

amount into their aqueducts, thus drying rivers, creeks, lakes plus aquifer down the line.. Los Angeles immediately broke their contract plus their promises to this whole area as soon as that aqueduct came on line, ran most ranchers and farmers out of the valleys to our north, bought up their lands after they murdered and or threatened owners and families so they could purchase their land and pump their water. In essence, LADWP has caused our aquifer in in the IWV to start dropping as soon as they started diverting water into their aqueduct and they have increased the taking nearly every year and now we have our IWVGA thinking the “fix” solution is to let LA into our aquifer.

Our answer to this has to be not only “absolutely NO” but also “absolutely HELL NO! It is utterly stupid to even think of recreating those past mistakes. We are in the process of “correcting” those past mistakes which should never, ever have been allowed to take place. (continued on page 3)



Beginning in 1905 and continuing through the 1920s, Los Angeles' purchased water rights and land throughout Owens Valley as part of their grand plan in the construction of an aqueduct from Owens Valley across the Mojave Desert to Los Angeles. This led to a decline in the valley's agricultural infrastructure and economy. A resident of Big Pine and leader of resistance against Los Angeles, J. D. Black (1893-1960) used these photographs to document the deterioration of farming, ranching and local businesses in Owens Valley. Above is a photo of J.D. Black and of the abandoned Felix Rossi farm of Big Pine.

Photos courtesy of the J. D. Black Collection of Loyola Marymount University



Manzanar Reservoir ~ Built in 1941 and held 540,000 gallons of water. Then in 1942 enlarged to hold 900,000 gallon of water. June 2018 (looking south-east) I believe LADWP owns this land now.



Though not part of Hwy. 395, this is the result of water diversion by Los Angeles all along U.S. 395 in Owens Valley. This is a panorama of the "Cascades" in San Fernando Valley. Owens Valley water pouring into Los Angeles proper. A sad day for all of Owens Valley. Download the enlarged image once you click on the one below to really view the panorama.

Photo courtesy of the water Resources Center Archives, Orbach Science Library, University of California, Riverside, CA

As you can see by these pictures and the front-page graph, LADWP destroys the land in every area from which they remove water to their own areas where the politicians and real estate developers are expanding huge building areas where there is no local water to support this expansion.

Now, our own IWVGA is trying to deal with LADWP to allow them access to bank their own water from their aqueducts (which is our water in the first place that they are diverting into their aqueducts and prevent the natural flow to refill our own aqueduct) which they can then pump back out of our IWV into their aqueduct. Please note, the following article has been submitted to the Daily Independent newspaper, August 15, 2019, to help spread the word to our residents here in the valley as to why this should never be allowed.



The following Letter-to-the-Editor has been submitted to our local Newspaper.

Why LADWP Should Never Invade Our IWV Aquifer

The threat of making any kind of agreement with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) would be the first step to the destruction of our IWV, as has been proven by the LADWP actions down through Mono and Inyo Counties since 1913. LADWP does not only disrespect and not adhere to any agreements made, they have also used murder and threats of death to land owners to “buy” their ranches, farms and homes in order to gain control of their water which was then dumped into the aqueducts and diverted to the Los Angeles area.

In either late 2018 or early 2019, LADWP suddenly opened up drainage of a large amount of water to flow down into our IWV with the excuse of receiving too much water from the heavy rains falling on our Sierra Nevada mountains. If LADWP truly wanted to simply regulate flow into their aqueducts they could have simply slowed down that flow at their aqueduct’s entrance and let the overflow continue down Owens river to natural refill areas as existed before LA started “taking” water from our eastern side of the Sierras. Why take all that water they claimed was too much and just dump it on the surface of IWV?

Now, just a few months later, we are suddenly being told our IWVGA is in discussion with LA to “bank” their water in our IWV aquifer. Oh, and then LA can just pump “their” banked water out when they claim they need it? How much and who measures same? Remember, this LA banked water would be from their aqueducts which carry our water in the first place which LA is diverting from flowing down to refill our aquifer naturally as it used to do. How much do we pay for any water IWV might use that LA will claim is theirs? Remember, the old transfer line from the aqueducts down to Brown-road area which was originally to bring water down to the housing area of their workers who built the aqueduct. It’s very easy

and inexpensive to revive that line to send water both ways.

Think of and analyze this scenario. LA banks water here, LA pulls water out...remember they have never paid attention to any contract or agreement they have signed in the last 119 years...our agriculture suddenly has to pay tons of \$'s to LA for water and probably our IWVGA which places their product out of the market because of the high-cost of producing, those owners will shut down and sell their properties and WHO WILL BUY THOSE PROPERTIES? LA, of course, and will then pump right out of our IWV as property owners.

Could this happen? We who have studied and watch LA's actions since 1913 believe the chances are 99% that it will happen if IWVGA is ever coerced, threatened, etc., etc., as were the property owners within Owens and Mono counties which has drained our IWV natural refill starting with the 1913 opening of that first aqueduct.

Submitted by

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Note to the Editor, I recognize this article measures 501 words and your limit is 420 words. Do we have to break it into 2 separate submissions? Unfortunately, if two submissions are separated by several days, I'm afraid the full message may lose this extremely important message. I have gone over this several times reducing superfluous words. However, I'm to the point where any more "editing" does lose the full impact of the message. What can we do? Is it possible to go to some kind of an editorial submitted by me? Thank you for your past support in my efforts to reach our community.



Attention Everyone:

We must communicate this terrible disaster looming over our heads if IWVGA isn't stopped from making any kind of a deal with LADWP. Please share this with everyone you know and ask them to share with their contacts. We have to somehow move quickly to stop this very dangerous move by IWVGA. We NEVER want to see LA involved in ANYTHING to do with IWV. We are currently fighting the battle to get them totally out of taking any water from the entire eastern side of our Sierra Nevada mountains. LADWP is currently directly raping both Mono and Inyo Counties of their own natural refill and supply of water which is also stopping the natural inflow of water into our own Kern County aquifer.

The correct and permanent answer is, of course, that LA has to build a desalination plant asap. This plant must be of the size to process the amount of water that is currently flowing from our valleys within their two aqueducts. The entire distribution system is already there. It is just a matter of cutting off flow from their two aquifers from our area and installing the desalination water into the existing distribution system.

LA is taking much more water from all over California which also needs to stop. But that is not our problem for address at this time. We need to first take care of our situation. We have a plan that has been submitted to the political and departmental entities who can carry forth on this permanent correction which will put LA totally out of the eastern Sierra Nevada three counties as described above.

I cannot stress the importance of having everyone who possible can give input, support and any other possible influence you can to make this all work and correct over 105 years of corruption, murder, threats, etc. to let LA take our water.

