December 21, 2020

Linda (Seroy) Thill Board Secretary **Salton Sea Authority** 82995 Highway 111, Suite 200 Indio, CA 92201 760-863-2695 info@ssajpa.org

Subject: "Public Comment" for 1/28/21, a meeting of the SSA's Board Directors - via Zoom Webinar

Greetings, distinguish SSA's Board Members:

- **1.** I am thankful for the opportunity to submit the following comment.
- 2. In response to my "Public Comment" on Dec. 17, 2020, Director Manuel Perez commented that you (the SSA) will work with me on the project for the restoration of the Salton Sea". That is a **step** in the **right** direction. I do appreciate that.
- 3. But he also said that my proposal might NOT be accepted, or some other proposal might be accepted, or a combination of proposals might be accepted. It is obvious, that despite our several short meetings, he still does not completely understand my proposal. That is understandable, no-pun-intended. Therefore, a complete presentation is necessary.
- 4. I would like to emphasize **again** that my proposal is a **comprehensive design** that besides the architectural design, it incorporates **several breakthrough** technologies. For easier understanding, I have summarized the system into five segments. Each segment is an **integral** (co-dependent) **part** of the **whole** design of the **self-sustain** long-term solution for the restoration of the Salton Sea.
- 5. Any **changes** in the **framework** of my concept would **diminish** its function. An analogy would be **taking out** a piece from the transmission box and **replacing** it with a **not fitting** piece and **expecting** that device will work.
- **6.** Because of your background and **well-documented** record (you promoted and **endorsed** the "Perimeter/Brine Lake" concept, and most recently the concept for pumping water from depleting Lake up into Marine bay Sorry to say but both projects are **nonsensical** concepts), I would **respectfully** urge you to **consult** with "**impartial**"

experts who understand the **subject** and **technologies** involve before you make important decisions.

- 7. **Finding** a comprehensive design for a very complex situation **is not** a job for an Environmental Scientist or Biologist or Politician. **It is** a job for an Architect with knowledge in planning, construction, hydrology, mechanical engineering / thermodynamic who is also environmentally conscious, or for a team of people with such attributes.
- **8.** We lost 7 years needlessly and it would be foolish to lose additional time and money on the projects doomed to fail. If you have **not been ignorant** for the last 7 years, we **would have** a functional lake **today** and in process of generating revenue in **billions** of dollars.
- **9.** The problem with your practice was/is that you use the following principals: "It is better to do **something** than **nothing**" and/or "Let start and contractors will **somehow** find some solution **as we go**". The **right practice** should be: "Let find a **feasible solution first** (have a blueprint) and then **do it**".
- **10.** Fast action is necessary. I would be glad to explain to you the whole project (five segments). If additional confirmation is needed about the **validity** of **my proposal**, I would suggest that you consult with "**impartial**" experts from several universities such as Stanford, MIT, SMU, and Laboratories such as NREL, and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories, to mention a few. That should be done a long time ago. That is not a difficult task.
- 11. You need to understand that a **significant** job is in front of "**us**" (our generation / local, state, and federal officials). You need to understand that the "**project of the century**" is in front of us and that the rest of the World will be learning from and implementing technologies in their similar projects in the future.
- 12. If you want to be effective and useful, your focus at this time should not be on incorporating the "current course of action" and continue spending money and time on trying to salvage wrongdoing, but rather on redirecting actions towards purchasing an old pipeline from Long Beach to Whitewater, (the focus is on purchasing "right-of-way"), and initiating negotiation with Mexico through "International Boundary and Water Commission" and their corresponding team in Mexico regarding redirecting New River and Alamo River back to Mexico in return for the corridor for 48" pipeline with a service road from the Gulf of California to the central section of the Salton Sea. Just the inflow pipeline would be fine we need salt to produce Lithium.

- **13.** Regarding mentioned option of "combining" my proposal with some other proposal: It really comes to "**take it**" or "**leave it**". Butchering my design is **unacceptable** and would be **unproductive**. If there is some proposal that would function better and generate more revenue I would support, it. But such a design would need to be proven and verify by "impartial" experts.
- **14.** By following the framework of my concept, will be many opportunities for secondary projects such as exclusive real estate, hotels, motels, surfing facilities, reestablishing old beaches, tourism, wildlife sanctuaries attractions, etc.
- **15.** But **first**, you need to **learn** about the **comprehensive** concept for the restoration of the Salton Sea. That task is long overdue.
- **16.** I would like to finish my comment with the Chinese Proverb "The person who says It cannot be done should not interrupt the person who is doing it".

Sincerely,

Nikola Lakic, Graduate Engineer Architect Geothermal Worldwide, Inc. La Quinta. CA

