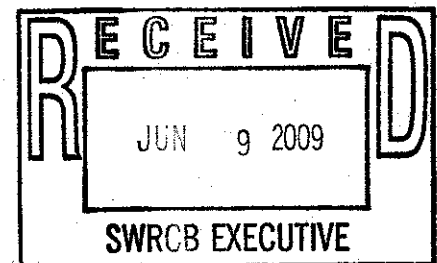




**COMMUNITY SERVICES & WATER DEPARTMENT**  
Samuel Kevin Wilson, Director of Community Services & Water  
4305 Santa Fe Avenue, Vernon, California 90058  
Telephone (323) 583-8811 Fax (323) 826-1435  
June 9, 2009



Ms. Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 "I" Street, 24th Floor  
Sacramento CA 95814  
Via Email: [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov)

**Subject:** Support for the allocation of the additional 15% of ARRA funds for new expanded use projects (1B) and prioritization of funds for urban stormwater projects in disadvantaged communities (2C).

Dear Chair Hoppins and Members of the Water Board:

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on changes to the implementation plan for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program recently augmented by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). On behalf of the City of Vernon, I support the clarification of implementation plans because it is critical that the federal economic recovery monies fund projects that can be immediately implemented, directly benefit communities with high unemployment rates, and fulfill Water Board priorities for water and stormwater quality projection.

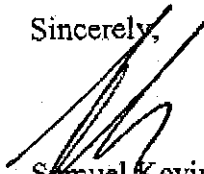
The City of Vernon is concerned about the recommendation to divide the 15% of ARRA subsidy funds between disadvantaged community wastewater and new expanded use projects. Already, \$70 million in ARRA funding is programmed to subsidize DAC wastewater projects, while there is no funding programmed for new expanded use projects, despite the fact that these projects will directly benefit disadvantaged communities. Therefore, I urge you to allocate the additional 15%, or \$42 million, for new expanded use projects (Option 1B).

The City of Vernon supports your staff recommendation to ensure funding priority for urban stormwater projects serving disadvantaged communities with the earliest construction dates (Option 2C). This strategy will fulfill the intent of ARRA legislation by funding projects that are shovel-ready and that create jobs in communities suffering from high unemployment rates. Furthermore, the funding subsidy will demonstrate the Water Board's commitment to providing financial assistance to communities in meeting stormwater quality requirements.

*Exclusively Industrial*

On behalf of the City of Vernon, I commend the time and effort that Water Board staff has expended in clarifying the implementation of the federal economic recovery legislation, and I urge you to support Options 1B and 2C in your board resolution. If you require additional information, please contact Sherwood Natsuhara of my staff at (323) 583-8811, Ext. 305.

Sincerely,



Samuel Kevin Wilson, P.E.  
Director of Community Services & Water

SKW/sn

cc: Ms. Dorothy Rice, Executive Director, State Water Resources Control Board