STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2015-0071

APPROVING AN AMENDMENT INCORPORATING STAKEHOLDER-DEVELOPED GROUNDWATER QUALITY MEASURES FOR SALTS AND NUTRIENTS IN THE LOWER SANTA CLARA RIVER GROUNDWATER BASINS INTO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE LOS ANGELES REGION

WHEREAS:

- 1. On July 9, 2015 the Regional Water Quality Control Board for the Los Angeles Region (Los Angeles Water Board) adopted Resolution No. R15-007. This amendment incorporates stakeholder-developed groundwater quality management measures for salts and nutrients in the Lower Santa Clara River groundwater basins into the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region (Basin Plan). These groundwater quality management measures were developed by stakeholders as part of the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the Lower Santa Clara River Basins in Ventura County. Such plans are a requirement of the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board's) Recycled Water Policy and are intended to maintain the beneficial uses of groundwater while increasing recycled water use throughout the state.
- 2. The Los Angeles Water Board found that the analysis contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) "Substitute Environmental Documents" for the proposed Basin Plan amendment, including the CEQA Checklist, the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan, and the Staff Memorandum for this amendment, complies with the requirements of the State Water Board's certified regulatory process, as set forth in the California Code of Regulations, Title 23, section 3775 et seq. The State Water Board has reviewed the Substitute Environmental Documents for the Basin Plan amendment and concurs with the Los Angeles Water Board's findings and determinations, including the Statement of Overriding Considerations.
- 3. This Basin Plan amendment meets the "necessity" standard of the California Administrative Procedures Act, Government Code section 11353(b), because the Recycled Water Policy requires that Regional Water Boards incorporate salt and nutrient management measures for groundwater basins into their respective basin plans within one year of the receipt of stakeholder developed salt and nutrient management plans. Also, Water Code section 13240 requires each regional water board's basin plan to conform with any State policy for water quality control.
- 4. The proposed management strategies for salt and nutrients are designed to maintain current water quality conditions in the groundwater basins, prevent additional loading in localized areas with elevated levels of salts and nutrients, and manage additional loads from future recycled water projects in a manner that is protective of beneficial uses. Therefore, the amendment is consistent with State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16, and is also consistent with the policy of the State, established in California Water Code section 106.3 that everyone has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water.

5. This Basin Plan amendment does not become effective until approved by the State Water Board and the Office of Administrative Law (OAL).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

- 1. Approves the Basin Plan amendment adopted under Los Angeles Water Board Resolution No. R015-007.
- Authorizes and directs the Executive Director or designee to submit the Basin Plan amendment adopted under Los Angeles Water Board Resolution No. R15-007 to OAL for approval.

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 December 1, 2015.

AYE: Chair Felicia Marcus

Vice Chair Frances Spivy-Weber Board Member Tam M. Doduc Board Member Steven Moore Board Member Dorene D'Adamo

NAY: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

> Jeanine Townsend Clerk to the Board