



A Message from the GM

It has been a great first month working as Rainbow Municipal Water District's new General Manager. I have spent this first month meeting the staff, getting to know the Board members, and most importantly, meeting with ratepayers to make sure we are meeting their needs.

We have a lot of exciting projects in the works related to District pipelines and upcoming development in the area. I am happy to report that the costs to relocate our sewer line for the Highway 76 project came out nearly \$10 million less than some earlier projections. Rainbow's engineering and legal team worked hard to ensure that the CalTrans project's impacts on the ratepayers were minimized. This result will definitely help keep sewer rates in check!

As you are all aware, we are in a Level 2 Drought period, which means that we all need to do our part to help conserve water. There is a lot of information on our website at rainbowmwd.com for you to get tips and tricks on how to save water and money. We are in the midst of several very dry years both here and in Northern California where much of our water comes from. Weather forecasters are predicting a weak El Nino this winter which generally means higher than average rainfall for California.

What helps Southern California the most is for a large snowpack in the Sierras to store water for release during the spring and summer. Rainfall here in San Diego County mostly just goes into the ocean due to a lack of storage reservoirs. It could rain a lot here but if we don't get a big snowpack this year we will be facing an even more severe water shortage next summer.

Let's all keep our fingers crossed for lots of snow in the Sierras this winter!

As always, I am here to answer any of your questions or concerns. Just call the office to set up a time to meet either over the phone or in person. All of us at Rainbow are here to serve you – the ratepayer – so no issue is too small!

Regards



Tom Kennedy



LAFCO UPDATE

RAINBOW

MUNICIPAL

WATER

DISTRICT

3707 Old Highway 395
Fallbrook, CA 92029
760-728-1178
www.rainbowmwd.com

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Some of you may have seen The Village News where FPUD has taken out nearly full page ads to make certain claims that are identified as "Facts". Regrettably, many of these claims are either gross exaggerations or simply not true. Here are a few truths regarding the hostile takeover.

- The governance structure advocated by FPUD is designed to concentrate political power in the small core of Fallbrook. The differences in population between the agencies means that if the representation of the combined Districts is done the way FPUD wants it, the Rainbow ratepayers will become an instant and perhaps permanent minority on the Board.
- Both districts have confirmed that the takeover will not result in lower water rates. While FPUD may claim some sort of rate advantage, they acknowledge in their takeover application that rates will not change for either District.
- While RMWD requires two-thirds voter approval before the District can take on additional public debt, no such safeguard exists with FPUD, so a takeover would eliminate this voter-approved requirement and could force RMWD ratepayers to subsidize future FPUD debts.

As a means of keeping our ratepayers better informed on this issue and any other RMWD updates, we are asking our customers to please send us an email to billing@rainbowmwd.com or call Customer Service at (760) 728-1178 so that we can update our customer database.

We have also been updating the community by holding presentations with various groups that are ratepayers for RMWD and FPUD. If you would like us to present at your HOA or community group please e-mail us at dwashburn@rainbowmwd.com.

I would like to thank everyone who has sent a letter in support of Rainbow to Executive Director Mike Ott of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). If you have not submitted your support, there is still time. Please email Mike at mike.ott@sdcounty.ca.gov or mail him at San Diego LAFCO, ATTN Mike Ott, 9335 Hazard Way, Suite 200, San Diego CA 92123 and let him know you do not want to have your right to choose you elected representative taken away by an unfair governance structure. Let him know that you do not support this hostile takeover by FPUD.



Save every day, every way.