



March 14, 2008

Chairman Richard Wright
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
100 Howe Ave, Suite 100 South
Sacramento, CA 95825

RE: Carlsbad Desalination Project

Dear Chairman Wright:

The San Diego Desal Partners is an organization comprised of nine San Diego County public water agencies formed last year to advance the Carlsbad Desalination Project (CDP).

To provide reliability and enhance water supplies, regional plans to satisfy our water projections include increased emphasis on local water supply projects. Specifically, desalination is included in the regional water plan and has always been considered as part of the solution to water supplies for Southern California residents. Our nine water agencies have individually signed 30-year contracts to purchase water from the Carlsbad Desalination Plant. These contracts represent 100% of the plant's 56,000 AF/Y capacity.


Regardless of weather conditions, the conditions which influence imported water are increasingly complicated. Despite a wetter than anticipated winter season, the San Diego region is still bracing for significant cutbacks in our imported water supplies that will take effect this year and continue well into the future. The Metropolitan Water District voted last month on a drought allocation program that will significantly impact Southern California's municipal and industrial users.

In anticipation that the Encina Power Station (EPS) might not always satisfy the CDP's source water demands, the Regional Board required Poseidon to submit a Flow, Entrainment and Impingement Minimization Plan (Plan) to assess the feasibility of site-specific plans, procedures, and practices to be implemented and/or mitigation measures to minimize the impacts to marine organisms when the CDP intake requirements exceed the

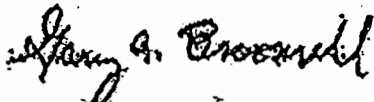
volume of water being discharged by the EPS. The Regional Board review and approval of the Plan will address any additional review of the proposed desalination facility required pursuant to Water Code. The Plan has been available for public comment for the past 12 months and extensively revised on two occasions in response to Regional Board and public comments. As elected and appointed public officials, we urge your approval of the revised Flow, Entrainment & Impingement Minimization Plan before you.

We urge you to calendar the Carlsbad Desalination Project's Flow, Entrainment & Impingement Minimization Plan for final approval by the Regional Board as soon as possible. It's been 17 months since the Regional Board first heard this project, and we want to remind you that time is not on our side. The slowing of the state's economy and the rise in water rates could have a crippling affect on our ratepayers. The longer it takes to bring the Carlsbad Desalination Project online the more at risk our region's economic stability and public health.

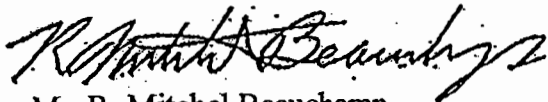
Respectfully,



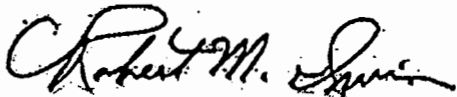
The Honorable Claude A. "Bud" Lewis
Mayor, City of Carlsbad



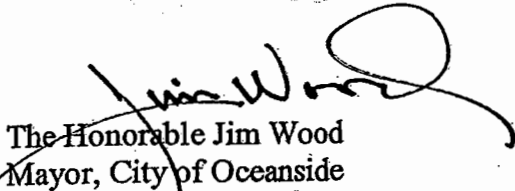
Mr. Gary Broomell
President, Valley Center Municipal Water District



Mr. R. Mitchel Beauchamp
Board Chairman, Sweetwater Authority



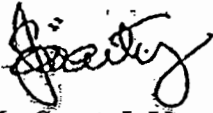
Mr. Robert M. "Bud" Irvin
President, Santa Fe Irrigation District



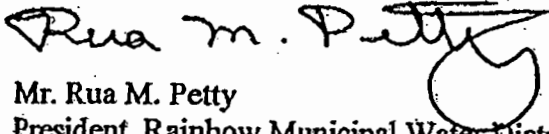
The Honorable Jim Wood
Mayor, City of Oceanside



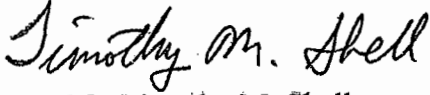
Ms. Diana L. Towne
President, Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District



Ms. Susan J. Varty
President, Olivenhain Municipal Water District



Mr. Rua M. Petty
President, Rainbow Municipal Water District



Mr. Timothy M. Shell
President, Vallecitos Water District

cc:

David King, Vice Chairman
Susan Ritschel, Board Member
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Eric Becker
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