

Legislative hearing on two bills:

- **H.R. 200** (Baca) “*Inland Empire Perchlorate Ground Water Plume Assessment Act of 2011;*”
- **H.R. 2842** (Tipton) “*Bureau of Reclamation Small Conduit Hydropower Development and Rural Jobs Act of 2011.*”
- Both pieces of legislation focus on the need to maximize our water and power resources.
- H.R. 200 authorizes the study of contaminated and impaired groundwater in the Rialto-Colton Basin.
- H.R. 2842 allows for the development of hydropower at existing canal facilities.
- Water is an important factor in our economy. In the Inland Empire, groundwater constitutes about 79 percent of the drinking-water supply.
- H.R. 200 seeks to understand the extent of the perchlorate contamination in the basin, help isolate

the problem, and prevent this problem from spreading.

- **Water contamination knows no boundaries- and we must prevent the migration of contamination to other groundwater resources.**
- H.R. 2482 looks to increase hydropower development of conduit and in-canal hydropower.
- We support 2482 general intent of increasing generation at existing facilities, but believe that this can be done without disregarding environmental protections.
- Proponents for this National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) waiver will argue that this is the regulatory red tape that is preventing the development of more hydropower.

- The stopgap for development is not NEPA. **There must be clear process in place for the development of hydropower at Reclamation facilities.**
- Developers are looking for clarity and certainty that the project can be developed. Waiving NEPA will not provide clarity and certainty. A clear lease of power privilege process will.
- Deputy Commissioner Murillo, Reclamation must develop a clear process for developing hydropower at Reclamation facilities.
- Thank you to the witnesses for being here today. Look forward to working with all of you in the future.