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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

ORANGE COUNTY'S GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

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July 6, 2015

Mr. Dave Woelfel
Ms. Wanda Cross
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
3737 Main Street, Suite 500
Riverside, CA 92501

RE: 2015 Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan – Santa Ana River Basin (Basin Plan)

Dear Mr. Woelfel and Ms. Cross:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the “Draft Priority List of Basin Planning Issues to be Considered During the Next 3 Years.”

The Orange County Water District (OCWD, District) was established by the State of California in 1933 to manage the Orange County Groundwater Basin. Water produced from the basin is the primary water supply for approximately 2.4 million residents in Orange County. OCWD maintains and operates facilities in the cities of Anaheim and Orange to recharge surface water into the groundwater basin. Santa Ana River baseflows and stormflows provide the majority of the water supply used to recharge the basin. As such, maintaining the quality of Santa Ana River water is important to protect the water quality of the Orange County Groundwater Basin.

The Basin Monitoring Program Task Force (Task Force) was formed in response to adoption of Resolution No. R8-2004-0001. This amendment to the Basin Plan created the Total Dissolved Solids and Nitrogen Management Plan for the Santa Ana Watershed. The Task Force is charged with the responsibility to implement this watershed-wide salt management plan. OCWD considers this effort to be vital for the protection of Orange County's water supply. Region Board staff has provided consistent and valuable support that has played a major role in the successful work of the Task Force. We appreciate this support and urge the Regional Board to continue to provide staff support for this effort. Included in the draft Triennial Review list is to update the salt management plan, Issue No. 10. We support this item to be included as part of the Triennial Review and thank you for continuing to make this a priority.

Mr. Dave Woelfel
Ms. Wanda Cross
July 6, 2015
Page 2 of 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Markus', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Michael R. Markus, P.E., D.WRE, BCEE, F.ASCE
General Manager