



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**REGION IX**  
**75 Hawthorne Street**  
**San Francisco, CA 94105-3901**

November 12, 2015

Steve Weisberg, Executive Director  
Southern California Coastal Water Research Project  
3535 Harbor Blvd  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

In the context of the renewal of the 9<sup>th</sup> Joint Powers Agreement for the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP), I'd like to clarify the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) roles and responsibilities. EPA's representatives on the SCCWRP Commission cannot vote on matters coming before the Commission, and serve as technical advisors on matters involving the Commission.

To this end, please add a note onto the SCCWRP website's listing of Commissioners stating the following: "EPA representatives serve as non-voting technical advisors."

The proposed 9<sup>th</sup> Joint Powers Agreement, in section 4, lists Commission responsibilities. EPA's participants cannot participate in the following responsibilities:

- (b) Hiring an Executive Director and establishing his or her responsibilities in addition to those detailed herein. Two-thirds vote of the members of the Commission shall be required for hiring the Executive Director;
- (d) Approving the SCCWRP's Annual Operating Budget, recognizing that the contributions of the Signatories shall be as provided in Section 8 hereof and taking into account other projected sources of income;
- (e) Reviewing and approving, on an annual basis, the salaries and benefits for the Executive Director and other staff. Two-thirds vote of the members of the Commission including two-thirds of the signatories shall be required for adoption;
- (f) Conducting a performance review of the Executive Director on an annual basis.

Please include this letter as part of the record when the JPA is brought up for consideration at the upcoming December 4, 2015 SCCWRP meeting.

Thank you for your assistance in this clarification of EPA's role in SCCWRP. If you'd like to discuss, please call me at 213-244-1832.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Kemmerer", written over a horizontal line.

John Kemmerer, Associate Director  
Water Division