



March 17, 2014

Sent Via Electronic Email to Robert.LHeureux@waterboards.ca.gov

Honorable Chair Longley
and Members of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

RE: Consideration of Adoption of a Resolution to allow the Rose Foundation to Administer SEP Funding to Projects Benefitting Disadvantaged Communities

Dear Member of the Central Valley Regional Quality Control Board:

Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability (Leadership Counsel) is writing in strong support of Staff's recommendation to partner with the Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment (Rose Foundation) and focus Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) funding on disadvantaged communities (DACs).

The Rose Foundation has a demonstrated track record of working with partners to improve conditions in disadvantaged communities and we are confident that the capacity and dedication they bring to the issues of disadvantaged communities and water quality will ensure successful and meaningful implementation of the program.

Leadership Counsel is a non-profit organization committed to ensuring equal access to opportunity in among the most environmentally and economically challenged communities of California. We partner with community leaders and other non-profit organizations, such as Clean Water Fund and Community Water Center, to address the critical drinking water and wastewater needs of communities in the San Joaquin Valley. We are confident that this proposed action to partner with the Rose Foundation will help address the complex needs of improving water quality and promoting access to a safe and sound environment for some of California's most disadvantaged communities.

As we will not be able to be present for the Board's discussion of this matter on March 28th, please accept this letter as, once again, our strong endorsement of the proposal. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 559-369-2790 or pseaton@leadershipcounsel.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

Phoebe Seaton, Co-Director, Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability