



June 13, 2016

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Ms. Jeanine Townsend Clerk to the Board State Water Resources Control Boa 1001 I Street, 24th Floor P.O. Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 06-13-16
SWRCB Clerk

Sent via electronic mail: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

Re: Comment Letter - SRWTP Thermal Plan Exception

Dear Ms. Townsend:

On behalf of Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (Regional San), thank you for the opportunity to comment on the State Water Board's proposed concurrence with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's (Regional Water Board) exceptions to the Thermal Plan for the discharge from the Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (SRWTP).

There has been a tremendous amount of study, over a period of decades, of the potential effects on beneficial uses associated with the thermal component of the SRWTP discharge. Most recently, the work has included the exhaustive investigations reported in the "Temperature Study to Assess the Thermal Impacts of the Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant on Aquatic Life of the Lower Sacramento River" (2013 Study), a 2015 addendum to the 2013 study to address specific questions of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) relevant to delta smelt, and the "Regional San Temperature Study: Synthesis, Supplemental Analysis and Findings Report" (December 2015). These studies were designed and implemented in close coordination with USFWS, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Regional Water Board's action in its Order R5-2016-0020 is consistent with the findings of the studies and the input of the resources agencies. Regional San respectfully submits that the State Water Board should concur with the Regional Water Board's action granting exceptions to water quality objectives 5.A.(1)a and 5.A.(1).b and with the alternative limitations identified in sections IV.A.1.e.ii. and V.A.15.b. of Order R5-2016-0020.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Prabhakar Somavara District Engineer