



Watersheds Coalition
of Ventura County



UPPER SANTA CLARA RIVER
Integrated Regional Water Management

Greater Los Angeles County
Integrated Regional Water Management

May 13, 2014

Mr. Keith Wallace
California Department of Water Resources
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management
P.O. Box 942836, Room 1115-1
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Mr. Wallace:

**COMMENTS ON INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION
GRANT PROGRAM - 2014 DROUGHT PROPOSAL SOLICITATION PACKAGE AND
GUIDELINES**

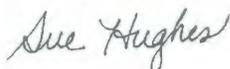
We thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package for the 2014 Drought Solicitation. On behalf of the Greater Los Angeles County, Upper Santa Clara River, and Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Regions, we respectfully offer the following comments and suggestions for consideration regarding the Draft 2014 Drought Solicitation Package and Guidelines:

- Instead of a statewide competition, we recommend that DWR establish Funding Area allocations to continually provide fair and predictable allocation of funding. This will eliminate additional challenges that can result from the uncertainty over available funds for future solicitations in the event that a single region applies for the maximum funding area allocation in the current solicitation. We believe all areas of the State face impacts and challenges from this extreme drought and the funding allocation for this round should follow the process used in all prior funding rounds.
- We strongly urge that you extend the proposed application period from 30 to 60 days following publication of the final Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package. Extra time will allow IRWM Regions to better coordinate the application details and will result in better applications that not only address immediate drought relief but also promote multi-benefits and long-term water supply reliability.

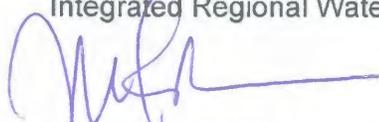
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We appreciate the fact that the application process for this round of funding has been streamlined, and thank you again for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Russ Bryden, Greater Los Angeles County IRWM Region at (626) 458-4334 or rbryden@dpw.lacounty.gov, Ms. Lauren Everett, Upper Santa Clara River IRWM Region at (661) 513-1282 or leverett@clwa.org, or Ms. Sue Hughes, Chair, Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County IRWM Region at (805) 654-3836 or susan.hughes@ventura.org.

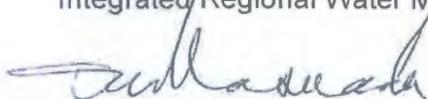
Very truly yours,



SUE HUGHES
Chair
Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County
Integrated Regional Water Management Region



MARK PESTRELLA
Chair
Greater Los Angeles County
Integrated Regional Water Management Region



DAN MASNADA
Castaic Lake Water Agency
General Manager
Upper Santa Clara River Region
Integrated Regional Water Management Region