



# COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

*Established in 1918 as a public agency*

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December 30, 2020

Dr. Erica Pan, Co-Chair  
Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, Co-Chair  
California Community Vaccine Advisory Committee  
via: [COVID19vaccineoutreach@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:COVID19vaccineoutreach@cdph.ca.gov)

Dear Drs. Pan and Burke Harris:

Thank you for your service to the people of California during this trying time. Your efforts to ensure an equitable distribution plan for the COVID-19 vaccine is commendable and appreciated.

Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) provides domestic water and wastewater services, as well as irrigation water to the people of the Coachella Valley. As the Advisory Committee continues to hone its recommendations for Phases 1B and 1C of the vaccine distribution plan, CVWD understands water and wastewater sector employees will be in Phase 1C. However, how employers will ensure access to and administration of the vaccine has not been fully explained.

Many of the water and wastewater employees across the state are employees of special districts, legislatively created political subdivisions, which provide specialized, oftentimes essential, services the local city or county does not. CVWD is a special district and operates independently of Riverside County with an annual operating budget of \$278 million and more than 500 full-time employees.

CVWD is ready to engage with the state and county on how to ensure the men and women who keep essential services operating in the Coachella Valley will receive the vaccine. Are essential services employers, like CVWD, going to be contacted by County Public Health officials? Should CVWD continue to engage and work with elected County Supervisors' offices? Your guidance is desperately needed.

CVWD will continue to monitor the Community Vaccine Advisory Committee and its recommendations in the coming months. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or follow-up at (760) 398-2661 x 3564 or [kjohnson@cvwd.org](mailto:kjohnson@cvwd.org).

Sincerely,

Kristen Johnson, J.D.  
Government Affairs Specialist

cc: Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, 4<sup>th</sup> District, Riverside County