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Orange County's Groundwater Authority

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November 27, 2006

Mr. Lester Snow, Director
California Department of Water Resources
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1115-1
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Re: Proposition 50, Chapter 8, 1st Funding Cycle Recommended Project List – SAWPA Addition

Dear Mr. Snow: Lester

On November 13th, the California Department of Water Resources announced the preliminary recommended funding list of projects proposed under the first funding cycle of State Proposition 50, Chapter 8 Implementation Grant Program. The Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) was not included on the list but was listed as first runner up to selection based on point scoring of the grant application. On behalf of the Orange County Water District, as well as numerous stakeholders throughout the Santa Ana region, **we request that funding allocated to Proposition 50, Chapter 8 Implementation under the second funding cycle be moved to the first funding cycle to allow the SAWPA grant application to be included for funding. We believe this recommendation for increased first round funding is based on the best interests of the State.**

The SAWPA application represents the combined interests of many agencies and organizations in implementing water resource improvements for the Santa Ana Region. This region represents one of the most studied and evaluated regions for water quality and water supply in the State. It was the first region to implement a maximum benefit demonstration to protect water quality, while balancing effective water resource management through the use of a multi-agency task force approach and RWQCB involvement. It established the first truly integrated regional water management plan that secured funds for the region under the Proposition 13 Water Bond and is now used

as a template for the integrated regional water management planning under Proposition 50 and Proposition 84 State Water Bonds. Under the Proposition 50 evaluation process, the SAWPA integrated plan was ranked among the top integrated plans of the 16 grant applications submitted under Step 2 implementation based on the plan ranking criteria.

As a stakeholder and strong supporter of the Santa Ana IRWMP and the priority projects for the region included in its Proposition 50, Chapter 8 IRMWP grant application, **we believe that it is important to support the SAWPA grant submittal for inclusion in the current recommended funding list for Round One funding. This will leverage the grant preparation funds spent to date, to allow funds originally planned under the second funding round of Proposition 50 to move quicker into implementation. And, by expanding the first round funding list, funds can be expedited to important IRWMP project implementation, particularly in light of the Proposition 84 bond passage.**

In conclusion, we appreciate your interest and support of this request. If OCWD can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact myself or General Manager, Virginia Grebbien at 714-378-3200. Thank you for your careful consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Philip Anthony
President

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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

10500 ELLIS AVENUE, FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 92708
(714) 378-3200

FAX

Date: December 5, 2006
Number of pages including cover sheet: 3

To: Lester Snow

Phone:
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CC:

From: Darla Cirillo

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E-mail Address:

REMARKS: ☒ Urgent ☒ For your review ☐ Reply ASAP ☐ Please comment

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL PAGES, OR IF THEY ARE NOT LEGIBLE, PLEASE CALL THE DISTRICT IMMEDIATELY AT (714) 378-3200.

Control # 2006-0367 (J. Johns) Call-Up Date 12/20/2006