



July 29, 2016

Ms. Jeanine Townsend
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

Sent via email: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

Re: SWRCB Proposed Drinking Water Fee Regulations

Dear Ms. Townsend,

The City of Sacramento Department of Utilities (Sacramento), appreciates the opportunity to comment on the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)'s Proposed Modifications to the Drinking Water Fee Regulations. Sacramento provides a potable water supply that serves more than 136,000 customer accounts and over 480,000 residents. Sacramento is committed to delivering safe, high-quality drinking water to our customers. Each day, we test our water hundreds of times to ensure that we meet all State and Federal Maximum Contaminant Level (MCLs) standards and we also strive to meet the Public Health Goals (PHGs) developed by the State.

Sacramento considers the Drinking Water Program in the best interest of all Californians and supports a fee schedule that fully funds the Program. We believe any fee structure should be fair and equitable, easy to implement, and consistent with existing laws. Sacramento appreciates the considerable efforts of the SWRCB to collaborate with stakeholders throughout the development of a fee schedule that achieves these principles. We believe that the Proposed Modifications adhere to these principles and understand they are also supported by the Association of California Water Agencies, the California Municipal Utilities Association and others in the water community. We are pleased to join these organizations in support of the proposal as outlined in the SWRCB's July 13, 2016 notice and revised regulations text.

Additionally, we support the SWRCB's efforts to increase accountability in the Drinking Water Program and would encourage the inclusion of an accounting of staff time and resource allocations, and an annual accounting of hours spent in service to each water system on our annual invoice, along with a description and overview of the SWRCB's expenditures for activities that benefit all drinking water systems. This process and information is a benefit to both the SWRCB and water systems like ours as it would allow the SWRCB to assess the Program's activities and effectiveness moving forward, and provide agencies like ours with the data necessary to assess our level of service.

City of Sacramento Department of Utilities
916-808-1400
1395 35th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95822

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Modifications to the Drinking Water Fee Regulations and for engaging stakeholders throughout this process. We look forward to continued collaboration on this critical issue for the future of the Drinking Water Program. Please contact Noelle Mattock at 916-808-1635 or NMattock@CityofSacramento.org should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



William O. Busath
Utilities Director