

Committee on Resources

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TESTIMONY OF W. R. BEN WICKE, DIRECTOR

Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District on the
Riverside-Corona Feeder before the Subcommittee on
Water and Power, House Committee on Resources

The Honorable Ken Calvert, Chairman

Mr. Chairman and Committee members. As Mrs. Cunnison explained, the people I represent would be among the many beneficiaries of this important project. I appear before you today to state my agency's strong support for the Riverside-Corona Feeder.

Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District is a 53 year old full-service agency serving the water, sewer, agricultural and reclaimed water needs of our 100,000 member community in Southwest Riverside County. We are developing every possible water source to maintain the needs of our customers. EVMWD currently uses local ground water, local surface runoff of the San Jacinto River Watershed, Metropolitan Water District imported water, and our own recycled waste water to meet the needs of our community. The District is developing a ground water conjunctive use storage program. We are also expanding our recycled water distribution network. We are working to add additional raw water connections.

However, in spite of our efforts, we must purchase imported water supplies, including Colorado River water, from Western. We believe the Riverside-Corona Feeder project would assist Elsinore Valley, plus other water agencies in the region, to further in our efforts to reduce direct delivery of imported supplies and decrease dependence on these imported supplies during drought.

I again would like to reiterate our strong support for this project, not only as representative of a direct beneficiary agency, but in the realization that the Riverside-Corona Feeder has far-reaching benefits well beyond those to our community. Thank you to the Committee for your time today and thank you Mr. Chairman for your introduction of HR 3434.