

DOCKETED

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Community Concerns on Draft Report

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Community Concerns of Draft Report

After reading the draft proposal I am dispirited towards the lack of acknowledgement of the fenceline communities that are closest to the Salton Sea project. I see that you have Imperial, Brawley, Calipatria, Niland, North Shore, Mecca, Desert Shores, Bombay Beach, Tribes, and residents in these communities but nowhere do I see Westmorland listed. As a child who grew up here it is important to me that this small community does not go unnoticed. They have opened their doors and have provided resources to many and have even hosted many community events like this one. This town is also one of the closest towns to the Salton Sea yet Imperial, who is not considered a directly affected community, is listed first. Westmorland is a community that hosts many residents with health problems because of the proximity of the Salton Sea. This community needs representation as much as the other surrounding small communities.

To add, in the beginning of the draft it was mentioned that Imperial Valley County has one of the highest unemployment rates in the state of California at 14.4% and three times higher than the average state which is 3.9%. It was also stated that “developing a local workforce was a high priority” and that communication between communities about the opportunities being offered was required. What does that communication look like? What communities are being included within this communication thread? Is it an accessible way of communicating with the communities? Will the community be receiving the information in Spanish or Purepecha?

Fernanda Vega

Community Health Worker

Comite Civico del Valle