

DIRECTORS

PHILIP L. ANTHONY
DENIS R. BILODEAU, P.E.
JORDAN BRANDMAN
SHAWN DEWANE
JAN M. FLORY
CATHY GREEN
DINA NGUYEN
ROMAN A. REYNA
STEPHEN R. SHELDON
ROGER C. YOH, P.E.



ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
ORANGE COUNTY'S GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

OFFICERS

President
CATHY GREEN

First Vice President
DENIS R. BILODEAU, P.E.

Second Vice President
PHILIP L. ANTHONY

General Manager
MICHAEL R. MARKUS, P.E., D.WRE

March 4, 2016

The Honorable Dana Rohrabacher
U.S. House of Representatives
2300 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act (H.R. 4615)—Support

Dear Congressman Rohrabacher:

The Orange County Water District (OCWD; the District) writes in support of the Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act (H.R. 4615). The legislation you are cosponsoring ensures that water conservation efforts are extended similar tax treatment that is provided to energy conservation.

Currently, financial assistance for water conservation activities is taxable and is a disincentive for water users to accept water agencies' rebate assistance. Under H.R. 4615, financial assistance to encourage water conservation would not be considered taxable income.

The District also supports this legislation because of its focus on the capture of stormwater through similar assistance. Stormwater, which would otherwise flow into the Pacific Ocean, can be an important supplemental water source reducing demands on our limited potable water supplies.

OCWD appreciates your leadership on these important policy matters that will enhance our efforts to encourage water conservation throughout Orange County and other drought impacted areas. Please do not hesitate to contact Alicia Dunkin, Legislative Affairs Liaison with the Orange County Water District at (714) 378-8232 or adunkin@ocwd.com or me if we may be of assistance to you or your staff.

Sincerely,

Cathy Green
Board President