



# The Western Coalition of Arid States

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#### WEBSITE/E-MAIL

WWW.WESTCAS.ORG  
westcas@mindspring.com

## RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF WESTERN COALITION OF ARID STATES (WESTCAS)

**WHEREAS**, one of the most urgent challenges facing the Arid West and especially the WESTCAS States of Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, and Texas will be to keep pace with the growing water demands of a rapidly growing population, and

**WHEREAS**, the population is expected to double by the year 2060 according to the Western Governors Association projections; and

**WHEREAS**, the ability to adequately plan for and deliver critically-needed water supplies has serious implications for all aspects of life the Arid West,

**WHEREAS**, an insufficient water supply has the potential to jeopardize hundreds of thousands of jobs and hundreds of billions of dollars in personal income in the region over the next 50 years; and

**WHEREAS**, many States in the Arid West have prepared State and/or Regional Water Plans with input from local and tribal governments, State and Federal agencies, businesses and non-profit organizations and the public at large, that document and predict a growing gap between supply and demand; and

**WHEREAS**, regional and local water entities best understand the needs of their respective communities and have a proven track record of expertly balancing environmental, economic and human factors; and

**WHEREAS**, both the Executive and Legislative Branches of the federal government, are developing policies and procedures which have the potential to shift critical decision-making from the local to the federal level; and

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*P. O. Box 77561 Washington, D. C. 20013-7561*

*770-424-8111 Fax: 770-424-9468*



**WHEREAS**, a number of federal initiatives appear to be occurring with little or no public comment or input from the local stakeholders; and

Now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the undersigned call upon the Executive Branch of the federal government to take the steps necessary to ensure that all regulatory guidelines and Executive Orders dealing with water policy will be fully published in draft form, with an appropriate period provided for formal public review and comments; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that all water-related legislation pending or introduced in the Congress will be reviewed with full participation from the public and affected state and local interests; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the concerns of local and regional governments, water providers—will be reflected in the transparent and public actions and decision-making processes of the Executive and Legislative Branches of the federal government; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that while a legitimate role for the federal government will continue to be to establish guidelines and benchmarks to protect the environment, decisions regarding the needs of local communities must reside at the state and local level, where balancing critical environmental, social and economic factors is best fulfilled; and, finally, be it

RESOLVED, that the WESTCAS organization pledges its members and resources to assist the Council of Environmental Quality, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency in developing policies and procedures for water resource and water quality management, particularly in the water-stressed Arid West,, which value the resource, the environment and the social and economic needs of the population.

**RESOLVED**, that official copies of this Resolution will be forwarded to the President of the United States and to all members of the Congressional

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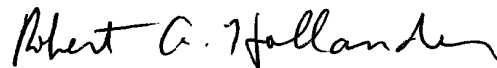


**The Western Coalition of Arid States**  
**W E S T C A S**

delegations representing the WESTCAS members in Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, and Texas.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010.  
WESTERN COALITION OF ARID STATES, a  
Non-Profit Water Quality and Quantity Organization

BY: Robert Hollander, President Board of Directors



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