

Colvin, Judith

From: mweo-bounces@water.ca.gov on behalf of manuellecharbonneau@usa.net
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2008 12:47 AM
To: mweo@water.ca.gov
Subject: [MWE0] Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance Comments on FinalDraft

Dear Ms. Colvin

I am writing to express my support of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) plan to amend the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MO).

Californias limited water supply is threatened by increasing demand, climate change and natural disasters. It is imperative that the State act now to reduce water consumption. Governor Schwarzenegger has recently called for a 20 percent reduction in per capita water use statewide by 2020. I believe that this updated MO, if adopted and implemented, will be an important component in order to achieve the Governors goal.

I commend DWR for updating the MO in order to reduce Californias water use. I am particularly supportive of the Increased Compliance and Enforcement Mechanisms. The proposed MO clearly identifies the required elements and responsible parties during the design, installation and inspection of a landscape project in order to certify compliance with the ordinance. The proposed MO allows a local agency to administer penalties for non-compliance with the landscape ordinance. These penalties include denying a Certificate of Occupancy until the landscape has been certified as complying with the ordinance, monetary fines, and the termination of water service. These changes are necessary to authorize a local agency to enforce the ordinance.

Urban landscapes are vital to the quality of life in California communities. Landscape irrigation is the single largest use of water in urban areas, and water is resource this state cannot afford to waste. I thank DWR for amending the MO to reflect the best available science and research in order to conserve water. I work for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and have been concerned about these issues for quite some time.

Sincerely,

Manuelle Charbonneau
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