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Wesley Peltzer

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January 8, 2009

Handwritten notes and stamps: "hh: d b- 123 1002", "087", "7410"

Mr. John Robertus  
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board  
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100  
San Diego, CA 92123-4340

RE: Complaint R9-2005-0265

Dear Mr. Robertus,

Olivenhain Municipal Water District (OMWD) is writing in support of the Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) submitted by The Escondido Creek Conservancy (TECC) and the City of Escondido. This project would preserve over thirteen acres of riparian and upland habitat on or adjacent to the Escondido Creek downstream from the Hale Avenue Resource Recovery Facility.

OMWD is a retail water, wastewater, and recycled water agency covering 48 square miles and serving over 63,000 customers in northern San Diego County. In addition to providing water services, OMWD operates the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve (Reserve), through which the Escondido Creek runs. The Reserve is an 800-acre open space park and recreational area designed to unify the interests of domestic water supply development, natural resources management and recreational opportunities. Park rangers conduct guided group tours and student exploration programs to help promote environmental awareness and preservation of local watersheds. All wildlife and natural resources at the Reserve are fully protected so that future generations may also enjoy these wonders.

Sharing similar goals in this regard, TECC has partnered with OMWD on several projects at the Reserve, most recently working together to construct the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve Interpretive Center. The Interpretive Center, which will open to the public in May 2009, will offer visitors a better understanding of the area's native habitat, cultural heritage, and ecological diversity, and will also educate visitors on the sensitivity of the habitat for the area and why it is important to protect it.

Olivenhain Municipal Water District recognizes that land use is directly related to water quality in many instances, and your approval of the SEP would further support TECC's mission to protect, preserve, and restore open spaces, habitat, water, and water quality in the Escondido Creek Watershed.

Please contact me at (760) 753-6466 if you have any questions.

Regards,

*Kimberly A. Thorner*  
Kimberly A. Thorner  
General Manager

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M. Carvajal Time 4:03

