

John Robertus, Executive Officer
C/O Mike Porter
CA Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123-4340

SAN DIEGO
WATER QUALITY
CONTROL BOARD

2009 11/12 A 9 44

Re: Gregory Canyon Landfill Project

Dear Mr. Robertus:

I am the former Director of Environmental Health Services and CAO for the County of San Diego. I am writing this letter in support of the Gregory Canyon Bridge, Item #R9-2009C-073 on your 11/18/09 agenda.

For nearly two decades, the County of San Diego has been trying to site a new landfill, and Gregory Canyon was selected by the Board of Supervisors in 1991 as one of the preferred sites to replace the San Marcos landfill. Currently, North County's trash must be hauled to Sycamore Landfill or Orange County, but these sites cannot continue to accommodate the nearly 1 million tons of solid waste that North County produces each year.

A new landfill must be sited in San Diego, and the County's Solid Waste Plan specifically recognizes the Gregory Canyon landfill as the only North County site that can meet the County's waste disposal needs for the next 30 years. If this site is eliminated, there are no other landfill projects on the horizon that can accommodate our trash. Two county-wide ballot measures have indicated wide-spread public support for this site as well.

The Gregory Canyon Landfill has been designed to meet the most stringent environmental standards with a five-layer, double composite system and a landfill liquid collection and containment system. The landfill project also includes a dedicated groundwater treatment plant and will be located far enough away from the San Luis Rey River that there will be no impacts to water quality. The bridge project under consideration by your board will permanently impact only .0002 acres, and includes adequate mitigation measures.

While no one wants a landfill in their neighborhood, it is a necessary part of San Diego's infrastructure, as important as energy or water. I urge your board to take the necessary steps to approve this project's permits at your November 18 meeting.

Sincerely,



Gary Stephany