



City of Carlsbad

Office of the Mayor

Supporting Document No. 10

January 19, 2009

Chair Richard Wright and Regional Board Members
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego – Region 9
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

Subject: Marine Life Mitigation Plan for Carlsbad Desalination Project (No. R9-2008-0039)

Dear Chairman Wright and Members of the Board:

I am writing to request your continued support for the Carlsbad Desalination Project, originally approved by the Regional Board in August 2006.

The City of Carlsbad has been working on a public-private partnership with Poseidon Resources to build the Carlsbad Desalination Project since 1998. During this time, the project has undergone an incredible level of scrutiny and analysis to ensure it will have minimal impacts on the marine environment. In fact, the project has garnered international awards for its environmentally-friendly design and unprecedented mitigation efforts.

As a condition of the Flow, Entrainment and Impingement Minimization Plan you approved in 2008, Poseidon has prepared a Marine Life Mitigation Plan (MLMP) that identifies 11 candidate sites for habitat restoration.

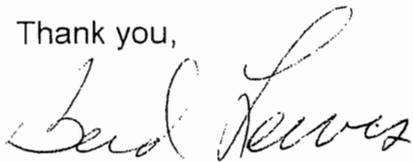
The MLMP was developed collaboratively with the input of numerous regulatory agencies including the CA Department of Fish & Game, CA Coastal Commission, State Lands Commission and Regional Water Quality Control Board. With the consent of these regulatory agencies, the MLMP was created as site-specific and performance-based rather than as a "single-site" plan. In my opinion, the MLMP wholly compensates for the minimal impacts their project will have on the coastal habitat and marine life.



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It has been ten years since we first launched this project and the time has come for the Regional Water Quality Control Board to complete its approval of the Carlsbad Desalination Project. Please do so at your February 11 hearing and allow our region to move forward in creating a drought-proof, reliable local water supply.

Thank you,



CLAUDE A. "BUD" LEWIS
Mayor
City of Carlsbad

c: Carlsbad City Council
David King, Vice Chairman
Eric Anderson, Board Member
Grant Destache, Board Member
George Loveland, Board Member
Wayne Rayfield, Board Member
Gary Thompson, Board Member
Kris Weber, Board Member
John Robertus, Executive Director
Catherine Hagan, Regional Board Attorney