



**Las Virgenes – Triunfo Joint Powers Authority**  
4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 91302  
818.251.2100



September 15, 2011

Charles R. Hoppin  
Chairman – State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814



**RE: NPDES Regulatory Fee Increases - OPPOSE**

Dear Chairman Hoppin and State Water Resources Board Members:

As the managing agency for the Las Virgenes Triunfo Joint Powers Authority (JPA), Las Virgenes Municipal Water District writes to express its opposition to the proposed increase in NPDES permit fees.

One of the foundations that public agencies must adhere to is that rates and fees must be directly attributable to the cost of providing the service.

The proposed changes in NPDES fees do not comply with that tenet, particularly in light of the notion that the Governor has proposed reducing the number of Regional Boards, the number of members on each board and similar contractions in the State Board's structure. These measures would seem to indicate an overall reduction in the scope of activities and services. As such, there is no justification for the substantial increase being proposed. Also, the use of those fees for any other purpose (e.g.: General Fund) would seem to be a departure from the intent of Article XIII of the California constitution.

The 32 percent increase that would apply to the JPA can only come from one source, its ratepayers, who as a result of existing regulatory (NPDES) mandates already pay some of the highest wastewater treatment fees in the State of California, at \$54 per month.

While the state is clearly facing funding issues, so are the ratepayers we must answer to. On their behalf, we respectfully ask the State Board to reject the proposed rate structure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Mundy".

John R. Mundy  
General Manager, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and  
Managing Agent, Las Virgenes – Triunfo Joint Powers Authority

**Mike Paule**  
Chair, Las Virgenes-Triunfo  
Joint Powers Authority  
President, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District  
Board of Directors

**Lee Renger**  
Vice Chair, Las Virgenes-Triunfo  
Joint Powers Authority  
Chair, Triunfo Sanitation District  
Board of Directors