COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
114th Congress Disclosure Form
As required by and provided for in House Rule XI, clause 2(g)(5)

Oversight hearing on *"Changing Demands and Water Supply Uncertainty in California."*
Tuesday, July 12, 2016

For Individuals:

Name:
Address:
Email Address:
Phone Number:

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For Witnesses Representing Organizations:

Name: Ara Azhderian
Name of Organization(s) You are Representing at the Hearing: San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority
Business Address: [redacted]
Business Email Address: [redacted]
Business Phone Number: [redacted]

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For Nongovernment Witnesses ONLY:

1. Please attach/include current curriculum vitae or resume. Attached

2. Please list any federal grants or contracts (including subgrants or subcontracts) related to the subject matter of the hearing that were received in the current year and previous two calendar years by you or the organization(s) you represent at this hearing, including the source and amount of each grant or contract.

See Attached SLDMWA-Reclamation Emergency Services Contract

3. Please list any contracts or payments originating with a foreign government related to the subject matter of the hearing that were received in the current year and previous two calendar years by you or the organization(s) you represent at this hearing, including the amount and country of origin of each contract or payment.

None.

Ara Azhderian
Water Policy Administrator
San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority
[redacted]

Experience

Water Policy Administrator

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority, Los Banos, CA

2004 – Present

- Assist in the response to drought, CVP & SWP operations, and related regulatory issues at State and federal levels. Develop operational and regulatory proposals, direct Authority staff and consultants, coordinate with other CVP and SWP contractors, State and federal agencies, and State and federal legislative staff. Communicate drought issues to State and federal representatives, media, and other interested parties.
- Assist in the response to Reclamation's releases of water from Trinity Reservoir for flow augmentation on the lower Klamath River. Direct Authority staff and consultants, coordinate with other CVP water and power contractors, State and federal agencies, and federal legislative staff. Communicate Authority's perspective to State and federal representatives, media, and other interested parties.
- Assist in efforts to secure federal appropriations. Prepare appropriations requests, generate and coordinate support among other stakeholders and federal representatives, educate and support federal legislative staff. Funding successes include federal storage investigations, Bay Delta Conservation Plan, Interagency Ecological Program, pelagic organism decline science investigations, and Grassland Bypass Project. Current efforts include report language for the San Luis Transmission Project and appropriations for salmonid genetic sampling to improve Projects' operations and species management, in cooperation with the California Salmon Council.
- Administer and direct internal, cooperative, and collaborative science efforts in support of administrative, legislative, and litigation efforts. Direct and coordinate work among staff, consultants, partners, State and federal representatives, and interested parties. Communicate findings to partners, State and federal representatives, and interested parties directly and through independent science panel reviews and symposiums. Manage associated contracts, budgets, and board reports.
- Administer and assist in the development and revisions of the Westside Integrated Water Resources Plan. Communicate and coordinate with stakeholders and State representatives, direct consultants, and manage activity agreements, memorandums of agreement, board reports, budgets, contracts, and grants.
- Administer and assist in the development of State grant applications to fund integrated water resource planning, project implementation, flood management, and disadvantaged communities' projects. Communicate and coordinate with stakeholders and State representatives, direct

consultants, and manage activity agreements, memorandums of agreement, board reports budgets, and contracts.

- Assist in efforts to develop long-term solutions to chronic CVP water supply shortages, including the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, federal storage feasibility studies, South Delta Improvements Program, Two Gates Fish Protection Demonstration Project. Direct and coordinate work among staff, consultants, partners, State and federal representatives, environmental organizations, and other interested parties. Communicate issues to State and federal representatives, media, and other interested parties. Manage contracts, budgets, and board reports. In the BDCP, participate in virtually every aspect of plan development: conservation strategies, operations, science, governance, and finance.
- Represent Authority interests in affiliated associations including the Central Valley Project Water Association, the Association of California Water Agencies, the Family Farm Alliance, and the California Farm Water Coalition. Participate on committees and workgroups, research, negotiate, and draft agreements, letters, documents, and memoranda, develop and communicate information. Current Chair of the Association of California Water Agencies Federal Affairs Committee Water Supply Subcommittee.
- Represent Authority interests in State and federal water policy initiatives. Research, develop, and deliver information and testimony before commissions, councils, and State and federal administrative and legislative bodies. Major efforts include participating in the CVPIA Program Activity Review, which informed the Bush Administration's "Expect More" government performance review initiative; CALFED Program Governance review culminating with testimony before the Little Hoover Commission; National Academies' National Research Council's published review of the federal biological opinions "A Scientific Assessment of Alternatives for Reducing Water Management Effects on Threatened and Endangered Fishes in California's Bay-Delta", testimony before the House Water & Power Subcommittee in opposition to guaranteed, permanent funding for Trinity Restoration Program, and drought legislation development.

Represent and communicate Authority interests to the public and media.

Watermaster

San Luis Water District, Los Banos, CA

2000 – 2004

- Assist in development and communication of Board position on policy issues affecting water resource management at federal, state, and regional levels. Prepare written and oral reports on matters affecting the District's water supply.
- Administer all aspects of water resource management including maintenance, improvement, or development of systems and procedures to accurately and efficiently allocate, deliver, record, and reconcile the available water supply with a staff of four. Additional attendant duties include governing programs to supplement, transfer, exchange, utilize, or by-back supply as requested by customers.

