JUN 15 2009

Mr. Sat Tamaribuchi, Vice President of Environmental Affairs
The Irvine Company
550 Newport Center Drive
P.O. Box 6370
Newport Beach, CA 92658-6370

Dear Mr. Tamaribuchi:

ACCEPTED APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGES INTO IRVINE COAST AREA OF SPECIAL BIOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE (ASBS)

In our previous letter to you dated June 3, 2008, we requested the Irvine Company to provide funding to support the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project's (SCCWRP) ASBS reference envelope water quality pilot monitoring during the 2007-2008 storm season. For logistical reasons, the 2007-2008 ASBS reference area pilot monitoring proceeded without support by the conditional applicants. However, State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) staff suggested an alternative to a group of conditionally approved exception applicants, including the Irvine Company. It was suggested that the conditionally approved exception applicants fund a study by Dr. Peter Raimondi of the University of California, Santa Cruz to assess the biological data submitted by the applicants and make recommendations for future regional monitoring.

This letter serves to acknowledge that we have received confirmation from Dr. Raimondi of your participation in the biological assessment effort. Your application is therefore accepted, and staff will recommend coverage of your storm water and nonpoint source discharges under the general exception. We expect the draft exception to be released for public review soon.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (916) 341-5458 (dpolhemus@waterboards.ca.gov) or Dominic Gregorio, Senior Environmental Scientist, Ocean Unit, at (916) 341-5488 (dggregorio@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Darrin Polhemus, Deputy Director
Division of Water Quality

California Environmental Protection Agency