July 17, 2019

Mr. Adam Hutchinson Orange County Water District 18700 Ward Street Fountain Valley, California 92708

Dear Mr. Hutchinson,

The Department of Water Resources (Department) has evaluated the alternative submitted for the Coastal Plain of Orange County. Based on recommendations from the Staff Report, included as an exhibit to the attached Statement of Findings, the Department has determined that the Coastal Basin Alternative satisfies the objectives of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and is approved. The Staff Report also proposes recommended actions for the consideration of the Orange County Water District that the Department believes will enhance the Alternative and facilitate future evaluation by the Department. The recommended actions do not constitute a qualified approval of the Alternative; however, the Department encourages they be given due consideration and suggest incorporating any resulting changes to the Alternative in future updates.

As required by SGMA, the Department shall review approved alternatives to ensure they remain in compliance with the objectives of the Act. Approved alternatives are required to submit annual reports to the Department on April 1 of each year, and to resubmit the alternative by January 1 every five years. The first five-year update is due by January 1, 2022.

Please contact me at (916) 651-0870 or <u>Craig.Altare@water.ca.gov</u> if you have any questions related to the Department's evaluation or your implementation of the approved alternative.

Thank You,

Craig Altare, P.G.

Supervising Engineering Geologist

Attachments:

1. Statement of Findings Regarding the Approval of the Coastal Basin Alternative