

SCAP

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE OF
PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS

3/20/07 BdWrshp Item 8
Water Recycling
Deadline: 3/27/07 5 pm

March 15, 2007

Ms. Song Her, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



Re: 3/20/07 BOARD MEETING Item 8 Water Recycling

Dear Ms. Her and Members of the Board:

The Southern California Alliance of Publicly Owned Treatment Works – or SCAP as we are commonly referred to – represents 80 public agencies that provide both water and wastewater treatment to nearly 18 million people in parts of Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties. We treat and safely reuse or dispose of over 1 billion gallons of wastewater each day and deliver over 1.7 billion gallons of drinking water per day.

SCAP strongly supports the State Water Board's leadership towards finding solutions to increase the success of water recycling throughout the state. Many of our members are leaders in water recycling and have been able to successfully implement major water recycling projects within their regions.

In 2003, SCAP participated in the Governor's Water Recycling Report and we recommend that the Water Board begin by implementing its recommendations. The 2005 Department of Water Resources (DWR) State Water Plan identified water recycling as the only significant new water supply for California and we feel that the Water Board should be developing policies to help implement water recycling projects throughout California including State Revolving Fund (SRF) and Proposition 84 funding.

Water recycling is the most energy efficient water supply in Southern California. Pumping water from the Delta through the State Water Project (SWP) is six times more energy intensive than recycling (3000 kwhr/AF SWP vs. 500 kwhr/AF recycling projects).

Due to the diversity of our regions, our membership comments will likely vary on a statewide policy. Where programs are successful, there would be opposition to any changes that would unintentionally limit the local recycling program. On the other hand, where recycling is limited due to local regulatory challenges, SCAP membership may welcome more intervention and guidance by the State Water Board.

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In summary, SCAP believes that recycling is a vital part of California's water future and our membership is committed to the widespread increase of water reuse across the state. We support the continued dialogue and discussion on a resolution for areas in the state that are facing extreme challenges in implementing water recycling.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important subject.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Atwater". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Richard Atwater
President, SCAP Board of Directors