief Engineer