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February 6, 2015

San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
Attn: Ms. Michelle Mata
2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92108

RE: Opposition to provisions of the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin.

Dear Ms. Mata,

On behalf of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce (Chamber), I am writing to express our opposition to certain provisions of the proposed Basin Plan, please take my concerns into consideration during your current planning process. With more than 3,000 members representing 400,000 employees, the Chamber is the largest nonprofit advocate for regional businesses and is dedicated to growing commerce in the San Diego region. We consider business and job creation within our coastal communities a priority, and we see tremendous potential in San Diego's waterfront.

We request that you consider eliminating a provision of the current Basin Plan which presents a significant obstacle to the development of privately owned and operated wastewater treatment and recycling systems. The prohibitory provisions I am concerned with are the Guidelines for New Community and Individual Sewerage Facilities.

Having served as a member of Mayor Faulconer's Pure Water working group, I know firsthand the City of San Diego's commitment to the development of facilities that will eventually treat 84 million gallons of waste water per day. The key to reaching this goal is facility development, and I am concerned that the current Basin Plan would pose a significant impediment on the development and operation of privately owned and operated facilities.

The chamber is taking an active leadership role on these issues to help ensure the City's water future. We also see the opportunity for private developments, such as golf courses, to house their own water treatment facilities so that they can use recycled water for their needs. To achieve our water goals and take advantage of this opportunity we cannot create obstacles for developing privately owned and operated water treatment facilities. I urge you to reconsider these provisions in the creation of the Basin Plan. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, at (619) 544-1365 or chawken@sdchamber.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chanelle Hawken', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Chanelle Hawken
Executive Director, Public Policy
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce