

DIRECTORS

PHILIP L. ANTHONY
DENIS R. BILODEAU, P.E.
SHAWN DEWANE
JAN M. FLORY
CATHY GREEN
DINA NGUYEN
ROMAN A. REYNA
STEPHEN R. SHELDON
HARRY S. SIDHU, P.E.
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

July 13, 2015

Honorable Lois Wolk
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5114
Sacramento, CA, 95814

RE: SB 551 (Wolk) State Water Policy: Water and Energy Efficiency--Support

Dear Senator Wolk:

On behalf of the Orange County Water District (OCWD; the District), I would like to thank you for your willingness to work with us and make amendments to SB 551(Wolk). We support your recent amendment to the bill that clarifies language as it relates to Proposition 1 funding opportunities.

SB 551 declares it the policy of the state that water use and water treatment shall be as energy efficient as is feasible and energy use and generation shall be as water efficient as is feasible. The bill also requires all relevant state agencies to consider this state policy when revising, adopting or establishing policies, regulations and grant criteria when pertinent to these uses of water and energy.

For the purposes of Proposition 1 grant funding, state agencies may interpret the new policy in SB 551 to rank projects that use less energy over those that require a higher energy demand. While projects like the Groundwater Replenishment System use half of the energy as compared to importing water, the project is still energy intensive.

We appreciate that you clarified the application of the bill as it relates to grant criteria, by specifying that grant recipients may pursue their choice of water technologies for grant funding regardless of energy consumption (such as indirect potable water recycling and desalination), but must do so in an energy-efficient manner that is specific to that chosen type of technology. Specifically, the following amendment addresses our above mentioned concern:

"It is hereby declared to be the established policy of the state that water use and water treatment shall ~~be~~ operate in a manner that is as energy efficient as is feasible and energy use and generation shall be as water efficient as is feasible."

Honorable Lois Wolk
July 13, 2015
Page 2 of 2

Again, we appreciate your efforts to amend SB 551. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Alicia Dunkin, Legislative Affairs Liaison, at (714) 378-8232 or adunkin@ocwd.com.

Sincerely,



Cathy Green
President