COMMITTEES CHAIR, BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW VICE CHAIR, AGRICULTURE CHAIR, JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT California State Senate SENATOR

DENISE MORENO DUCHENY

FORTIETH SENATE DISTRICT

SELECT COMMITTEES CHAIR, CALIFORNIA-MEXICO COOPERATION CHAIR, COLORADO RIVER CHAIR, OVERSIGHT OF THE UC ENERGY LABS BOARDS CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT STATE PUBLIC WORKS

March 31, 2008



Richard Wright, Chair San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board 9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92123

RE: Carlsbad Desalination Project. Approval of Flow, Entrainment, and Impingement Minimization Plan, April 9, 2008 Hearing, Agenda Item 7

Dear Mr. Wright:

I am writing in support of Poseidon Resources' proposed Carlsbad Desalination Project Flow, Entrainment, and Impingement Minimization Plan.

As State Representative of South Bay residents who are customers of Sweetwater Authority, I feel it is important to express my support for the Carlsbad Desalination Project. Last year, Sweetwater Authority entered into a long-term water purchase agreement with Poseidon Resources to provide high-quality drinking water. These contractual agreements guarantee that the benefits of the desalination plant will spread beyond prominent north coastal communities to the south county, greatly benefiting residents in my district.

As the Chair of the Senate Colorado River Select Committee, I take a strong interest in San Diego's current water situation. San Diego County has a long history of battling droughts, and we are literally at the end of the state's water pipeline. Locally, we do not possess nearly enough ground or rainwater to serve our population. The San Diego County Water Authority has implemented successful conservation and recycling programs. However, water recycling and conservation alone are not enough to meet the potable water needs of San Diego.

Recent reports from the scientific community about drought conditions in Southern California and the unavoidable impacts of climate change on our water infrastructure have created a renewed sense of urgency in San Diego County. It is critical to our entire region that we have a dependable, renewable, and affordable source of water, and I strongly believe that seawater desalination offers us a means of achieving this stability.

The Carlsbad desalination plant is an excellent example of what can be accomplished when the private sector and government cooperatively strive for innovative solutions to our regional issues.

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I support the Carlsbad Desalination Plant and request that you approve the Flow, Entrainment, and Impingement Minimization Plan for this project.

Sincerely,

Denise Moreno Duchen

DENISE MORENO DUCHENY State Senator, 40th District

DMD/jmh CC:

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