

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 2008-077**

ADOPTING A STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING  
THE NORTH COAST INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT (IRWM)  
IMPLEMENTATION GRANT SONOMA COUNTY WATER RECYCLING AND HABITAT  
PRESERVATION PROGRAM (COMPONENT 2.20)

WHEREAS:

1. The Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002, authorizes approximately \$360 million to implement projects that protect communities from drought, protect and improve water quality, and improve local water security by reducing dependence on imported water while encouraging water management on a regional level;
2. The IRWM Grant Program is administered jointly by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and the Department of Water Resources (DWR);
3. The IRWM Program Guidelines were adopted by the State Water Board and approved by DWR in November 2004;
4. On January 18, 2007, the State Water Board adopted an IRWM Implementation Grant Funding List with grants totaling \$75 million ([Resolution No. 2007-0001](#));
5. In January 2007, DWR adopted an IRWM Implementation Grant Funding List with grants totaling \$100 million;
6. The North Coast IRWM Implementation Project was on the January 18, 2007, IRWM Implementation Grant Funding List approved for funding by the State Water Board;
7. Component 2.20 is part of the North Coast IRWM Project;
8. The City of Santa Rosa (City) prepared a final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and a supplemental California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Checklist that addresses Component 2.20 (State Clearinghouse No. 2002072046);
9. The City approved the CEQA Checklist; adopted a Mitigation Monitoring Program and a Statement of Overriding Considerations (SOC); and, approved Component 2.20 on December 19, 2007.

10. The City filed a Notice of Determination for the CEQA Checklist with the Sonoma County Clerk on December 19, 2007, with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research on August 14, 2008.
11. The State Water Board has not made findings regarding Component 2.20 of the North Coast IRWM Implementation Project pursuant to CEQA;
12. The City adopted an SOC to substantiate its decision to approve Component 2.20 despite the following significant unavoidable impacts:
  - a. Temporary increases in traffic and air quality exceedances during construction.
  - b. Temporary noise increases during construction and cumulative noise impacts during operation.
  - c. A loss of 0.66 acres of farmland.
  - d. A potential loss of 3.9 acres of botanical resources.
  - e. A potential impact to cultural resources
13. The State Water Board finds that the following specific economic, social, technological, and environmental benefits of Component 2.20 outweigh these unavoidable adverse environmental impacts:
  - a. It will improve water quality by reducing discharges to Santa Rosa Creek and Laguna de Santa Rosa, both 303(d) listed waterbodies.
  - b. Replacing urban uses of potable water with recycled water will reduce the demand for potable water, which will reduce the pressure on finite surface water and groundwater supplies.
  - c. It will provide the City with operational flexibility to manage flows in a variety of seasons and weather years.
  - d. It will enable the City to minimize discharges, while still accommodating anticipated increases in flows due to population growth.
14. The State Water Board reviewed and considered the EIR and applicable environmental documents, and determined that Component 2.20 will not result in any significant adverse water quality impacts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

Adopts a Statement of Overriding Considerations regarding the North Coast IRWM Implementation Grant Component 2.20.

**CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on November 4, 2008.

AYE: Chair Tam M. Doduc  
Vice Chair Gary Wolff, P.E., Ph.D  
Arthur G. Baggett, Jr.  
Frances Spivy-Weber

NAY: None

ABSENT: Charles R. Hoppin

ABSTAIN: None



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Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board