

November 15, 2019

Stetson Engineering Attn: Heather

Heather,

Thank you for allowing the Ridgecrest Area Association of Realtors Board of Directors to submit a few comments regarding the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan that was released earlier.

1. **Growth Rate of 1%.** The growth rate of 1% that is currently in the plan is very concerning. It limits any new growth/projects at China Lake or industry in the valley (i.e. F-35, Space Development Agency, Data Centers, Agriculture). Anything that limits our growth or is a perception of limiting our growth is debilitating to a city.

Why would the Navy invest (over \$4B) in China Lake if the community cannot support any future growth? (i.e. F-35). We need to control the Narrative.

Financial Impact of the Plan. There is very little information in the plan on the financial impact
to all users. We would like to see this spelled out in more detail so that we know what the
financial expectations will be for each user in respect to GSA administrative costs, Importation
options, etc.

How much additional cost will rate payers incur on their monthly water bill?

3. Aquifer Size and Recharge Rate. We would like to see the GA use more recent data on verification and validation on recharge rate and aquifer size, before any restrictions are placed on any users. This review and adjudication of aquifer size and recharge rate could be completed over a 3-5-year period.

How can a Plan restrict usage of water resources, with the uncertainty of the aquifer size and recharge rate? Which is the basis of the restricted use.

Thank you for your attention on this and for giving us the opportunity to submit our comments.

Regards,

Norman D. Alexander

Norman Alexander, Association President Ridgecrest Area Association of Realtors