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ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor



State of California - The Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME http://www.dfg.ca.gov 1416 9th Street Sacramento, CA 95814 916-653-7667

February 2, 2009

Dr.-Richard Wright, Chair and Members of the Board California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region 9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92123-4340

Re: February 11, 2009 Regional Board Meeting: Item #6 Poseidon Resources Corporation Proposed Carlsbad Desalination Project: Marine Life Mitigation Plan

The Department of Fish and Game (Department) offers the following information in support of the Poseidon Carlsbad Desalination Project (Project) and the associated Marine Life Mitigation Plan (MLMP). Department staff was actively involved in the review of the Project and MLMP. In addition, Department staff was involved with the analysis and determination of impingement and entrainment impacts due to operations of the desalination plant, and collaborated with the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission), the State Lands Commission, and other state agencies on the development of the MLMP. Also, we have been in contact with Project representatives in the context of discussing potential wetland mitigation sites.

The Coastal Commission directed Poseidon to look at 11 potential restoration sites located within Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego counties. Additionally, Poseidon may consider other sites as recommended by the Department. Department staff met with Poseidon in April 2008, and most recently discussed their progress during an October 2008 phone call. Poseidon is currently in the process of evaluating the 11 sites and will contact us when they have narrowed their list. We look forward to future meetings with Poseidon to work out mitigation details.

The Department agrees that the mitigation measures the Coastal Commission determined to be appropriate are adequate to mitigate the impacts of the Project. The Department supports the Coastal Commission's procedures for determining the mitigation for these impacts in addition to the sound scientific methodology that was used.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Marija Vojkovich, Manager, Marine Region, at mvoykovich@dfg.ca.gov or (805) 568-1246.

Donald Koch Director

cc: Continued on the next page

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cc: Linda S. Adams, Secretary California Environmental Protection Agency

> Tom Doduc, Chair State Water Resources Control Board

> Dorothy Rice, Executive Director State Water Resources Control Board

John Robertus, Executive Officer California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region

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