



The Honorable E. Joaquin Esquivel, Chair c/o Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board State Water Resources Control Board 1001 I Street, 24th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814 <u>commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov</u>

RE: Support for Financial Assistance Application: Pure Water

Dear Chairperson Esquivel:

I am writing to express Biocom's support for the City of San Diego's funding application from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund for the Pure Water San Diego Program.

Biocom is the largest, most experienced leader and advocate for California's life science sector, representing over 1,200 members. Our organization was founded 24 years ago on the issue of access to water. Our member companies depend on a reliable, constant source of water for everyday business activities; interruption of these supplies could mean millions of dollars lost in delicate research. Biocom has been a longtime supporter of diversification of San Diego's water supply, including indirect (and, if viable, direct) potable reuse as a logical alternative to water importation.

Since the launch of the Water Purification Demonstration Project in 2010, the city has achieved many important milestones toward improving water reliability. The city is now preparing to begin construction on Phase 1 of the Pure Water Program, which is scheduled to be completed in 2023. Phase 1 will include building the infrastructure, including pump stations, pipelines and treatment plants, to produce 30 million gallons per day of purified water to be added to the local drinking water supply.

In order to complete these projects as scheduled, the city must continue to invest in the Pure Water Program. We are pleased to see the Draft Intended Use Plans for the Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan Programs include significant support for the Pure Water Program and respectfully urge the Board to adopt those plans. We support the city in its request for financing for these projects, which will enhance San Diego's water future.

Sincerely,

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Joe Panetta, President and CEO Biocom

