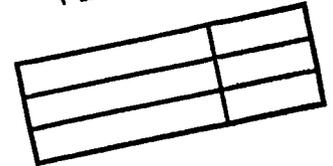




FEB 28 2012



Board of Directors

February 21, 2012

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Joseph J. Kuebler, CPA

Mrs. Carole Beswick, Chair
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region
3737 Main Street, Suite 500
Riverside, CA 92501-3339

Vice President

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Randy A. Record
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Re: Proposed Basin Plan Amendment Related to Recreational Uses

General Manager

Paul D. Jones II, P.E.

Dear Chair Beswick:

Director of The Metropolitan Water District of So. Calif.
Randy A. Record

Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) would like to express support for the proposed Basin Plan Amendment related to recreation uses (REC1 and REC2) and the associated water quality objectives. There was extraordinary collaboration from your staff with the stakeholders in the Stormwater Quality Standards Task Force, resulting in a clear path to compliance while protecting public health and beneficial uses.

Board Secretary and Assistant to the General Manager
Rosemarie V. Howard

The proposed Basin Plan Amendment will clarify the definitions of contact and noncontact recreation, change the water quality objectives from using fecal coliform as the indicator to using E.coli, as the federal and State agencies have recommended. More importantly, the proposed changes include a high-flow suspension when flows are too unsafe for recreation, and the de-designation of the REC1 use in several water bodies based on Use Attainability Analyses. These changes are important because they enable the region to focus on protecting recreational uses when and where they actually occur.

Legal Counsel
Redwine and Sherrill

EMWD agrees with the recommendation to remove the REC1 designation for Temescal Creek. EMWD currently has an intermittent discharge into this creek and acknowledge that the level of recreation in that area is extremely infrequent as indicated in the studies. Also, EMWD agrees with the finding in the studies that the reclamation plant discharges in the river will not be changed as a result of this basin plan amendment but remain in accordance with the permit conditions that support REC1 beneficial uses.

EMWD supports the adoption of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment. If there are questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Jayne Joy at (951) 928-3777 x6241.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Jones II, P.E.
General Manager

PJ/JJ:tlg

cc: Behrooz Mortazavi

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