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Testimony at Assembly Committee on Water,
Parks and Wildlife Oversight Hearing:

The Salton Sea: Current Efforts and Future
Opportunities

Clean Air Act Requirements

- Regulate fine particulates in dust (PM10)
- Requires attainment of health based standards
- Install best available mitigation measures (BACM)
- Develop a SIP to timely demonstrate attainment

QSA Will Make Attainment Challenging

QSA expected to cause:

- 22 foot elevation decline: -228 to -250 ft. msl
- 28% reduction in surface area: 233,000 to 167,000 acres
- 66,000 acres exposed (103 sq. miles) – City of Burbank
- Controlling playa dust will be necessary to reach attainment



Already the Sea's Health and Air Quality Have Degraded Since the QSA

- 3 – 3.5 ft. decline in elevation
- Air monitors – 232 days exceed state standard (6/2010 – 7/2012)



QSA Mitigation Plan is Not Sufficient

- 4 Steps – study, limited action
- Mitigation water ceases in 2017 or earlier
- QSA funding (\$133 million) not equal to \$1 billion plus price tag
- State's commitment to fund shortfall is unenforceable



Without Adequate Funding:

- Public health impacts and associated costs
- Crop damage
- EPA sanctions possible
 - More stringent offsets
 - Loss of Federal transportation funding
- Economic harm

