



November 8, 2009

Mr. Richard Wright, Chairman
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
9175 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

Subject: Gregory Canyon Landfill, No. R9-2009C-073

Dear Chairman Wright:

I am the President and CEO of the San Diego North Economic Development Council, a coalition of private and public sector organizations working together to sustain and grow the economic base of North County. Our members include businesses, chambers of commerce, health organizations, local governments and educational institutions. Together, we work to attract new businesses, promote economic sustainability, and improve the quality of life in North County.

Gregory Canyon was first identified as a potential landfill site in 1991 by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors. The project underwent two county-wide ballot measure campaigns in 1994 and 2004, both of which resulted in overwhelming victories for the project. My Council originally reviewed and endorsed the project in 2004 and we believe that this project has become even more critical as time has passed.

The landfill represents an important component of public infrastructure essential to the economic recovery and future economic growth of San Diego County in general, and the North County area in particular. There will be significant benefits to businesses, residents, and the environment from having an environmentally superior disposal facility close to the source of waste generation. At present, no other disposal facility is operating or even proposed in the North County area. Moreover, competition for disposal services throughout San Diego County will help ensure that these services will be provided in a cost-effective manner over the ensuing years and decades.



The project has been designed to be the most environmentally-safe landfill in the state. The Gregory Canyon Bridge, which is the component of the project under your review, has also demonstrated that it can be constructed and utilized with very little impact on the San Luis Rey River or the surrounding habitat. Given this, we can see no reason for your Board to hesitate in approving the Section 401 Water Quality Certification permit for this project. We strongly urge that you issue this permit at the November 18 public hearing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary Knight".

Gary Knight
President & CEO
San Diego North Economic Development Council