



May 23, 2019

The Honorable E. Joaquin Esquivel, Chair

c/o Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov



Dear Chair Esquivel,

The San Diego Audubon Society strongly supports the City of San Diego's Pure Water Program. We feel that it is the most environmentally benign means to satisfy our water needs. It will reduce the demand for water from other stressed water sources in the State, it will not require killing off ocean life through salt water intakes, it uses green energy from landfill and digester gasses, it offsets the need for additional dams to provide water security. San Diego's innovations will provide a model and test bed for future water supplies throughout the State and the Nation.

The City is now preparing to begin construction on Phase 1 of the Pure Water Program, which is scheduled to be completed in 2023. Phase 1 will include building the infrastructure, including pump stations, pipelines and treatment plants, to produce 30 million gallons per day of purified water to be added to the local drinking water supply.

As a member organization of the San Diego Water Reliability Coalition, a broad-based affiliation of more than 25 organizations that have come together to educate and advocate for water reuse in the San Diego region we support the City in completing these essential and forward looking projects.

In order to complete these projects as scheduled, the City must continue to invest in the Pure Water Program. We are pleased to see the Draft Intended Use Plans for the Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan Programs include significant support for the Pure Water Program and respectfully urge the Board to adopt those plans. This support will help provide information and experience that will benefit water planning for the entire State and Country. We fully support the City in its request for financing for these projects and are proud to advocate for the Pure Water Program. In case of questions or follow-up I can be reached at peugh@cox.net, and my phone number is 619-224-4591.

Sincerely,

James A. Peugh
Conservation Chair

San Diego Audubon Society