



California Coastal Coalition

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SAN DIEGO REGIONAL
WATER QUALITY
CONTROL BOARD

2008 MAR 28 A 11:40

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STEVEN ACETI, J.D.

Executive Director

March 27, 2008

Chairman Richard Wright

San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100

San Diego, CA 92123

RE: April 9, 2008 Agenda Item #7

Dear Board Members:

I am writing to you today in regards to your Waste Discharge Requirements for the Carlsbad Desalination Project, (No. R9-2006-065 - NPDES Permit No. CA01092223).

The California Coastal Coalition (CalCoast) is a non-profit advocacy group comprised of 35 coastal cities; five counties; the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, the San Diego Association of Area Governments and the Southern California Association of Governments; along with business associations and allied groups committed to restoring California's coast through sand replenishment, increasing the flow of natural sediment, wetlands recovery and improved water quality.

CalCoast has spoken out on behalf of the Carlsbad Desalination Project numerous times because we believe that this project has been designed and will be operated with careful consideration of the coastal environment and habitat.

In addition, the Project Flow, Entrainment and Impingement Minimization Plan clearly demonstrates lasting benefits for the lagoon and local beaches:

"To avoid this significant loss of highly productive marine habitat, in the event of extended shutdown of EPS power generation units, Poseidon would maintain circulation of the seawater, continue routine dredging of the entrance to the lagoon to prevent its closure, and deposit the sand dredged from the lagoon on adjacent beaches so as to maintain, restore and enhance habitat for grunion spawning and to maintain, restore and enhance opportunities for public access and recreation along the shoreline and within the coastal zone."

CalCoast is an advocacy organization comprised of coastal communities and interest groups

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We have given considerable consideration to Poseidon's proposal and find that the project includes the necessary design, technology and mitigation measures for one to conclude it represents an environmentally responsible use of coastal property and public trust resources.

Over the last several years we have provided written and/or oral testimony before the Regional Board, State Lands Commission and California Coastal Commission. After considerable regulatory scrutiny, it is clearly time to move this project forward. The desalination facility would offer many benefits to the region and the California Coastal Coalition is pleased to offer our full support of the desalination project.

Sincerely,



Steve Aceti
California Coastal Coalition

cc:

David King, Vice Chairman
Susan Ritschel, Board Member
Eric Anderson, Board Member
Wayne Rayfield, Board Member
Elizabeth Pearson-Schneider, Board Member
Kris Weber, Board Member
John Robertus, Executive Director
Eric Becker
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