



July 29, 2013

Councilmember David Alvarez, Chair  
Natural Resources & Culture Committee  
City of San Diego  
202 C Street  
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Councilmember Alvarez:

This letter is sent on behalf of the Metro Wastewater JPA regarding the City of San Diego Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Project scheduled for discussion at the July 31, 2013 meeting of the Natural Resources & Culture Committee.

The Metro Wastewater JPA is a coalition of municipalities and special districts in the southern and central portions of San Diego County that share in the use of the City of San Diego's regional wastewater collection and treatment facilities. This coalition represents 35% flow and a \$65 million annual budget in relation to the Metro wastewater system. The JPA member agencies include the cities of Chula Vista, Coronado, Del Mar, El Cajon, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, National City and Poway; the Lemon Grove Sanitation District; the Padre Dam Municipal and Otay Water Districts; and the County of San Diego on behalf of the County Sanitation Districts.

We applaud the City of San Diego and its staff for the recent success of the Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Project and associated progress on the legislative front. This accomplishment establishes wastewater reuse as a critical component of the region's future water supply. As a result, we respectfully request the Committee's support for a broader effort to include the following:

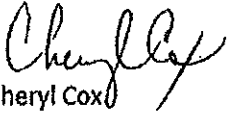
1. That staff, in partnership with stakeholders, undertake a process to create a Long-Range *Regional Water Reuse Program* that includes water reuse options beyond a single facility, incorporating the most cost effective possibilities within Metro's service boundary thus maximizing opportunities to create new, local sustainable water supply while at the same time significantly reducing Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant flows.
2. That staff, in partnership with stakeholders, pursue legislation to permit a smaller, secondary equivalent Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant that continues to protect the ocean environment but avoids billions of dollars in unnecessary capital, financing, energy and operating costs associated with an upgrade to Secondary Treatment.

Future steps would include participation of the San Diego County Water Authority to ensure that water supply planning incorporates expanded water reuse opportunities, and coordinated multi-agency legislative outreach to implement a plan that might serve as a model of fiscal and environmental stewardship for the state and nation.

Councilmember David Alvarez  
Advanced Water Purification Project  
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Thank you for considering the Metro JPA's request that hopes to create a true alliance between the City of San Diego, member agencies, and environmental and ratepayer stakeholders to realize the maximization of water reuse to the benefit of our region's ratepayers and the environment.

Respectfully,



Cheryl Cox  
Chair, Metropolitan Wastewater JPA  
Mayor, City of Chula Vista

Attachment

- c: Metropolitan Wastewater Joint Powers Authority Board Members and Agency Councils and Boards
- Metropolitan Wastewater Joint Powers Authority Technical Advisory Committee Members
- Members of the Independent Rate Oversight Committee
- Walt Ekard, City of San Diego, Chief Operating Officer
- Roger Bailey, Director, City of San Diego Public Utilities Department
- Ann Sasaki, Assistant Director, City of San Diego Public Utilities Department
- Marsi Steirer, Deputy Director, City of San Diego Public Utilities Department