

February 21, 2020

Toni Atkins  
Senate President pro Tempore  
State Capitol Room 205  
Sacramento, California 95814

Anthony Rendon  
Speaker, California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 319  
Sacramento, California 95814

Shannon Grove  
Senate Minority Leader  
State Capitol Room 305  
Sacramento, California 95814

Marie Waldron  
Assembly Minority Leader  
State Capitol Room 3014  
Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: Support for \$750 million - \$1 billion in Climate Resilience Bond Stand-Alone Water Recycling**

Dear pro Tem Atkins, Speaker Rendon, Leader Grove, and Leader Waldron,

WateReuse California (WRCA) and the undersigned agencies strongly urge inclusion of \$750 million to \$1 billion in grants and low interest loans for water recycling as a stand-alone program to be administered by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in the final climate resilience bond.

The Draft Water Resilience Portfolio correctly identified that “recycled water is a sustainable, nearly drought-proof supply when used efficiently, and the total volume of water California recycles today could triple in the next decade.” To meet state goals of reusing 2.5 million acre-feet of water in the next decade, funding is needed.

There is currently a waiting list of water recycling projects at the SWRCB totaling \$3 billion, and a recent WRCA survey found that more than \$10 billion in planned reuse projects are in various stages of planning and will need funding. These projects will increase recycled water use in California by 2030-35—creating enough water for four million households.

We are very supportive of the current water recycling program administered by the SWRCB. For over 20 years, the SWRCB has successfully administered the program, which is a combination of grants AND loans. The loan program helps create an ongoing funding source through repayment. The SWRCB was able to administer \$650 million from Prop 1 within one year of legislative appropriation. The program works, leverages the funding with a combination of grants and loans, and can get the funding out the door quickly.

Based on the demonstrated value and need for recycled water, we respectfully request inclusion of \$750 million to \$1 billion in a stand-alone program for recycled water to continue to be administered by the SWRCB.

Please don't hesitate to contact WateReuse California Managing Director, Jennifer West (jwest@wateresue.org), if you have any questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

Robert McDonald, P.E., MPA  
General Manager  
Carpinteria Valley Water District

Cari Dale  
Water Utilities Director  
City of Oceanside

Daniel McIntyre, PE  
General Manager  
Dublin San Ramon Service District

Kimberly A. Thorner  
General Manager  
Olivenhain Municipal Water District

Paul D. Jones II, P.E.  
General Manager  
Eastern Municipal Water District

Jim Herberg  
General Manager  
Orange County Sanitation District

Steve Wagner, P.E.  
General Manager  
Goleta Sanitary District

Mike Markus, P.E.  
General Manager  
Orange County Water District

Shivaji Deshmukh, P.E.  
General Manager  
Inland Empire Utilities Agency

Mark Watton  
General Manager  
Otay Water District

Paul Cook  
General Manager  
Irvine Ranch Water District

Allen Carlisle  
CEO/General Manager  
Padre Dame Municipal Water District

David Pedersen, P.E.  
General Manager  
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Adrian Fine  
Mayor  
City of Palo Alto

Richard F. Harasick  
Senior Assistant General Manager - Water System  
Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

Todd Corbin  
General Manager  
City of Riverside Public Utilities

Jeffrey Kightlinger  
General Manager  
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Prabhakar Somavarapu  
General Manager  
Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District

Paul Sciuto  
General Manager  
Monterey One Water

Michael T. Thornton, P.E.  
General Manager  
San Elijo Joint Power Authority

Justin Scott-Coe  
General Manager  
Monte Vista Water District

Norma Camacho  
General Manager  
Valley Water

Robert C. Ferrante  
Chief Engineer & General Manager  
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

Robb Whitaker  
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Water Replenishment District of  
Southern California

Daniel R. Ferons  
General Manager  
Santa Margarita Water District

Phil Scott  
District Manager  
West Bay Sanitary District

Piret Harmon  
General Manager  
Scotts Valley Water District

Jennifer West  
Managing Director  
WateReuse California

Monte Hamamoto  
Chief Operating Officer  
Silicon Valley Clean Water

Craig Miller  
General Manager  
Western Municipal Water District

John A. Thiel, PE, MBA,  
General Manager  
South Tahoe Public Utility District

cc: Senator Ben Allen, Chair Environmental Quality Committee  
Senator Bob Wieckowski, Chair Senate Budget Sub 2  
Senator Brian Jones, Senate Budget Sub 2, Vice Chair Sen. Natural Resources and Water Comm  
Senator Henry Stern, Chair, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  
Assemblymember Richard Bloom, Chair Assembly Budget Sub 3  
Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia, Chair Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Comm  
Assemblymember Megan Dahle, Vice Chair Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Comm  
Assemblymember Laura Friedman, Chair Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
Assemblymember Heath Flora, Vice Chair Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
Director Kate Gordon, Office of Planning and Research  
Rachel Machi Wagoner, Deputy Legislative Secretary