- Improved the District's metering policies and identified operational issues to reduce delivery losses by seventy-five percent resulting in direct annual customer savings of approximately $75,000 per year.
- Negotiated the designation of a District constructed pumping facility as a permanent Bureau of Reclamation Point of Delivery, thereby allowing for the substitution of P.G. & E. power service with C.V.P. Project Use Energy resulting in estimated power cost saving of $150,000 per year.
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Special Projects Administrator

Three Star Farms, Los Banos, CA

1998 – 2000

- Supervised special projects such as development of a direct San Luis Canal turnout, permanent drip system installation, market expansion, and crop diversification.
- Implemented refined water budgeting system and diversified water supply sources.
- Spearheaded development of a field cost accounting system to provide basis for cost-to-benefit analyses of crop and lease values, etc.

Directed all aspects of melon harvesting operations including labor recruitment, management, equipment and supply procurement, maintenance, scheduling, logistics, and quality control, overseeing over 200 employees from Bakersfield to Sacramento.

Principal

Panoche Peak Farms, Los Banos, CA

1992 – 1997

- Administered all aspects of the enterprise including financial, marketing, labor, and cultural management practices.
- Negotiated all forms of contract including leases, sales, and custom services.
- Developed water budgeting system and diversified supply sources.
- Served as grassroots lobbyist for the Family Farm Alliance in Washington D.C. to promote the Westside position on CVPIA and related legislation to Congressional, Administration, and media representatives.

Manager

River House Farms

1987 – 1991

- Managed 3 supervisors and related labor crews of up to 120 personnel.
- Coordinated major cultural events (i.e. planting, harvest, etc.) with lenders, vendors, contractors, and processors.
- Introduced computerized accounting system and implemented cost

accounting, analysis, and allocation processes.

- Served as representative on the Californian Tomato Growers Association, California Bean Growers Association, and Family Farm Alliance, serving as a grassroots lobbyist in Washington D.C. to promote the Westside position on CVPIA and related legislation to Congressional, Administration, and media representatives.

Education

Alumnus, Class 42, California Agricultural Leadership Program
Graduated 2013

Merced Junior College
Tutor – Economics and Philosophy

Monterey Peninsula College

Carmel High School, Carmel, CA

- Graduated 1982

Interests

Cooking and food, gardening, biking, tennis, golf, hiking, carpentry, and mechanics.

SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE USBR FACILITIES
EMERGENCY SERVICES CONTRACT #R11PX200045
EMERGENCY SERVICES CONTRACT #R13PX20045
EMERGENCY SERVICES CONTRACT #R15PC00029

Report Date: 11-Jul-16
Prepared By: G. Wamocha

PURPOSE OF CONTRACTS:
Service support for the Tracy Fish Collecting Facility, Delta-Cross Channel, and Fish Release Site Support.

FEDERAL SOURCE ISSUSING GRANT:
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region
Regional Office
Division of Acquisition Services
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1815
Sacramento, CA 95825-1898

GRANT # AND SERVICE PERIOD	DATE BILLED	AMOUNT BILLED		DATE RECEIVED	AMOUNT RECEIVED
EMERGENCY SERVICES CONTRACT #R11PX200045 (continuation)					
USBR Facilities 1/1/13 - 3/31/13) Emergency Contract	6/28/13	84,021.21		7/17/13	84,021.21
USBR Facilities 4/1/13 - 6/30/13) Emergency Contract	07/31/13	18,401.05		8/15/13	18,401.05
EMERGENCY SERVICES CONTRACT #R13PX20045					
USBR Facilities 7/1/13 - 9/30/13) Emergency Contract	11/14/13	187,007.88		1/08/14	187,007.88
USBR Facilities 10/1/13 - 12/31/13) Emergency Contract	2/21/14	178,589.26		3/26/14	178,610.34
USBR Facilities 1/1/14 - 3/31/14) Emergency Contract	4/22/14	77,068.72		5/23/14	77,068.72
USBR Facilities 4/1/14 - 6/30/14) Emergency Contract	7/29/14	52,743.23		9/18/14	52,804.76
USBR Facilities 7/1/14 - 9/30/14) Emergency Contract	10/30/14	66,998.90		2/4/15	66,998.90
USBR Facilities 9/1/14 - 12/31/14) Emergency Contract	2/12/15	154,707.73		3/3/15	154,707.73
EMERGENCY SERVICES CONTRACT #R15PC00029					
USBR Facilities 1/1/15 - 3/31/15) Emergency Contract	6/18/15	483,277.23		8/3/15	483,277.23
USBR Facilities 4/1/15 - 6/30/15) Emergency Contract	8/17/15	44,816.18		8/27/15	44,816.18
USBR Facilities 1/1/15 - 1/14/15) Emergency Contract	10/29/15	90,365.81		11/12/15	90,365.81
USBR Facilities 7/1/15 - 9/30/15) Emergency Contract	11/19/15	237,607.05		11/25/15	237,607.05
USBR Facilities 10/1/15 - 12/31/15) Emergency Contract	2/4/16	199,519.25		3/4/16	199,519.25
USBR Facilities 1/1/16 - 3/31/16) Emergency Contract	5/27/16	229,730.11		6/9/16	229,730.11
Total		$2,104,853.61			$2,104,936.22

Note: Contract R15PC00029 is through 12/31/19. I have not included future funding amount.

I:\Payroll\USBR\Emergency Services Contract FY14 - FY16.xls