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Assembly California Legislature



RICHARD BLOOM
CHAIR, BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 3 ON RESOURCES & TRANSPORTATION
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIFTIETH DISTRICT

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0050
(916) 319-2050
FAX (916) 319-2150

DISTRICT OFFICE
2800 28TH STREET, SUITE 105
SANTA MONICA, CA 90405
(310) 450-0041 AND
(818) 596-4141
FAX (310) 450-6090

E-MAIL
assemblymember.bloom@assembly.ca.gov

April 21, 2015

Mr. Mark Cowin, Director
California Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street, Room 1115-1
Sacramento, CA. 94236

RE: City of Santa Monica Water-Energy Grant Application

Dear Director Cowin,

I am writing to express my interest and strong support for the City of Santa Monica's recent grant application for funds from the Water-Energy Grant Program to construct an innovative water recycling and treatment project designed to help permanently reduce the City's use and reliance on imported water, while at the same time significantly reducing the greenhouse gas emissions and the water-energy intensity associated with the transportation and treatment of costly imported water. The City will meet the dual goal of permanently reducing the use of import water and conserving potable supply by treating and recycling for indirect reuse, and other beneficial reuse, multiple non-potable resources, such as urban and stormwater runoff and brackish shallow groundwater. Based on my knowledge of this project, I believe it represents the sort of forward thinking that will be necessary in order for us to solve the difficult challenges implicit in securing a sustainable water future for California. I also believe this project comports with the intent of underlying legislation for Water-Energy Grant funding.

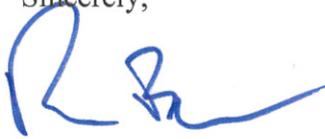
The proposed Santa Monica Water-Energy Project will pilot test many concepts related to conjunctive reuse, and could, with proper certification, produce water of sufficient quality for use in aquifer re-injection or eventual indirect potable supply. When completed, the project will save an estimated 2.5 billion gallons (7,672 AF) of potable water over the project's 30 year life and, during this same period, provide energy savings of approximately 8.9 million kWh. Project lifetime greenhouse gas reductions have been estimated at approximately 5,265 metric tons of CO₂ e.

A unique aspect of this project is that the City will use off-the-shelf solar panels and advanced water treatment technologies, such as reverse osmosis, linked to a main treatment plant by

telemetry. This arrangement is transferable and could also be deployed in the Central Valley and elsewhere in the State where these containerized treatment and telemetry systems could conceivably be utilized in an expedited fashion to assist the many small communities struggling to maintain a source of safe drinking water for their residents. The project will also present a one of a kind platform for teaching and research opportunities to local schools and universities.

I hope this important water-energy conservation project comes to fruition this year, and request that your office keep me updated on the Department's assessment. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me if I can further assist you on this matter.

Sincerely,



RICHARD BLOOM

Assemblymember, 50th District

cc: John Laird, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency
Craig Cross, Department of Water Resources, Water-Energy Grant Program