

From: "Violet Topete" <VioletT@city-attorney.com>
To: <wrhearing@waterboards.ca.gov>
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Subject: Santa Ana River Hearing

Good afternoon,

Attached please find the City of Chino's Policy Statement in Support of Application 31369 by the Chino Basin Watermaster. Please do not hesitate to call our office if you have any questions. Thank you.

Violet Topete
JIMMY L. GUTIERREZ, APC
12616 Central Avenue
Chino, CA 91710
(909) 591-6336
violet@city-attorney.com <mailto:violet@city-attorney.com>

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CC: <akeats@biologicaldiversity.org>, <agaylord@pillsburywinthrop.com>, <BHerrema@HatchParent.com>, <cferrari@dfg.ca.gov>, <chrismcnevin@pillsburylaw.com>, <dcosgrove@rutan.com>, <emahaney@waterboards.ca.gov>, <jill.willis@bbklaw.com>, "James Erickson" <Jim@city-attorney.com>, <joshua.rider@usda.gov>, <MFife@HatchParent.com>, <mluesebrink@manatt.com>, <nino.mascolo@sce.com>, <pjk@eslawfirm.com>, <sher@waterboards.ca.gov>, <skennedy@bbmblaw.com>, <swilson@riversideca.gov>, <waterlaw@pacbell.net>, <DAIadjem@waterboards.ca.gov>, <kobrien@waterboards.ca.gov>, "Lisa Wilkerson" <lisa@city-attorney.com>

City of Chino

Policy Statement in Support of Application 31369 by the Chino Basin Watermaster

The City of Chino, located in the southern portion of the Chino Groundwater Basin, is a rapidly developing community with a current population of 78,000 people. Growth projections describe a future (Year 2030) population of over 129,000 people within the 27 square mile City limits. In the Year 2000 the City's water demand was 15,700 acre-feet. By the Year 2030 the City's demand for water is projected to be 30,300 acre-feet, approximately a 100 percent increase over a 30-year period.

The City requires a reliable supply of high quality water in amounts that keep pace with the demands of the growing population. Local groundwater currently accounts for approximately 62 percent of the City's total supply of potable water, and is expected to comprise 77 percent of the potable water supply by the Year 2020. In compliance with SB 610 and SB 221 the City has prepared Water Supply Assessments (WSA) describing the anticipated water needs of proposed developments. The City has relied on its judicially declared rights in its preparation of these WSAs, and those developments have proceeded with construction on the basis of the WSA information. Consequently, the City must preserve its rights and not allow those rights to be reduced below the judicially declared amounts described in the WSAs.

The City of Chino is actively involved in programs and projects designed to protect the City's water supply and the environment. The City is a participant in the Chino Basin Watermaster Optimum Basin Management Program (CBWM OBMP), developed for the purpose of enhancing the water quality and preserving the yield of the groundwater basin through a multi-faceted cooperative regional approach. Current and planned OBMP activities will help to ensure an adequate supply of water for Chino and its neighbors in the future, and are in the public interest. The City is a founding member of the Chino Basin Desalter Authority (CDA), formed for the purpose of carrying-out essential OBMP activities, and prior to the formation of the CDA was one of three agencies that funded the first Chino Basin desalter through its commitment to purchase a prescribed amount of water produced by that facility. The City is involved in the development of the Chino Creek Integrated Plan, a comprehensive management plan for restoration of the Chino Creek environment.

The City of Chino strongly supports the Chino Basin Watermaster's efforts to develop enhanced stormwater recharge capability as part of the OBMP in furtherance of the public interest. Application 31369 describes the Chino Basin Watermaster's plans to divert storm water for the purpose of groundwater recharge, thus replenishing the local groundwater supply on which Chino Basin groundwater producers, including the City of Chino, rely to satisfy their water demands. The City of Chino does not believe that Chino Basin Watermaster's project will adversely impact any aspect of the Chino Creek Integrated Plan. The needs of the public are served by the project described in the Chino Basin Watermaster's Application 31369, and the Application should be granted in full without qualifications.