

RESOLUTION NO. 14-__

**A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE METRO WASTEWATER JPA AND
METRO COMMISSION, SUPPORTING THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO'S NATIONAL
POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) MODIFIED PERMIT
FOR THE POINT LOMA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

WHEREAS, the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant (PLWTP) is a regional facility in the Metro Wastewater System, operated by the City of San Diego, permitted to treat 240 million gallons of wastewater per day to an Advanced Primary Level, serving a 12 member Joint Powers Authority that comprises approximately 35% of the total flow in the Metro Wastewater System/PLWTP; and

WHEREAS, the Clean Water Act of 1972 requires that wastewater be treated to achieve certain protections before ocean discharge and the permitting of wastewater treatment plants, and wastewater treatment plant permits must be renewed every five years; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean Pollution Reduction Act (OPRA) of 1994 allowed the City of San Diego to apply for modified NPDES permits allowing PLWTP to continue operating at an Advanced Primary Treatment Level while meeting or exceeding all general and specifically negotiated regulatory obligations including ocean protection requirements; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego has 20 years of ocean monitoring data demonstrating that the Advanced Primary PLWTP consistently protects the ocean environment; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego has determined that instead of converting the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant to a secondary treatment plant, equivalent results can be achieved by offloading wastewater flow from the Plant to other existing and new facilities (secondary equivalency) for potable water reuse; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Commission sees the Pure Water Program, the City of San Diego's 20-year program to produce purified water to supplement San Diego's drinking water supply, as a first step toward realizing the possibility of fully utilizing wastewater supplies to maximize development of local water supply acknowledging that future expansion and ability to minimize flows to wastewater treatment plants will depend on technological and legislative advances, cost benefit analysis, and actual flows compared to projections; and

WHEREAS, the strategy of achieving secondary equivalency at the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant through potable reuse of wastewater has included within the Pure Water San Diego program; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego, the member agencies of Metro Wastewater JPA, members of the Metro Commission, and stakeholders from the environmental community have agreed upon a definition for secondary equivalency and will use their best efforts to have federal legislation passed in accordance with the proposal called the Ocean Pollution Reduction Act II (OPRA II). Generally, OPRA II will allow the City's NPDES permit to be based on secondary equivalency that includes a commitment to implement potable reuse of wastewater and allows the PLWTP to remain operating at the Advanced Primary Treatment Level; and

WHEREAS, the current modified permit for the PLWTP expires on July 31, 2015, and City of San Diego staff need to submit an application to renew the NPDES permit by January 30, 2015.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Metro Wastewater JPA and Metro Commission as follows:

Section 1: That the Metro Wastewater JPA and Metro Commission support the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant to remain operating at an Advanced Primary Treatment Level.

Section 2: That Metro Wastewater JPA and Metro Commission support the concept of secondary equivalency for the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant and supports proposing the passage of federal legislation in accordance with the proposal titled the Ocean Pollution Reduction Act II (OPRA II), attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein. OPRA II will allow the City's NPDES permit to be based on secondary equivalency that includes a commitment to implement potable reuse of wastewater and allows the PLWTP to remain operating at the Advanced Primary Treatment Level.

Section 3: That Metro Wastewater JPA and Metro Commission support the City of San Diego's NPDES Modified Permit application for the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant as further described in the Basis of Point Loma Permit Application, attached hereto as Exhibit "B" and incorporated herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of the Metro Wastewater JPA and Metro Commission on the ___ day of October, 2014:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Cheryl Cox, Chair

ATTEST:

Lori Anne Peoples, Secretary