November 18, 2014





WATER AGENCY

State Water Resources Control Board 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814 ATTN: Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board

Dear Chair Felicia Marcus and Board Members:

<u>Support Letter – Upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL Revisions</u>

The Castaic Lake Water Agency strongly supports the approval of amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region (Basin Plan) to revise the Upper Santa Clara River (USCR) Chloride Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and to revise water quality objectives for chloride in the Upper Santa Clara River. The amendments to the Basin Plan will play a critical role in local water sustainability for the Santa Clara River watershed and will provide multiple benefits to residents, businesses and the Santa Clarita Valley environment.

The Castaic Lake Water Agency strongly supports the proposed schedule extension, which is needed to provide time for the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District (SCVSD) to construct the chloride compliance project, and the three-month averaging period and flow-weighting between the Valencia and Saugus Water Reclamation Plants, which reduce the size, carbon footprint and waste brine production associated with the facility upgrades while fully protecting water quality and beneficial uses (e.g., salt-sensitive agriculture) in the Santa Clara River basin. We strongly urge the State Water Resources Control Board approve the proposed Basin Plan amendment and revisions to the USCR Chloride TMDL.

The Castaic Lake Water Agency is working closely with business, governmental and all other local stakeholders to maximize efficient use of the Santa Clarita Valley's water resources. We are greatly encouraged by the progress made towards implementation of the USCR Chloride TMDL and believe that the water to be produced by the SCVSD's advanced treatment processes will also be useful for recycled water projects currently being studied in partnership with our local water retailers.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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