

November 16, 2020

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cleantechsandiego.org

MISSION:

To accelerate clean

technology innovation

and promote the equitable

deployment of sustainable

solutions across the San Diego

region for the benefit of the

economy, the environment,

and all members of

the community.

Chairwoman Gloria Gray
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
700 N. Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chairwoman Gray:

On behalf of Cleantech San Diego, please accept this letter of support of Metropolitan's funding of the state's environmental review and planning process for the single-tunnel Delta conveyance project. The recommended funding share ensures the environmental review is advanced and necessary planning can proceed.

Cleantech San Diego is a member-based business organization that positions the greater San Diego region as a global leader in the cleantech economy. Our members include more than 120 local businesses, universities, governments, and nonprofits committed to advancing sustainable solutions for the benefit of the economy and the environment.

Metropolitan's tradition of leadership and strong stewardship starts with good planning. Continued investment in the environmental review and planning process for an updated Delta conveyance system ensures this process – which is essential for future decision-making – moves forward in a timely fashion and avoids further costly delays for this critically important project.

Nearly one-third of Southern California's water supply comes from the Sierra Nevada. This resource provides the backbone water supply for about 29 million people statewide, millions of acres of farmland, Southern California's \$1.6 trillion economy, and our environment. Modernizing the aging system that delivers this water is vitally important. It will help ensure we are better prepared for the effects of climate change and earthquakes and bring greater resilience to the Delta waterways and its ecosystem.

Southern California is working diligently to reduce its reliance on the Delta. The Delta conveyance project is one of many steps we must take to ensure the region's water resiliency. Southern California is doing its part – actively diversifying its portfolio by developing local projects and investing in water efficiency. Still, the success of these local projects, including recycling projects, depends on a reliable supply of the higher-quality water from Northern California.

We urge Metropolitan's Board of Directors to help fund the environmental review and planning process for the project.

Sincerely,

Jason Anderson President and CEO Cleantech San Diego