



June 10, 2010

California Department of Water Resources
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management
Financial Assistance Branch
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236
Attn: Trevor Joseph

Submitted Electronically: Trevor Joseph, tjoseph@water.ca.gov

**Subject: Comments on Funding Recommendations for Proposition 84-Round 1
Implementation Grants**

Dear Mr. Joseph,

The San Diego Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) – comprised of the San Diego County Water Authority, City of San Diego, and County of San Diego – wishes to sincerely thank the Department of Water Resources (DWR) for its recent recommendation to fully fund our *San Diego IRWM Implementation Grant Proposal*. This funding will allow the San Diego region to implement a suite of water management projects and programs that, together, will improve water supply reliability for the region, reduce dependence on imported water, reduce pollution, and restore sensitive habitat areas. The proposal included the suite of projects best suited to meeting the current and future challenges of the San Diego region.

We have reviewed the evaluation scoring for our proposal as prepared by DWR. It appears that the qualitative benefits presented in the economic analysis sections were not as fully considered as indicated in the proposal solicitation package (page 27 – “Points will be awarded based on a comparison of qualitative and quantitative information describing the benefits of the Proposals”). DWR might consider developing more specific evaluation criteria for the economic analysis to ensure that qualitative benefits are counted.

We also recommend that DWR consider developing specific evaluation criteria that defers scoring to regional priorities. If a region were to determine through an open and transparent stakeholder-driven process that flood damage reduction is not a regional priority and few (if any) flood projects are included within a proposal, then perhaps DWR could shift the points awarded for those benefits to water supply and water quality benefits. In this way, a region would not be penalized in the grant review process for establishing its own priorities.

Again, we appreciate the open process taken to funding IRWM implementation activities and are looking forward to continuing to work with DWR in the future to develop our IRWM program. We appreciate the positive award recommendation and are excited to begin work on the suite of implementation projects!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Stadler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mark Stadler
San Diego IRWM Program Manager
San Diego County Water Authority

*Cc: Regional Water Management Group
Regional Advisory Committee*