



February 19, 2026

State Senator Steve Padilla
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 7630
Sacramento, CA 94249-0036

Subject: Assembly Bill 35

The Honorable State Senator Steve Padilla:

The Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group (CVRWMG) includes Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD), Coachella Water Authority (CWA), Desert Water Agency (DWA), Indio Water Authority (IWA), Mission Springs Water District (MSWD), and Valley Sanitary District (VSD). The group represents a collaborative effort to implement the Coachella Valley Integrated Regional Water Management (CVIRWM) Plan to address the water resources planning needs of the Coachella Valley, which is in central Riverside County, within the Colorado River Funding Area.

We are writing to express our support for Assembly Bill (AB) 35. AB 35 allows State agencies to adopt necessary program guidelines outside of the Administrative Procedures Act process, accelerating the release of funds from the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 (Proposition 4). Proposition 4 was approved by voters in the November 2024 general election. This voter-approved measure provides \$10 billion dollars for critical statewide investments, including drinking water safety, drought and flood resilience, wildfire prevention, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity, park access, and clean air initiatives.

Coachella Valley has a wide range of disadvantaged communities (DACs) from different demographics, including migrant and seasonal farm workers, low-income families, and others. These DACs experience several water resources issues including, but not limited to, water supply reliability and water quality, sanitation needs, flooding concerns, and maintaining the affordability of water. The funding made available through Proposition 4 would directly support these communities by improving water infrastructure, enhancing drought and flood resilience, and addressing long-standing environmental and public health inequities.

The CVRWGM appreciates your leadership on water and climate issues and is glad to answer any questions you may have. We respectfully urge you to support AB 35 and help advance the timely and effective implementation of Proposition 4. We look forward to engaging with you further on the importance of investing in resilient and locally driven water resource management.

Sincerely,



Joanne Le

On behalf of the Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group
Direct of Environmental Services
Coachella Valley Water District

CVRWGM agency representatives:

Castulo Estrada, Coachella Water Authority
Esther Saenz, Desert Water Agency
Roman Gonzales, Indio Water Authority
Marion Champion, Mission Springs Water District
Ron Buchwald, Valley Sanitary District