Message

From: Greenberg, Leslie [Greenberg.Leslie@epa.gov]
Sent: 7/24/2019 8:32:23 PM
To: Wysocki, Kenneth C. [wysocki.kenneth@epa.gov]
CC: Maier, Brent [Maier.Brent@epa.gov]; Dermer, Michele [Dermer.Michele@epa.gov]; Rao, Kate [Rao.kate@epa.gov]; Albright, David [Albright.David@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Salud Carbajal - Incoming Letter to RA Regarding Aquifer Exemption for Cat Canyon Oil Field
Attachments: CatCyncongressionalrev3.docx; Letter to EPA re Cat Canyon Aquifer Exemption.final.pdf

Hello Ken,

As acting for David Albright I'm forwarding to you a *draft* reply to a congressional inquiry incoming from Rep. Carbajal and Sen. Feinstein on the proposed Cat Canyon aquifer exemption. I understand you were recently briefed on this inquiry. See *draft* response and congressional inquiry letter for reference attached.

Please reply to all with your comments.

Thanks,
Leslie Greenberg

Leslie Ann Greenberg
EPA Region 9
Groundwater Protection Section WTR 4-2
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San Francisco, CA 94105
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From: Greenberg, Leslie
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 4:01 PM
To: Dermer, Michele <Dermer.Michele@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Salud Carbajal - Incoming Letter to RA Regarding Aquifer Exemption for Cat Canyon Oil Field

I'm reviewing your reply letter now and will send you my comments.

From: Dermer, Michele
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 3:10 PM
To: Greenberg, Leslie <Greenberg.Leslie@epa.gov>
Cc: Albright, David <Albright.David@epa.gov>; Ho, Yenhung <Ho.Yenhung@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Salud Carbajal - Incoming Letter to RA Regarding Aquifer Exemption for Cat Canyon Oil Field
Importance: High

Hi Leslie,

This morning I had a conversation with a representative of the State Water Resources Control Board (John Borkovich) to get a better understanding of the USGS study and its findings. David and I agreed yesterday that I should do this in order to figure out how to best respond to this part of the congressional letter.

This is what I learned: The study and results were presented to the state board verbally at a meeting in Sacramento in February 2019. The study results, to paraphrase the state board representative, were inconclusive, whereas the newspaper articles reporting the study results overstated the findings – specifically that they reported that the study confirmed an impact of oil production related activities on the quality of shallow ground water in Kern, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties. John guesses the results will be finalized in writing by early next year, at the earliest. There is a great deal of interest in the study. USGS has not shared the results with EPA. They conducted the study under an agreement with the State Water Board – to perform regional groundwater monitoring prior.

For this reason I did not specifically include a response to this portion of the congressional letter. But if desired, a few sentences could be added, such as:

The USGS study was requested by the California State Water Resources Control Board. The results of the study are preliminary and were presented to the Water Board during a meeting in February 2019. We understand the final report will be published sometime early next year.

From: Albright, David
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 8:30 AM
To: Dermer, Michele <Dermer.Michele@epa.gov>; Ho, Yenhung <Ho.Yenhung@epa.gov>
Cc: Engelman, Alexa <ENGELMAN.ALEXA@EPA.GOV>; Pierce, Jennifer <pierce.jennifer@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Salud Carbajal - Incoming Letter to RA Regarding Aquifer Exemption for Cat Canyon Oil Field
Importance: High

See attached incoming from Rep. Carbajal and Sen. Feinstein on the proposed Cat Canyon exemption. We'll need to draft a response for the RA; probably due in 2 weeks. Michele, could you take an initial crack? Let me know if you would like to discuss today. Thanks, David

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From: Maier, Brent
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2019 8:21 AM
To: Stoker, Michael B. <stoker.michael@epa.gov>; Munoz, Charles <munoz.charles@epa.gov>; Jordan, Deborah <Jordan.Deborah@epa.gov>; Strauss, Alexis <Strauss.Alexis@epa.gov>; Hage, Christopher <hage.christopher@epa.gov>; Torres, Tomas <Torres.Tomas@epa.gov>; Wysocki, Kenneth C. <wysocki.kenneth@epa.gov>; Albright, David <Albright.David@epa.gov>
Cc: Glenn, William <Glenn.William@epa.gov>; Ebbert, Laura <Ebbert.Laura@epa.gov>; Calvino, Maria Soledad <Calvino.Maria@epa.gov>; LEONIDO-JOHN, STEVEN <Leonido-John.Steven@epa.gov>
Subject: Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Salud Carbajal - Incoming Letter to RA Regarding Aquifer Exemption for Cat Canyon Oil Field
Importance: High

All –

Please see attached incoming joint letter from Sen. Feinstein and Rep. Carbajal regarding the aquifer exemption for Cat Canyon Oil Field. I will enter the incoming letter in our Correspondence Management System and prepare a Congressional yellow folder and drop off in Water Division for them to begin drafting a response to the letter for signature by RA Mike Stoker.

Brent Maier
Congressional Liaison
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX

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San Francisco, CA 94105
Ph: 415.947.4256

From: Montiel, Johanna <Johanna.Montiel@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 12:54 PM
To: Maier, Brent <Maier.Brent@epa.gov>
Cc: Bartishevich, Alec (Feinstein) <Alec_Bartishevich@feinstein.senate.gov>
Subject: Carbajal/Feinstein Comment for Cat Canyon

Hi Brent,

Please see the attached letter with Senator Feinstein's and Congressman Carbajal's comment letter regarding cat canyon. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Johanna

Johanna Montiel |Legislative Assistant
Johanna.montiel@mail.house.gov
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(202) 225-3601