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December 16, 2010

Mr. Joe Yun
Department of Water Resources, DIRWM
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento CA 94236-001
Via email: DWR_IRWM@water.ca.gov

**SUBJECT: PROPOSITION 84 IRWM PLANNING GRANT – PRELIMINARY
RECOMMENDATION COMMENTS**

Dear Mr. Yun:

I am very pleased to see that the Gateway IRWM Region's planning grant application has been recommended for funding under Proposition 84 by the Department of Water Resources staff. I wish to express my support for awarding this grant to the Gateway IRWM Joint Powers Authority.

The Gateway Region is a tremendously diverse area of nearly 2 million people. Almost half of the Region's twenty-six cities are classified as disadvantaged. Recognizing this fact, the Gateway Authority has structured its governing board to include officials from disadvantaged communities, water retailers, wholesalers and water quality advocacy groups, ensuring that all stakeholders have a direct say in guiding, selecting and participating in the decision-making process for both regional planning and implementation efforts. The funding recommended by DWR for the planning effort will enable the Gateway Authority to establish and effectively coordinate a truly inclusive planning and implementation process.

I appreciate the enormous undertaking by Department of Water Resources to design guidelines and solicitations to carry out the IRWM program. I encourage your continued support of IRWM groups like the Gateway IRWM Authority, which place disadvantaged community leaders at the helm of regional planning efforts and which continue to enjoy ground-level support from their stakeholders.

Sincerely,