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January 5, 2015

The Honorable Cathy Green
President
Orange County Water District
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

RE: Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project Water Purchase Agreement

Dear President Green,

I am writing to express my continued support for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and urge the Orange County Water District (OCWD) and Poseidon Water (Poseidon) to develop a water purchase agreement term sheet that would help guide future negotiations.

Orange County has been well served over the years thanks to OCWD's vision, leadership, and strategic investment in programs and projects aimed at meeting its present and future water needs. OCWD has set itself apart as a cutting-edge groundwater basin management agency and the internationally-renowned Orange County Groundwater Replenishment System has established Orange County as a world leader in sustainable water reliability practices. Still, our county must import nearly 50 percent of its water from the Colorado River and the State Water Project in Northern California just to meet present day demand. Unfortunately, imported water is becoming more expensive and less reliable and this will impact our economy, our residents, and our quality of life in the long term.

The Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project presents an opportunity for OCWD to again take a leadership role in guiding Orange County's water future. Despite our continued stellar achievements in effectively managing our groundwater and imported supplies, including conservation, recycling, and storage, the District's planning documents find that new supplies are needed to support continued economic growth and sustain our growing population. After fifteen years in the works the time is now for Orange County to make the Huntington Beach Desalination Project a reality and I believe that OCWD is the water agency best positioned to do just that.

I am encouraged by the diligent process that is ongoing between OCWD and Poseidon on this matter and believe that the development of a water purchase agreement term sheet is the logical next step in this evolving relationship. OCWD continues to have my support as your board and staff work through the policy issues and my willingness to provide whatever assistance I can to see the project move forward in a timely and expeditious manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald P. Wagner".

Donald P. Wagner
Assembly Member, Sixty-Eighth District