WALLY LEIMGRUBER
SUPERVISOR - DISTRICT 5
940 Main Street, Suite 212
El Centro, CA 92243

Board of Supervisors
County of Imperial

BUS: (760) 339-4305
RES: (760) 356-2639
FAX: (760) 352-7876
PAGER: (760) 370-7740

April 12, 2005

Mr. Clarence Everly
DOD Coordinator
Desert Managers Group
2701 Barstow Road
Barstow, CA 92311

Dear Mr. Everly:

Thank you very much for formalizing an invitation to join with the Desert Managers Group. As expressed in our January 11 letter to you we feel this is a significant body to coordinate and oversee a variety of land and natural resources management activities throughout the desert region. We are pleased that the organization saw fit to include local government in the organization.

Your letter of January 21 requested that County members agree to the mission of the DMG as expressed in the existing Memorandum of Understanding and June 2000 charter. On behalf of Imperial County, we accept that condition.

Your letter further expressed an expectation that member counties become signatories to a new/updated charter and MOU that will be developed later this year. While we would certainly expect to enter into such a revised agreement, at this point, pending its negotiation. I cannot commit that this County would ultimately agree to it if it is substantially changed or creates financial obligations for the County that are unknown or unanticipated at this time. We certainly look forward to working with the membership in developing updated documentation and operating agreements for the Group.

Your letter further expressed that each County designate an elected official to represent its interest in Group. On behalf of Imperial County I will accept that responsibility. Since I am Chairman of the Board this year I do request, or notify you at this time, that I reserve the option of asking another member of the Board or one of our County officials to substitute for me as the need arises. We recognize the importance of having each county, as with each agency, represented by an official of high enough rank and accountability to act on behalf of the governmental entity.

Imperial County is also a member of an umbrella organization of desert counties, the QuadState County Government Coalition. I serve as Chairman of that organization. That organization provides for a flow of information regarding public land and natural resources issues within the Mojave Desert. On behalf of that organization, I request that the Executive Director, Gerald Hillier, be permitted to attend all sessions, public and closed of the Desert Managers Group. He provides staff support for many of the county's

interests, and further, in the absence of a county representative, can provide feedback to the County.

We look forward to participating with the Desert Managers Group, and I do plan to attempt to be at the April 27-28 meeting in Ridgecrest.

Yours truly,

Wally Leimgruber
Chairman of Imperial County
Board of Supervisors

Cc: Don Maben, Kern County
Bill Postmus, San Bernardino County
Gerald Hillier, QuadState CGC JPA
John Hamill, DOI Coordinator

s.correspondence.for board. Leimgruber. Desert Managers Group