



DRAFT

January 7, 2010

Honorable Ben Hueso, President
and Honorable Members of the City Council
City of San Diego
202 C Street, 10th Floor
San Diego, California 92101

RE: Indirect Potable Reuse/Reservoir Augmentation Demonstration Project

Dear President Hueso and Honorable Councilmembers:

As members of the Metro Wastewater Commission and Metro Wastewater JPA,¹ the Participating Agencies of the Metropolitan Sewerage System commend the City of San Diego's efforts to proactively maximize the use of reclaimed water to increase our local water supply. The Metro Wastewater Commission and JPA unanimously support enhanced efforts to utilize reclaimed water and encourage your support of the Indirect Potable Reuse/Reservoir Augmentation Demonstration Project (Demonstration Project). Determining the feasibility of this new water resource moves the San Diego region towards becoming less dependent upon unreliable and diminishing imported water supplies. If deemed feasible from the proposed demonstration-scale project, a full-scale IPR/RA Project would increase the production and use of recycled water and provide the following benefits:

- Provide a locally controlled, drought-proof supply of high quality water
- Decrease and/or offset the amount of water that must be imported into the region
- Decrease the amount of treated wastewater that must be discharged into our ocean
- Help meet the future water needs of an increasing population
- Provide a supply of water with a smaller environmental footprint (including lower carbon emissions) than imported or desalinated water

Water conservation alone will not solve the region's short and long-range water supply needs. The San Diego region must continue to work together to develop more reliable and environmentally sustainable water resources.

¹ The Metro Commission is an advisory body established by the 1998 "Regional Wastewater Disposal Agreement between the City of San Diego and the Participating Agencies in the Metropolitan Sewerage System." The purpose of the Metro Commission is to provide the position of the "Participating Agencies" on matters affecting the Metro System. The Metro Commission and Metro Wastewater JPA are both comprised of the following members: the cities of Chula Vista, Coronado, Del Mar, El Cajon, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, National City and Poway, the County of San Diego (representing the Winter Gardens Sewer Maintenance District, Alpine Sanitation District, Lakeside Sanitation District and Spring Valley Sanitation District), the Lemon Grove Sanitation District, the Otay Water District and the Padre Dam Municipal Water District.

Demonstration Project

January 7, 2010

Page Two

The Metro Wastewater Commission and JPA encourage the City Council to approve the project management and public outreach contract that supports implementation of the Demonstration Project. We understand that this contract will be considered by the City Council at its January 12, 2010 meeting.

Your ongoing commitment to meeting the challenge of reducing treated wastewater discharge into the ocean and developing a more reliable, sustainable and diversified regional water supply is greatly appreciated. We look forward to working together to support your efforts in this important area.

Sincerely,

Ernest Ewin
Councilmember, City of La Mesa
Chair, Metro Wastewater Commission/JPA

Jerry Jones
Councilmember, City of Lemon Grove
Vice Chair, Metro Wastewater
Commission/JPA

The Joint Powers Authority Proactively Addressing Regional Wastewater Issues

Chula Vista • Coronado • Del Mar • Imperial Beach • La Mesa • Lemon Grove Sanitation District
National City • Otay Water District • Poway • Padre Dam Municipal Water District
County of San Diego, representing East Otay, Lakeside/Alpine, Spring Valley & Winter Gardens Sanitation Districts