Dear Regulator:

I appreciate the e-mail notification and opportunity to comment a proposed regulation to prohibit certain wasteful water use practices. It is my understanding, the Water Board is advancing this rulemaking in response to Executive Orders B-37-16 and B-40-17.

With regard to the following question:

- The drought emergency water conservation regulations and the proposed regulation restrict “the irrigation of turf on public street medians....” The proposed regulation would exempt turf that “...serves a community or neighborhood function.” - Are there other ways this particular prohibition could be phrased so that it would minimize the irrigation of turf-only medians; avoid unintended consequences (e.g., dust and tree mortality); allow for well planned landscape transformations; and encourage the irrigation of turf that provides social, recreational and/or environmental benefits? Is turf in these areas a good candidate for recycled water and should the regulation be limited to potable water?

I recommend that the regulation not prohibit median turf in areas that are irrigated with recycled water. There are many communities that have consciously invested in Recycled Water (RW) infrastructure to be allowed to irrigate median landscaping with sustainable and the appropriate type of water supply. The communities do value these green spaces as important features within their jurisdictions. Promoting the use of recycled water for landscape purposes, including turf areas, should be a continued best management practice.

I do not support restricting the use turf or other plant material on median landscapes or other public/private landscape areas where RW is the source of irrigation water.

Sincerely,

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