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California Building Industry Association

National Association of Home Builders February 24, 2020

San Diego Water Board Attn: Mr. Fisayo Osibodu 2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92108 SanDiego@waterboards.ca.gov

# RE: Comment - Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0001

May 13, 2020 Item No. 5 Supporting Document No. 4

Dear Mr. Osibodu:

The Building Industry Association offers these comments regarding the above referenced Tentative Order no. R9-2020-0001. We represent 800 employers who employ 40,000 persons who work in our local building industry.

The City of San Diego has water supply challenges. The city relies on importing 85 percent of its water from the outside our region, increasing costs of imported water, a growing population and cyclical droughts. We support the City's Pure Water San Diego Program, which will use water purification technology to provide one third of San Diego's water supply locally by 2035.

Pure Water San Diego will be a first of its kind potable reuse reservoir augmentation project. The City of San Diego owns and operates the North City Water Reclamation Plant (NCWRP) and will own and operate the future North City Pure Water Facility (NCPWF). These facilities, as well as future conveyance pipelines and a dechlorination facility, are key to Phase 1 of the Pure Water Program, which will include purifying the recycled water produced at the NCWRP at the NCPWF before the purified water is sent to Miramar Reservoir for detention and storage. The water in the Reservoir is withdrawn, blended with imported water, and treated at the Miramar Drinking Water Treatment Plant prior to customer distribution.

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 are committed to supporting the City in completing the Pure Water Program and are excited about seeing the program come to fruition. We strongly support the adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2020-001 to grant the City of San Diego a NPDES permit that will allow the City to discharge advanced treated recycled water (purified water) to Miramar Reservoir.

We are proud to advocate for the Pure Water Program, which will ensure a sustainable water future for San Diego for generations to come.

Sincerely

Michael McSweeney Sr. Policy Advisor BIA San Diego