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For Immediate Release

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Capistrano Beach Water District Gets OK on \$7.61 Million Loan

The State Water Resources Control Board (Board) has approved a \$7.61 million loan for the Capistrano Beach Water District (District). The funds will be used to purchase 1.5 million gallons per day of treatment capacity at the South East Regional Reclamation Authority (SERRA). The district will also upgrade its pump station at its Victoria Plant.

The Board had previously agreed in 1996 to loan the District \$4.43 million for the Victoria Plant Improvement Project. This would have upgraded and expanded the facility. This project was originally chosen because there was no available capacity at the SERRA facility. However, since then, the District has negotiated the purchase of capacity at the SERRA Plant. The additional capacity became available when the City of San Juan Capistrano, the Dana Point Sanitary District and the Santa Margarita Water District drafted agreements for a collective exchange of 1.5 million gallons per day at SERRA for capacity at another wastewater treatment plant.

Because the project's scope has changed significantly since the 1996 loan request, the Board's staff presented the project again for the Board.

Construction at the Victoria Plant will be in two phases; the first scheduled to begin Nov. 30, 1998. Phase 2 construction is slated to begin Jan. 1, 1999.

The State Water Resources Control Board is a member of the California Environmental Protection Agency.

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