



City of Santa Barbara

Public Works Department

www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov

April 8, 2015

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VIA E-MAIL [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov]

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814



Re: Comment Letter—Desalination Amendment

Dear Ms. Townsend:

The City of Santa Barbara appreciates the opportunity to comment on the revisions to the proposed Desalination Amendment and draft Final SED. As the State Board is likely aware, in January of 2015, the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board amended the City's NPDES permit to include express findings under Water Code section 13142.5(b).¹ These findings are based on the facility's permitted production capacity of up to 10,000 AFY, which equates to an intake flow rate of 15,898 gpm.² Consistent with the proposed Desalination Amendment, the Regional Board's action confirms the status of the City's permitted desalination facility as an existing facility that is not subject to Chapter III.L.2 of the proposed Desalination Amendment. The discharges from the facility will, of course, be subject to the receiving water limitation for salinity contained in Chapter III.L.3 of the proposed Desalination Amendment.

The City wishes to thank the State Board, the Regional Board and their staffs for working with the City to clarify the status of the City's desalination facility. The City knows that your staff and the staff of the Regional Board have many demands placed on their time, so the City sincerely appreciates their efforts. Because the City's facility is now confirmed to be an existing facility, the City has no further comment on the proposed Desalination Amendment, draft Final SED or the approval of these documents by the State Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rebecca J. Bjork".

Rebecca J. Bjork
Public Works Director
City of Santa Barbara

¹ See Amended Order No. R3-2010-0011 (January 30, 2015).

² See Amended Order No. R3-2010-0011, pages 3-4, 9-10, 27 and Attachment "G"; see also, Supplemental Sheet for Regular Meeting of January 29-30, 2015.

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