WHEREAS:

1. Section 205(j) of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) authorizes states to reserve up to one percent of their annual Title II Clean Water Construction Grant allocation for water quality management planning activities. Beginning in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 1989, CWA section 604(b) supplemented CWA section 205(j)(2) to maintain such funding.

2. The Economic Stimulus package currently being considered by the U.S. Congress contains a significant increase in funding under CWA section 604(b). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) will conduct an accelerated application process in order to make the funds available to the states as soon as possible.

3. A total grant not to exceed $10,000,000 will be available in FFY 2009 for funding the water quality management planning program from CWA section 604(b), of which 40 percent is typically passed through to local agencies for projects.

4. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will work with U.S. EPA and other stakeholders to identify the types of projects that will be eligible for funding under the pass through requirements.

5. Many water quality planning activities administered by the State Water Board have been severely under-supported. These include refinement of designated beneficial uses of the State’s waters, establishment of sound water quality objectives to protect those uses, and other important activities related to the Division of Water Quality’s workload associated with developing and processing Total Maximum Daily Loads.

6. Staff resources from the 205(j) grant will contribute significantly to meeting these needs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Authorizes the Executive Director or designee to apply for and accept the FFY 2009 Phase 23 205(j) water quality management planning grant in an amount not to exceed $10,000,000.

2. Authorizes the Executive Director or designee to approve the final Phase 23 water quality management planning workplans.
3. Authorizes the issuance of in-kind services with U.S. EPA and amendments in accordance with the workplans to implement projects subject to the availability of federal funding.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on February 17, 2009.

AYE:     Chair Tam M. Doduc
         Arthur G. Baggett, Jr.
         Charles R. Hoppin
         Frances Spivy-Weber

NAY:     None

ABSENT:  None

ABSTAIN: None

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board