



August 21, 2015

Ms. Julie Saare-Edmonds, Senior Environmental Scientist and ITP Project Manager  
Department of Water Resources  
1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 94814

Dear Ms. Saare-Edmonds:

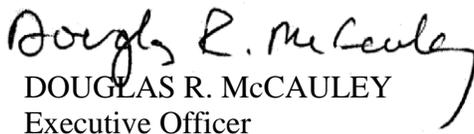
The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) respectfully submits this letter as our public comments on Item 4 - Workforce Challenges and Opportunities. Unfortunately, we have not received any material as to what will actually be discussed under this agenda item. Accordingly, these comments will be brief, and we ask that we be allowed additional time to provide substantive comments upon receipt of such material.

We understand that the Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD) has developed a proposal for the ITP on the item above. We have heard the presentation from APLD numerous times. The issue of the "exempt area of practice" in the Landscape Architects Practice Act, and APLD's desire to legislate an expanded area of business, has been **extensively discussed in at least 21 separate public meetings of the LATC**, California Architects Board, and the Legislature's Sunset Review process. The exempt area of practice defines the precise area in which unlicensed individuals may provide services. The conclusions of all of these proceedings have been that current law is appropriate to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

Ultimately, California law, including provisions on water conservation, is grounded in its mission of protecting the public health, safety, and welfare. LATC believes it is inappropriate for economic considerations to foster changes to the law, as public protection must remain paramount.

I would be pleased to provide additional information. Feel free to contact me at (916) 575-7232 should you have any questions for comments.

Sincerely,

  
DOUGLAS R. McCAULEY  
Executive Officer

cc: David Ceppos, Center for Collaborative Policy