

R:Wilson



**SWEETWATER AUTHORITY**

505 GARRETT AVENUE  
POST OFFICE BOX 2328  
CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA 91912-2328  
(619) 420-1413  
FAX (619) 425-7469  
<http://www.sweetwater.org>

GOVERNING BOARD  
W.D. "BUD" POCKLINGTON, CHAIR  
RON MORRISON, VICE CHAIR  
R. MITCHEL BEAUCHAMP  
JOSE PRECIADO  
MARIA RUBALCABA  
TERESA "TERRY" THOMAS  
MARGARET COOK WELSH

January 21, 2009

MARK N. ROGERS  
GENERAL MANAGER  
JAMES L. SMYTH  
OPERATIONS MANAGER

Chair Richard Wright and Regional Board Members  
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board  
San Diego – Region 9  
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100  
San Diego, CA 92123

RE: Request for approval of Marine Life Mitigation Plan (#R9-2008-0039) for  
Carlsbad Desalination Project

Dear Chairman Wright and Members of the Board:

I am writing you on behalf of Sweetwater Authority, which provides water service to approximately 185,000 people in National City, Bonita and the western and central portions of Chula Vista, California. Sweetwater was recently named the most reliable water agency in San Diego County.

In January 2007, Sweetwater joined the City of Carlsbad and water agencies throughout the county, in signing water purchase agreements with Poseidon Resources, the developer of the Carlsbad Desalination Project. Sweetwater will purchase 2,400 acre-feet annually, which will fulfill 10 percent of our total water needs. Sweetwater already receives 25 percent of its water supply from drought resistant sources, and this purchase will increase our drought tolerant supplies to 35 percent by 2010. We recognize that while implementing water conservation and recycling measures are critical, seawater desalination is an important part of the solution to the region's long-term water reliability needs.

Sweetwater has carefully reviewed Poseidon's project, including the Marine Life Mitigation Plan, to ensure that Poseidon has done its due diligence in mitigating for all potential impacts. The mitigation plan was conceived through the cooperation of multiple agencies, including the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and has received approval from all other participating agencies. We are satisfied that this plan meets the standards of both the Water Code and the Coastal Act and fulfills the conditions your agency enacted when you approved the Flow, Entrainment and Impingement Minimization Plan in April 2008. With over ten years of analysis, review and revisions, this project is ready to move on to the construction stage.

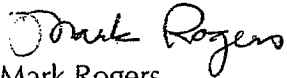
*A Public Water Agency  
Serving National City, Chula Vista and Surrounding Areas*

SAN DIEGO REGIONAL  
WATER QUALITY  
CONTROL BOARD  
2009 JAN 23 P 12:57

San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board  
RE: Request for approval of Marine Life Mitigation Plan (#R9-2008-0039) for  
Carlsbad Desalination Project  
January 21, 2009  
Page 2 of 2

The Sweetwater Authority Governing Board asks you to make the right decision and approve the Marine Life Mitigation Plan for the Carlsbad Desalination Project.

Sincerely,



Mark Rogers  
General Manager

cc: David King, Vice Chairman  
Eric Anderson, Board Member  
Grant Destache, Board Member  
George Loveland, Board Member  
Wayne Rayfield, Board Member  
Gary Thompson, Board Member  
Kris Weber, Board Member  
John Robertus, Executive Director  
Catherine Hagan, Regional Board Attorney