5/7/13 Board Meeting- Item 4
CAA of PCE in Turlock Groundwater Project
Deadline: 4/30/13 by 12 noon

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RECEIVED
4-29-13
SWRCB Clerk

April 26, 2013

Felicia Marcus, Chair and Members
State Water Resources Control Board
1101 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Letter of Support for City of Turlock's 2013 Cleanup and Abatement Account Application for the PCE Remediation System Optimization Project

Dear Chair Marcus and Members of the Board:

I write this letter to express my support for the City of Turlock's (City) 2013 Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA) application for funding related to the PCE Remediation System Optimization Project.

The City began working cooperatively with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) in 1994 to efficiently and cost effectively restore groundwater quality in downtown Turlock which had been impacted by historic dry cleaning operations. Using a combination of CAA funds and a considerable amount of its own resources, the City performed groundwater modeling to develop a groundwater management plan, characterized the extent of the tetrachloroethylene (PCE) impacts, assessed remedial options and recently completed construction of a groundwater extraction and treatment system in the downtown area of Turlock. The system has been successful in extracting PCE from groundwater, removing over 100 pounds of PCE since it came on-line in November 2011.

The three year project proposed under the current 2013 CAA application seeks to optimize the already successful groundwater extraction and treatment system by improving the rate of PCE extraction from groundwater, providing for the continued operation and maintenance of the improved system, and abandoning monitoring wells that are no longer necessary. Given the success of the cleanup to date, this project deserves the State Board's continued support.

The project fulfills the goals of the Cleanup and Abatement Account by continuing to protect the groundwater that the City of Turlock relies upon for its municipal water supply. Furthermore, the use of CAA funds to support the continued remediation is in the best interest of the public. The

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parties suspected of being responsible for the historic discharge(s) of PCE to groundwater are not confirmed sources. Many of these parties, even if it were shown that they are responsible, are either defunct, deceased, or have an inability to pay.

The City has already expended considerable resources in connection with the investigation and remediation of the PCE releases. In fact, the City recently constructed two (2) reservoirs at a cost of $6 million based on the goals outlined in the City's Groundwater Management Plan. The City will continue to contribute its own resources as it has done in the past to ensure that the project outlined in the application is successful.

If this application is approved, the CAA funding will assist the City in continuing to ensure a safe and reliable water supply for the City and its water supply users. Further, the City's proposed PCE remediation system optimization project allows the City and Regional Board to continue to partner to accomplish this goal in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Kristin Olsen
Assemblymember, District 12

Cc: Mr. Tom Howard, Executive Director, SWRCB
Mr. Nathan Casebeer, CVRWQCB

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