



South Orange County Wastewater Authority

3/20/07 BdMtg Item 6

IRWM

Deadline: 3/8/07 12 noon

February 9, 2007

Tracie Billington
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Division of Planning and Assistance
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Shahla Farahnak
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance
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**Subject: Comments on the Initial Concept for Program Elements in Future
IRWMPs – Prop 50, 84 and 1E**

The South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the grant scoping items presented at the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grant Program Scoping Meetings in January 2007.

SOCWA is a regional wastewater joint powers authority, located in south Orange County, providing wastewater treatment and disposal services to approximately 500,000 people. We not only safely discharge up to 40 million gallons per day of secondary treated effluent into the Pacific Ocean, but also produce approximately 11,000 acre-feet of recycled water each year for our region.

SOCWA supports the proposal to allow the use of existing guidelines from Prop 50, Chapter 8, which includes strategies for meeting the objectives of the IRWMPs, including wastewater treatment. SOCWA feels that the emphasis in both Prop 84 and 1E Bond Measures on water quality improvement and pollution prevention supports the necessity for the inclusion of specific language for wastewater treatment/wastewater improvements. Furthermore, the existing approved IRWMPs around the state currently include wastewater treatment and SOCWA concurs that it is appropriate to continue to have this element for statewide consistency.

Under the Prop 84 scoping topic of what an IRWM Plan must contain, we recommend adding another category to the Water Plan Resource Management Strategies: Wastewater Treatment. We also recommend adding consideration of Regional Water Quality Control

Plans. These plans have many of the elements necessary to achieve the requirements in the Prop 84 and 1E for water quality improvements and pollution prevention.

I thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Rosales". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tom" and last name "Rosales" clearly distinguishable.

Tom Rosales
General Manager

cc: Tam Doduc, Chair State Water Resources Control Board
State Water Board Members
Mary Jane Foley, SCAP
File