

March 16, 2016  
West Basin Desalination Project  
West Basin Municipal Water District  
17140 South Avalon Boulevard, Suite 210  
Carson, CA 90746

Re: City of Hermosa Beach Opposition to the West Basin Ocean Water Desalination Project

Dear To Whom it May Concern,

On behalf of the Hermosa Beach City Council, this letter has been submitted with respect to the proposed West Basin Desalination project, which is proposed to be located in the City of El Segundo with an alternative location in Redondo Beach at the AES Corporation (AES) Redondo Generating Station on the border of Hermosa Beach.

City Council appreciates West Basin staff attending the January 16, 2016 Regular City Council meeting to update Council on the project and share future plans to increase water reliability in the region through increasing local water supplies and decreasing reliance on imported water. Our City enjoys a strong relationship with West Basin staff and elected officials and commends West Basin's leadership in promoting water conservation and producing high-quality recycled water that the City uses on its parks and medians.

During the January 16 meeting, West Basin further explained the need to conserve water and expand the use of recycled water. Since 1995, West basin has delivered 165 billion gallons of recycled water that is equivalent to offsetting the City of Los Angeles' potable water use for one year. West basin shared their goal to drought-proof their water supply by 2025 through doubling their current recycled water production and water conservation, and adding 10% potable water through ocean water desalination. The mission of West Basin is to provide a safe and reliable supply of high-quality water to the communities they serve and the City fully supports this mission and encourages other options rather than the proposed West Basin Desalination Project.

The City of Hermosa Beach strongly agrees with the neighboring City of Manhattan Beach that West Basin can meet the current and future water demands by expanding its recycled water production. West Basin is the only facility in the world to produce large volumes of "designer" recycled water to meet the needs of their customers for irrigation, cooling towers, seawater barriers and groundwater replenishment, and low and high pressure boilers. West Basin can expand their facilities to produce additional water supplies or can work cooperatively with the Water Replenishment District (WRD) to utilize additional water supplies produced by WRD's new Groundwater Reliability Improvement Program (GRIP) to further increase potable water supplies.

Before proceeding with the proposed project, the City encourages West Basin to explore all other alternatives including additional conservation and expansion of recycled water prior to investing in the proposed project that has unknown and potential (substantial) impacts on Santa Monica Bay. In

summary, the City strongly opposes the West Basin Desalination plant until efforts to expand and pursue all other local, available water supplies are exhausted.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Petty

City of Hermosa Beach Mayor

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