

17 March 2017

President Donald Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter to you, and that you will hopefully personally read, to advise you of an ongoing threat that the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) poses to our community and to request your assistance in removing this threat that BLM poses to our community. Specifically, I am requesting the following: reimburse all ROW fees that our water provider has paid to BLM since 2009 and, since all, but 2 parcels or so, of the BLM land in question are unclaimed 5 acre parcels intermixed with privately owned parcels in our community, have BLM transfer title of that land to our water provider without forcing our water provider to pay for and endure expensive and unnecessary bureaucratic procedures.

The following is some history on this problem for your reference:

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has become a threat to the community I live in due to the outrageous ROW fees it is demanding from the water provider for our community, for the BLM land that our water provider has its infrastructure on. I have requested in writing the assistance of our U.S. Congressman (Mr. Paul Cook) and have been stonewalled. Personally, I maintain that our water provider should not be paying any ROW fees at all since it is a non profit local government agency created by the state solely for the purpose of providing water to our community, and is not a commercial enterprise as BLM continues to claim that it is. In fact, for the first 30 years, from 1979 to 2009, that our water provider had its infrastructure on that BLM land, there were no ROW fees at all. This problem only started in 2009 and rapidly got worse. Further, our community is severely impoverished and has been officially recognized by the state as such. I have tried to communicate these points to our U.S. Congressman and have been ignored. Our water provider has tried to communicate these points to BLM and has been ignored. There is quite simply no accountability for BLM. Our community urgently needs your assistance in getting accountability for BLM and in getting the threat to our community that BLM poses removed.

Unfortunately, this is not the first time that I have requested assistance regarding this matter. On 20 December 2016, I went to your website, www.donaldtrump.com, and, other than receiving an automated response acknowledging my contact, I have received no response back. On 20 January 2017, I went to www.whitehouse.gov and put in the same request for assistance there and, other than receiving an automated response acknowledging my contact, I have received no response back.

Then, on 3 March 2017, I called the White House switchboard at (202) 456-1414 and the clerk who answered there couldn't have been more rude and uncooperative, and flat out told me that there was no one that I could talk to regarding this problem and that, unless someone got back to me, I had no recourse and had to accept whatever BLM wanted to do to our community. I then asked for a supervisor and that clerk rudely told me that there was no supervisor available and that she had to take down my name and phone number so that a supervisor could call me back. I then gave that clerk my name and phone number but have received no call back so far.

In the meantime, the water provider for our community had finally been forced to pay 86,000.00 to BLM out of its reserve fund that it would have otherwise kept for infrastructure repairs, for what is quite simply a contrived "expense" that BLM literally created out of nothing, in order to prevent much

worse demands from BLM in the near future.

On 3 March 2017, after I had called the White House switchboard, I also called the Office of the Inspector General in the U.S. Department of the Interior and left a message. On 13 March 2017 at 7:44 A.M., I received a call back from Mr. William T. Wiser of the Office of the Inspector General in the U.S. Department of the Interior, and I then explained the problem to Mr. Wiser. Later, at 11:52 A.M. on 13 March 2017, I received a call from Mr. Jeff Childers, who is the Assistant Field Manager for the BLM Barstow, California Field Office. Mr. Childers gave me much the same stonewalling as I had received from Congressman Cook's office, except that he had a much more defiant "*what are you going to do about it?*" type of attitude, further underscoring the fact that there is no accountability for BLM.

Sincerely,

Alec Destry
1330 Alta Ave
Landers CA 92285
(760) 364-4107
xode@lanset.com